

The Colonist.

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THE SEMI-WEEKLY COLONIST

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STRANGE INDIFFERENCE.

Mr. G. H. Barnard brought up in the House of Commons the practice of United States fishermen of poaching on the halibut grounds off the west coast of Vancouver Island in Canadian waters. The New York Herald thought the matter of sufficient importance to devote considerable space to it, but as far as we have observed our eastern Canadian contemporaries do not look upon it as worth even an editorial paragraph. In this respect they fully reflect the indifference of the Liberal members from British Columbia, and, if we may judge from his observations in the House of Commons, of the Minister of Marine himself. When we look over our eastern exchanges from day to day and see how very little attention is paid to matters affecting the Pacific Coast, we feel like strangers in our own land. Not a man in the House, Liberal or Conservative, felt called upon to back up Mr. Barnard's observations. This indifference does not prevent our representatives from keeping the question to the front; but may we venture to ask why it is that Mr. Smith, who represents a Vancouver Island constituency, has not seen his way clear to emphasize the necessity for ample protection. The poaching is being carried on in the constituency of the Minister of Inland Revenue, and, if we are not mistaken, his own newspaper has mentioned it more than once. We do not suggest that it be to be expected of the Minister that he will rise in the House and urge any course of action upon his colleague in the Department of Marine and Fisheries. The place for him to do that is in the meetings of his Cabinet or in personal conversation with the Minister. But as nothing has been done, and it has been open, public, and notorious that something ought to have been done long ago, we seem forced to the conclusion either that the Minister of Inland Revenue did not mention the matter to his colleague, or that he did and his colleague paid no attention to him. Mr. Broderick thinks it is not advisable to tell the poachers what the Government is going to do. This seems a childish observation. Mr. Barnard is not urging the government to enter upon a game of tag with the Seattle fishermen. He wants them kept out of our waters, and we venture to think that the way to keep them out is to give them to understand that the government is taking efficient steps to prevent them from continuing their depredations.

MR. MCCURDY'S FEAT

The achievement of Mr. J. Douglas McCurdy who made a flight yesterday from Key West to within ten miles of Havana, and only descended into the water then because his engine gave out, demonstrates several things to laymen, and probably other things to experts in aviation. It shows in the first place that an aeroplane in the hands of a man who will exercise good judgment, is by no means an unsafe means of transportation. Mr. McCurdy attempted no "stunts." He went at his work as a matter of business and would have achieved a complete success if his engine had held out. At no time does he appear to have lost his head, and we are told that he was sitting in his machine, not even wet, when the rescue steamer arrived. This demonstration is chiefly of Mr. McCurdy's personal equipment for aerial navigation, but it also furnishes an example, which others in the work will do well to follow.

The second thing demonstrated is that an aeroplane is likely to be of very great use in connection with naval operations. An aviator can ascend from the deck of a warship, go a thousand feet or more in the air, take in the whole surrounding country, fly a number of miles in any desired direction, come back to the ship, drop into the water alongside and be safely taken on board. While up in the air he can communicate with his ship by wireless. The advantage of this description of scouting can hardly be over-estimated. The feat of Mr. McCurdy was performed under fairly favorable conditions; and it might very well happen that in actual warfare these conditions might not always exist when scouting was necessary. For instance an aeroplane might be blown out of its course; it might be forced to descend amid an enemy's fleet. In seeking to alight on the water it might be hampered; but these things are all a part of the chances of war, and it would be expected that the men of the aviation contingent

would accept them as a matter of course. We congratulate Mr. McCurdy on his achievement, which is one of the most valuable in the history of aviation. Our pleasure is enhanced by the fact that he is a Canadian.

A NEW DOCTRINE

With the personal differences between Mr. John Jardine, M.P.P., and the Esquimalt Liberal Association we have nothing to do. They can settle them amongst themselves without our assistance. But with the doctrine enunciated by the Association in their resolution calling upon Mr. Jardine to resign his seat in the legislature we all have something to do, because we are all alike interested in the proper working out of the principles of representative government. Mr. Jardine is called upon to resign because he no longer represents the views which the Association thinks are held by the Liberals of Esquimalt. Specifically, the reason is that he supports the railway policy of the provincial government, for, as far as we have been able to observe, there has been no other question before the legislature upon which party lines were drawn. Before the election Mr. Jardine declared in a speech delivered at Esquimalt that he would support any reasonable railway policy that would ensure the development of the Island, and as between a candidate and his supporters he was quite within his rights in voting for the railway policy of the government. But whatever difference of opinion there may be upon that point, and that is purely a personal matter, the principle that is enunciated as the new Liberalism—the astounding thing that a representative may not support a measure of which his friends do not approve—is a position that cannot be supported for a single moment. It is a new doctrine that a member of the Legislature has no right to vote against the party to which he belongs.

THE RAILWAY ACT.

The new Railway Act, introduced by the Attorney-General yesterday is a very comprehensive and important measure. It creates a Department of Railways and provides for a Minister to preside over it. To the general public the most interesting feature of the measure is that which provides for the incorporation of railway companies. After the proposed law comes into force it will be necessary for persons to apply to the Legislature for a charter of incorporation as a railway company, but any five persons may subscribe a memorandum of incorporation declaring what line they wish to build and each of them is to become liable by virtue of his subscription to take and pay for shares in the capital stock of the company amounting to \$10,000 each. This memorandum of Association shall be filed with the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies and also with the Minister of Railways, and the sum of \$15,000 shall also be paid to the Minister within thirty days after the memorandum has been filed with the Registrar, and within ninety days thereafter the Minister shall determine the capitalization of the company and the other essential features of its organization. There are many other provisions in the bill, but those mentioned are the most important. As far as it is possible to judge from hasty examination, the Act seems to have been drawn with a great deal of care. Its provisions call for a good deal of consideration, and we are confident that the Attorney-General will welcome the most searching analysis of them. Many of the sections are already upon the Statute Book.

A BREACH OF PRIVILEGE

The person or persons responsible for the circulation in the legislature yesterday of the resolutions passed by the Esquimalt Liberal Association were very badly advised. We are not of those who believe in restricting the full and free expression of public opinion, but there are certain things in connection with the legislature of the country, which do not admit of question. The British Parliament, upon the rules of which our legislative Assembly is carried on, years ago adopted a rule for the protection of members. The rule is thus laid down in May on Parliamentary procedure: "In the Commons on 12th April, 1733 and 1st June, 1740 it was resolved that it was a high infringement of the House of Commons, a crime and a misdemeanor to assault, insult or menace any member of the House in his coming to or going from the House or upon account of his behavior in Parliament." The circulation of the resolutions referred to seems clearly to come within this rule, and if we understood him aright Mr. Speaker is also of this opinion. What steps, if any, will be taken by the House in the premises we are not advised and it is not our province to say, but we think it highly desirable that the public should be given to

understand that while there ought to be no undue restriction upon liberty of speech, the dignity of the House ought always to be maintained.

A YOUNG MAN'S LAND

Those of us who used to sit in the galleries not so very long ago and look down upon the assembled wisdom of the province as it was gathered together in the Legislative Chamber across James Bay, were accustomed to remark upon the great number of bright and shining intellects, externally considered, that used to catch and reflect the rays of the sun or of the electric lights as the case might be. Of course there were varying degrees of brilliancy with which these domes of thought shone, but they were exposed almost at every other desk. Now when we look from the gallery we see at the majority of desks a good head of hair. All this means that younger men are coming to the front, and this is just as it ought to be, for this is a province for young men.

But what we have in mind especially is this city of Victoria. We have a few of the younger men in the City Council; and we have not the least doubt about their making good; but the younger members of the community as a rule are not taking a sufficiently active part in its public life. There are some exceptions, but they are altogether too few. There is one set of the younger men, who are conspicuous for their absence from public movements of any kind. The reference is to young men from England and from the Eastern Provinces, but more especially the former. They take an active part in business in their special lines, and so far as any one on the outside can judge they are doing well. But they are in the city, and not just as much of the city as they ought to be. We are very sure that the opinions and ideas of this element of the community on public questions would be of very great value, and we hope that it will be possible hereafter to record that they take a more direct interest in all question pertaining to the welfare of the city and province.

British Columbia is emphatically a young man's country. It is only on the threshold of development. The younger men, who will have to work out provincial problems, ought to see to it that their views are recognized in the treatment of those problems during their initial stages. While we have placed special stress upon the duty of young Englishmen in that regard, we do so only because this article is intended in the nature of an invitation to them to come more prominently to the front in public matters, not as Englishmen only, but as Canadians and members of the citizens of the Empire. But what has been said in respect to them applies with equal force to the younger generation of British Columbians and the younger men who have come from the eastern part of Canada to take part in the development of this Far West. There is a field wide enough for them all.

A London dispatch to a Toronto paper says that Queen Alexandra has made a claim to a place at the coronation on a throne on the left hand of the King, and that officialdom is racking its brains to find a precedent. Queen Alexandra is understood to have objected to being called the Queen Mother.

The claim is made that free trade in wheat will cripple Canadian milling and destroy all chances of Inter-Imperial preference. We do not like the reciprocity agreement, but this argument admits that the United States is in a position, even if the agreement is not ratified, to cripple Canadian milling and destroy all chances of Inter-Imperial preference by simply removing the duty from wheat. We would not like to admit that the United States holds us thus in the hollow of its hand.

UNFAIR SCALES

Official Report Says People Of Seattle Are Regularly Fleeced Through Under-Weights

WASHINGTON, Jan. 30.—The consumers of the city of Seattle are being mulcted out of very large sums of money each year, and competition is no longer on a fair and honest basis as a result of the neglect of the city to provide proper protection to the inhabitants in this important matter. Only 31 per cent of the scales tested can be listed as correct, the usual tolerance of 3 per cent being allowed, of these listed as inaccurate, 36 per cent were in favor of the user, while only 14 per cent gave over-weight.

The foregoing is one of the statements made by F. S. Holbrook, inspector of weights and measures in the Bureau of Standards, in an official report to Director S. W. Stratton, on an investigation of the scales and measures used by Seattle merchants and dealers in all kinds of commodities and food supplies.

Granby Company's Purchase

NELSON, Jan. 30.—The Granby company during past few days have secured options on large number of mineral claims on Copper Mountain, near Chesaw involving a purchase price of a hundred thousand dollars.



New Lines Just In

NEW SPRING CARPETS are arriving—the first shipment being received this week. From now on we shall be adding to this stock, and we suggest frequent visits to our carpet department if you would keep in touch with the latest in floor coverings.

The new arrivals are splendid examples—they are an index of what is to come. If newness and goodness will help, this season's carpet business should excel all previous records, magnificent as they may have been. Costs you nothing to come in and inspect. Get acquainted today.

New Wilton Rugs—Pretty Persian Effects

Certainly the outstanding feature of the Rug display is this showing of new Wilton Rugs just received yesterday. It is impossible to do their beauty justice in a description here. They are authentic copies of beautiful Persian Rugs—mirroring not only in design, but also in coloring, the beauty of these rich Rugs. Close, minute patterns on ground indigo crimson for a long time.

Size 9 x 12, \$60.00, \$45.00 to \$42.50 | Size 11ft. 3 x 13ft., \$85.00, \$62.50 to \$60.00 | Size 11ft. 3 x 12ft., \$55.00 to \$52.00

Ingrain Carpet Squares

These Squares are all wool, in beautiful designs, some with plain centres and beautiful floral borders. A splendid assortment to select from, in the newest patterns, in conventional and floral designs. Such Squares are desirable for bedroom use. They are good wearers and have a very attractive appearance. Your size is included.

Size 7ft. 6in. x 9ft., \$16.50 to \$10.00 | Size 9ft. x 12ft., \$27.50 to \$15.00 | Size 12ft. x 12ft., \$22.50 to \$10.50
Size 9ft. x 9ft., \$19.00 to \$11.25 | Size 10ft. 6in. x 12ft., \$32.50 to \$12.50 | Size 12ft. x 13ft. 6in., \$26.00 to \$12.00
Size 9ft. x 10ft. 6in., \$22.50 to \$11.50 | Size 10ft. 6in. x 13ft. 6in., \$32.00 to \$10.50 | Size 12ft. x 15ft., \$42.00 to \$13.00

Choose Your Spring Carpets From These

Our Carpet offerings are popular with Victorians—popular for many reasons, but mainly because of their excellent qualities; and the fact that the prices don't fluctuate. The first price is a fair one, and it "sticks," coupled with expert service in the making and laying. These features have built for us a magnificent carpet trade. If you are not already numbered among our hundreds of satisfied customers, get acquainted by securing your Spring Carpets here. These prices spell best values:

Ingrain Carpets from, per yard 60¢ | Velvet Carpets from, per yard \$1.50
Tapestry Carpets from, per yard 75¢ | Wilton Carpets from, per yard \$1.90
Brussels Carpets from, per yard 85¢ | Axminster Carpets from, per yard \$1.90

These prices are for Carpet made and laid by skilled workmen

If You Prefer a Rug Try One of These

For those who favor Carpet Squares and Rugs as a carpet covering, we recommend our present magnificent display. The most comprehensive stock in Western Canada is offered you. Hundreds of Rugs from low-priced Jute to handsome Oriental, and these are shown on specially constructed Rug Racks, which enable us to show you the whole range in a very short time. Certainly no better choice or better values offered anywhere in the West. Back of every rug we sell stands this establishment, ready to make good our guarantee of absolute satisfaction. Inspect our offerings in the following:

Tapestry Squares, \$26.00 to \$9.00 | Wilton Squares, \$48.00 to \$27.00
Brussels Squares, \$42.00 to \$16.00 | Velvet Squares, \$42.00 to \$24.00
Axminster Squares, \$65.00 to \$18.75 | Smyrna Rugs, \$55.00 to \$30.00

Your New Carpet Is Here

And It Is a Nice One—See It Here Today



Yes, your new carpet is here and we will greatly appreciate an opportunity to show it to you today. Come in and see it, for it's a beauty. This season's display of Carpets and Rugs will certainly catch the public. This department of ours is getting busier every day. If you are planning new carpets, we strongly advise that you lose no time in coming in, because orders for making and laying can only be filled in the order received. Patterns are better this season, the quality is of the same high standard we have always demanded, and the values the same as usual, that have done so much to build up this great business. Don't spend any money on carpets without first seeing ours. There are hundreds of squares and rugs on display. We can show you the whole lot in a few minutes. SECOND FLOOR.

Ladies
Use the Rest
Room

WEILER BROS

Order
Your Goods by
Mail

Your Old Rheumatism

CURE YOURSELF RIGHT 'FRUIT-A-TIVE'

There is just one thing Rheumatism—Uric Acid. Uric Acid is formed when bowels, kidneys or skin system of waste matter. Urea, remains in the body into uric acid. It is this poisons the blood, inflames and causes Rheumatism, Lumbago, Gout, etc. Liniments and ordinary remedies won't cure Rheumatism. None of such preparation very root of the trouble—the vital organs. "Fruit-a-tive" is the greatest cure for Rheumatism. And we will tell you "Fruit-a-tive," by its action, bowels, kidneys and skin, formation of uric acid, "Fruit-a-tive" causes the bowels and skin to throw off the body, and thus keep absolutely pure. If you have suffered with Rheumatism, and dread a return of cold weather, start taking "Fruit-a-tive" and your old enemy, 50c a bottle, trial size 25c. At dealer Fruit-a-tives Ltd., Ottawa.

AT IT HERE SINCE



Save Your Money + Commence Now

We want everyone to know that we are paying 4% Interest on savings deposits (and upward) subject to withdrawal by cheque. 5% Interest on time deposits. Six months and over. We invest money for in first mortgages & general financial business. We want your savings & if you are not saving systematically, + + + Commence Now With Deposits by mail + + + easily handled. You can send by Post Office + Express Order or Registered Letter & withdrawal can be made + + + any way you wish. We are Responsible Refer to + + + Duns, Bradstreet or to anyone in VANCOUVER. Write us about it. Do it now!!

DOW, FRASER & CO.

321 Cambie Street
Vancouver B.C.

BUYS COLWOOD A

Canadian Northern Pacific
Nearly Ready To
Work On Island

The Canadian Northern Pacific way company through its Island right of way agreement with Green and Burdick Brothers, has purchased 100 acres of land, a portion of Mr. Peatt's property, containing a large mound, and the gravel will be out by the railway company in construction work. The right of way and construction building of the Island section Canadian Northern Pacific complete within a week work will be begun.

Now Own Uplands Messrs. Kirby, Oldfield, the Winnipeg firm, years ago purchased a large tract of the Uplands from the Hudson's Bay Company has a remainder of that property first sale the Hudson's Bay retained each alternate lot and these have been sold into the hands of the Winnipeg firm.