

The Colonist

TUESDAY, MARCH 1, 1904.

PUBLISHED BY The Colonist Printing & Publishing Company, Limited, Liability. No. 27 Broad Street, Victoria, B. C.

THE DAILY COLONIST

Delivered by carrier at 20 cents per week. (except postage, to any part of Canada except the city) United Kingdom and the United States, at the following rates: Six months \$5.00 One year \$10.00

SEMI-WEEKLY COLONIST

One year \$1.00 Six months \$0.50 Three months \$0.25 Sent postpaid to Canada, United Kingdom and United States.

WAR OFFICE REFORM.

Among the many changes that have been the result of the experience gained in the war in South Africa is the re-organization of the War Office. Indeed, if the whole of the reform that has been suggested by the War Office Committee should be carried out, it would scarcely be an exaggeration to call it the abolition of the War Office. It will be remembered that the indignation expressed both in Parliament and in the country at the state of unpreparedness in which the army was found at the sudden outbreak of the war, was so loud and continuous that the Government was compelled to take some action to meet the public demand for an entire change in the system under which the army had been managed. The Government itself did not deny that it was necessary to make drastic changes in the organization of the army and to introduce important changes in the methods that had been followed in the past, and it will be remembered that Mr. Balfour, then Secretary of State for War, did formulate a scheme and put it into practical operation, though it was not with little favor from military circles. It will be remembered that Mr. Balfour, then Secretary of State for War, did formulate a scheme and put it into practical operation, though it was not with little favor from military circles. It will be remembered that Mr. Balfour, then Secretary of State for War, did formulate a scheme and put it into practical operation, though it was not with little favor from military circles.

and the association will henceforth work in harmony in an endeavor to bring about the reforms so earnestly desired and ably advocated. When the House shall have met again it is hoped and believed that a measure remedial legislation will be introduced and passed. If the association should not secure all their demands, at least a reform in many particulars. Another gratifying result is the practical withdrawal of the vote of censure at the meeting of the executive committee, held at Kensington, in the government ministerial. The censure would seem to have been passed under a misapprehension. The ministerialist declined to report on the subject, and the properties before they had been sufficiently developed to warrant a favorable report and thereby incur the enmity of persons who were interested in those properties. This having been explained to the satisfaction of the convention, the censure was lifted. It was argued that it would be a misfortune for the country if through the report of the ministerialist there should go abroad an impression that certain prominent and valuable when development might prove that they were valueless, and the convention recognized the force of the argument. The association and the country are to be congratulated upon the work of the convention and beneficial results are confidently anticipated.

carrying out this project, were discovered by the Russian battleship Revizol, which they could accomplish if they were driven off and the hulls of the Japanese ships destroyed. According to an official dispatch received by the British Foreign Office from the torpedo boats, the Japanese vessels were seen at St. Petersburg and other points in the Baltic. A despatch from Washington says that the Russian government has declined to report to the convention, and the latter is under obligation to go to Russia's assistance in case another power joins Japan. We had understood that there was agreement between the Powers that neither China nor Korea would be considered as an ally in the meaning of the treaty between Japan and Great Britain. We are, therefore, not inclined to believe that Russia will assist Japan in any way. It is quite conceivable that Russia might desire to give her assistance to Japan, but it is not probable that she would do so. The convention is not likely to be successful in its aims, and it is not likely that it will be successful in its aims.

Letters to the Editor. Sir, - One of your correspondents has written me regarding the proposed railway from the coast to the interior, and I am glad to hear that you are so interested in the subject. The proposed railway is a very important one, and it is one that should be given the highest priority. It is a railway that will do much to develop the interior of the province, and it is one that should be given the highest priority. It is a railway that will do much to develop the interior of the province, and it is one that should be given the highest priority. It is a railway that will do much to develop the interior of the province, and it is one that should be given the highest priority.

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THE WAR. As we suggested nearly two weeks ago would probably be the case, the Japanese are not forcing the fighting, but are quietly but steadily compelling the Government to meet the public demand for an entire change in the system under which the army had been managed. The Government itself did not deny that it was necessary to make drastic changes in the organization of the army and to introduce important changes in the methods that had been followed in the past, and it will be remembered that Mr. Balfour, then Secretary of State for War, did formulate a scheme and put it into practical operation, though it was not with little favor from military circles.

IS FRANCE BOUND TO FIGHT NOW? The compact that France in an hour of irritation with Great Britain made at the Fashoda incident pledges that power to assist Russia in the event of her being attacked by a third power. The report that Korea has declared war against Russia, if confirmed, would surely be met by a demand upon France for assistance by the Czar's government. There is reason to believe that France will not take part in the conflict. It will be remembered that Korea is not a power in the international acceptance of the term, and it is not a power in the international acceptance of the term.

A PERFECT UNDERSTANDING. A very gratifying feature of the late convention of mining delegates held in this city is found in the fact that a perfect understanding has been reached between the government and the Mining Association. The impression that prevailed at the first meeting was that the government was not prepared to meet the demands of the Mining Association. It was not until the second meeting that a perfect understanding was reached between the government and the Mining Association. The impression that prevailed at the first meeting was that the government was not prepared to meet the demands of the Mining Association.

Why, Australia? Artillerymen In session. Annual Meeting of the Dominion Association at Ottawa Yesterday. Lord Dundonald Compliment the Militia and Advises Careful Preparation. Mr. Belcourt M. P. for Ottawa Gets the Vacant Speakership. From Our Own Correspondent. Ottawa, Feb. 26.-The Dominion Association held a successful meeting here today. Lord Dundonald complimented the militia and advised careful preparation. Mr. Belcourt M. P. for Ottawa gets the vacant speakership. From our own correspondent, Ottawa, Feb. 26.-The Dominion Association held a successful meeting here today.

Dixie H. Ross & Co., CASH GROCERS. Are Leaders, not Imitators. THE CELEBRATED PETALUMA INCUBATORS. 100 Per Cent. Hatched. In a recent hatching contest in which there were over 400 trials the hatch was 100 per cent. in 100 cases. This machine has been demonstrated to be as good as any other. It is a machine that will do much to develop the interior of the province, and it is one that should be given the highest priority.

E. G. PRIOR & CO., L.D. L.V. SOLE AGENTS. Victoria, Vancouver, Kamloops and Vernon. TRY ATKINS SAWS. NEVER HAVE BEEN BEATEN IN OFFICIAL CONTESTS. FAST CUTTING! EASY RUNNING! GUARANTEED! Agents: The Hickman-Tye Hardware Co., Ltd. 32 and 34 Yates Street, Victoria, B. C.

THE BRITISH COLONIST. A. DE COSMOS, Editor. Saturday, Feb. 26, 1904. Nothing has occurred for a long time which has so completely upset the expectations of the public as the bill to amend the representation and election laws. The bill is a very important one, and it is one that should be given the highest priority. It is a bill that will do much to develop the interior of the province, and it is one that should be given the highest priority.

AFTER LA GRIPPE. You need a Tonic to Tone up the Nervous System, Improve the Appetite and Increase Mental Vigor. Try our Compound Syrup of Hypophosphites, one month's treatment in each bottle \$1.00. CYRUS H. BOWEN, CHEMIST, 98 Government Street, near Yates. 'Phones: 425 and 450.

Evacuation of Port Dalry. A Report That Russians Have Mined Quays and Railroads Ready for Flight. Forty Japanese Transports Hard at Work Ferrying Troops to Korea. London, Feb. 27.-Official Russian and Japanese dispatches have been a succession of attacks or demonstrations by the Japanese at Port Arthur, which has been the result of the evacuation of the port. The evacuation of the port is a very important one, and it is one that should be given the highest priority. It is an evacuation that will do much to develop the interior of the province, and it is one that should be given the highest priority.

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