The Colonist.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1905.

The Colonist Printing & Publishing Company, Limited Liability.

27 Broad Street, Victoria, B.C.

A. G. SARGISON, Managing Director.

THE DAILY COLONIST

Delivered by carrier at 20 cents per week, or mailed, postpaid, to any part of Canada (except the city) United Kingdom and the United States, at the following rates:

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THE HERRING INDUSTRY.

An industrial movement of prime magnitude in connection with the exploitation of the wonderful resources of this magnificent province is now in progress at Nanaimo, where Mr. Cowie, the Scotch herring expert, assisted by some lassies from Auld Scotia skilled in the art of handling the fish, is giving demonstrations of what may be done in the matter of improved methods in packing and curing. With the knowledge that the annual "run" of herrings in Nanaimo harbor and vicinity are of tremendous size, and the fish of prime quality, it will be readily seen that with the adoption of improved methods in packing and handling the fish, a great industry will be launched, one, in fact, which will be only of slightly lesser importance than the salmon canning industry. A great market for herring in its cured form exists in Germany, France and Russia, not to mention the growing markets in Australia and the Orient; and if it can be demonstrated that the Nanaimo herring can be cured in as attractive a fashion as the Nova Scotia variety, it would appear that birth will be given very shortly to another very important provincial industry.

WHITE PASS RAILWAY.

A very gratifying report was presented by the chairman at the third annual meeting of the White Pass & Yukon Railway Company, held in London on October 30. After explaining that the present position of the company fully justified the payment of a dividend of 5 per cent. instead of 4 per cent., and that he confidently expected the higher rate would be maintained in the future, the chairman gave some interesting figures regarding the past year's business. "A comparison of this year's operations with those of the previous year show that in the railroad division you carried 11,773 passengers, against 12,600 in the previous year, and 33,225 tons of freight, against 33,700 tons. Your gross earnings were $991,000, against $977,00. Your operating expenses were $524,000, as against $551,000. I pause here for one moment to observe with what satisfaction I note the comparison of the percentage of your earnings to your operating expenses. You have reduced them from 56.44 to 52.91 per cent., and this, I think, does the greatest possible credit to the gentlemen engaged in operating your road. The net income for this division is $400,000, as against $395,000. In the River division you carried 6,849 passengers, as against 8,700, and 26,066 tons of freight, as against 23,500. The gross earnings were $737,000, as against $854,000, and the operating expenses were $488,000, as against $555,000—again a small diminution in this case, but very slight on the percentage. The net income was $146,000, against $157,000. I do not want to weary you so I will not in detail give you what I have worked out, but for the mail service the result was a net income of $51,000, as against $35,000 in the previous year. Taking the three divisions, the rail, river and winter services, the gross earnings amounted to $1,729,000, as against $1,811,00 in the previous year, operating expenses $1,216,000, as against $1,278,000, and the net income $598,000, against $588,000, leaving available for dividend $342,000 from the revenue of this year, against $331,000 for the previous year. Now, I will not dwell any longer upon figures, although I should like to have said something, in a meeting of railway experts, in connection with these figures. I want to spare your time, however, as I have some important things to tell you, and therefore I will pass on to more interesting matter. Before doing so, allow me at once to say that when you see the depletion of your gross earnings to the figure to which they are reduced by what is called in these accounts (net income available for dividend) that represents a very large amount taken out of the revenue of each year for what you Americans call betterments, such as putting steel improving your gradients and curves, and in general ways bringing up your road. The result of this large expenditure, that has been met out of income, is that your railroad is today in a better condition than it has been at any time in its history. Your rolling stock is in good condition, your fleet is more effective than it ever has been, by which I mean that at the time when the bulk of the fleet was purchased from another company—the history of which some of you in this room are more familiar with than I am, as it occurred before my time—you had to take over as part of the fleet a number of vessels which proved to be of very little service for your work, the result being that Mr. Graves has very wisely by degrees been weeding out these useless boats for which you had to pay, if I may use a vulgar expression, 'through the nose'—a great deal more than they were worth—and he has been replacing them by vessels which are efficient and more economical, with the result that not only have you a more serviceable fleet working at less cost, but also that the debenture holders—whose main security, in the case of the second debenture holders, is this fleet—have a better security for their money than they had when they advanced it."

FARMERS AND THE TARIFF COMMISSION.

It is known that the farming community of the Northwest is practically as a unit against increasing the duties on imported products, and many of them are in favor of a reduction. Such things as enter largely into the daily use and consumption of the farmers, as agricultural implements, lumber, binding twine and fruit, they would prefer to see on the free list altogether. This is natural; but as we have in Canada a combination of interests that make up the Dominion as a whole, the interests of any particular section of the country, however important, should not dominate the policy of the whole country. We cannot have a policy described as national, which considers the interests of the middle and ignores those of the ends.

A farmer appeared before the tariff commission in British Columbia, and a delegation of farmers appeared before the same body in the East, and from the representations made it might readily be assumed that the agricultural interests of other portions of the Dominion were favorable to a reduction in the tariff as well as those in the Northwest. The arguments in all the cases were practically the same—that there was no protection possible which could help the farmer, who is not threatened by competition from other countries, and consequently as a large consumer the farmer was getting the worst of the arrangement. In other words, he was taxed for the manufactured products which he bought from the Canadian manufacturer, while a protective tariff afforded him no particular benefits. On the face of it, the farmer who takes that position has a strong case.

We have had occasion to deal with arguments of that kind many times before, but we prefer calling in as an advocate a gentleman who has become an acknowledged authority on the question. We refer to Mr. Watson Griffin, who has written a great deal on it, and recently issued a third edition of a volume entitled "Protection and Prices and the Farmer's Home Market." Of this work over 150,000 copies have been issued. With reference to the statements made ostensibly on behalf of the farmers of Canada before the Tariff Commission, Mr. Griffin writes to the Toronto News at considerable length. The arguments adduced in this important contribution to the discussion can be summarized very briefly. In a word, the protection afforded to the farmer by a protective tariff is in this case indirect rather than direct. Stated in another way, the development of the home market created by industrial prosperity is of great value to the farmer. It is his nearest and most profitable market. Without the protection to the manufacturer necessary to maintain industries and large home consumption the farmer would have to seek a foreign market for a large portion of what he now sells so readily at a high margin of profit. It is an old argument; but Mr. Griffin makes a new statement of the case, plentifully supported by figures.

Mr. Griffin admits that the men who appeared in behalf of the Farmers' Association in the East before the Tariff Commission presented their case very cleverly, but their statements, he says, will not bear investigation. He goes on to say that the association in question represents only a very small proportion of the farmers of Canada. The men who control it, he alleges, were prominently identified with the unrestricted reciprocity agitation a few years ago, and although that policy was never favored by the majority of Canadian farmers and is now very unpopular with nine-tenths of the Canadian people of both political parties, these men still cling to it. Other delegations have gone before the commission and advocated higher duties, and before the commission has completed its work Mr. Griffin thinks that members of the commission will be convinced that the farmers in general throughout the country take a different view from the leaders of the Farmers' Association, who claim that protection is no use to farming interests.

It is stated that the arguments of representatives of the association are based on two false assumptions: First, that the full protective duty or the greater part of it is added to the price of an article protected; and, second, that it is of no benefit to the farmers to have manufacturers in the country. Now, comparison of the prices of a large number of commodities in the United States, Canada and England for a long period of years will show that the duty is not in many cases added to the price of the article, especially if it is manufactured at home. Frequently the American manufacturer cuts his price to meet the duty, and thus the duty is wholly eliminated. But, of course, that is not a condition that can be predicated about confidently in all cases.

The proof of the value of the home market, however, is shown by the figures of production and consumption of agricultural products in Canada. The government reports show that Ontario and the Northwest in recent years produced two and a half times as much wheat, twenty-five times as much oats, and thirty-four times as much barley as all Canada exported. The home market consumed sixty-two times as many Canadian potatoes as the foreign market; Ontario alone produced thirty-one times as many barrels of apples as were exported from the whole of the Dominion; and figures of production of other crops are equally remarkable.

Mr. Griffin puts the case very strongly thus: If the Canadian farmer could always get for his produce the price that the distant consumer pays for them, he would soon grow rich. The difference between the price the farmer gets and the price the consumer pays is partly made up of transportation charges and partly of middlemen's profits. The farther the market is away from the farm the greater the cost of transportation charges and the larger the number of middlemen there are to share the profits. If there were no home markets the farmers would be at the mercy of the middlemen. We can easily illustrate the same principle in a small way. A farmer living within two or three miles of a city, say of Victoria, has a decided advantage over the man who lives fifteen or thirty miles away, say in Saanich or Cowichan. The difference of distance makes all the difference in profits, varying from $10 to $100 an acre, and his land has several times the value. It is the nearness of the home market that is the factor. On the wider national scale the same principle applies.

Mr. Griffin gives columns of figures to prove his contention, which it is unnecessary to refer to here. They are all taken from official returns. The point is that the farmers, even though they derive no immediate benefit from the duties placed upon agricultural produce, are indirectly greatly benefitted by the home market developed through the industries created as the result of a system of judicious protection.

THE SPOILS SYSTEM IN ONTARIO.

The whole question of party patronage is being reviewed in Ontario. In Toronto the Conservatives are in favor of making a clean sweep of everything which bears the name of Ross. At various annual meetings of Conservative associations a similar demand is being made. The Whitney government does not propose to be coerced into acknowledging the spoils system. Mr. Whitney has plenty who will back him up in such an attitude. At the Hastings convention, at which a resolution was passed in favor of local party control of public patronage, Sir Mackenzie Bowell opposed the action of the convention and strongly denounced the spoils system.

Dr. Reaume, a member of the Whitney administration, who not long ago paid Victoria a visit, was brought to bay at Windsor, where the North Essex Conservative Association recently held its meeting, and was quite explicit in defending his position. He refused point blank to be a party to introducing the spoils system. He said there were not sufficient offices in the gift of the government to satisfy all the requests for positions. The government had done what it could, consistently, without violating the principles espoused by the party before going into power; but farther it would not go. Said Dr. Reaume: "I am ready to be criticized and willing to answer any questions about my public or private acts, but I will not dismiss any man simply because there is some person looking for a place. It is against the principles of the Conservatives, and I think the party at large does not expect such a system introduced in our province."

One reason why the Whitney administration is strong in the province of Ontario today, and well thought of throughout Canada, is because in office it has been true to its ante-election pledges. Mr. Whitney and his colleagues will not be swayed by party influence beyond the point where they can defend their position upon party principles. In a province like Ontario, where the Liberals have been continuously in power for about thirty-five years, and latterly had been unblushing in the use of the party patronage in making offices for friends, it can be understood that many Conservatives think that with a Conservative administration in power they should have special consideration. When Mr. Whitney came into office there were probably not more than half a dozen Conservatives, if indeed there was one at all, in the whole of the Ontario civil service. Notwithstanding this he will do right to stick to his guns. He had occasion to use the political axe to some extent, for which he was severely criticized by political opponents, but it was to weed out the partizan and the useless or unnecessary official that it was done.

G. B. SHAW CALLS SCHOOLING "GIGANTIC HYPOCRISY."

Mr. George Bernard Shaw has been having his say also on education. He tells us in Great Thoughts that "education is a gigantic hypocrisy."

The real object of that system is to relieve parents from the inalterable company and anxious care of their children. If this object, which is a quite right and necessary one, were frankly acknowledged, then it would be possible to frame a constitution conferring rights and liberties on children. At present a child may be beaten, underfed, overfed, overworked with school lessons, or otherwise, petted, shown off, neglected, played with, made the subject of religious and moral experiments, and denied all freedom of thought and action without remedy. That children should be herded together for hours every day, and beaten or otherwise punished if they fidget, talk, or are inattentive to an uninteresting teacher whom no adult audience would tolerate for five minutes, is taken as a matter of course and called instruction.

It is, of course, Mr. Shaw contends, nothing of the sort. "It is grotesque, unnatural cruelty both to the teacher and the children."

Certain "very simple knowledges," Mr. Shaw goes on to say, "must be acquired by children before they can enjoy full freedom of movement."

They should know a few simple arithmetical calculations and tables, so as to enable them to deal with money. They should know how to read, not with a view to the masterpieces of literature, but so that they may be dealt with by direction boards and other forms of public notice. But children would learn reading and simple arithmetic for their own use if they lead promptly to more freedom and more peace, and if the learners could see the end of their labor close enough to be stimulated to race for the goal.

"At present they drudge hopelessly at them, knowing that the achievement of a simple task will lead, not to freedom, and use of a new accomplishment, but to the imposition of more and more difficult and distasteful ones for years to come.

Instead of being forbidden to do as they like, Mr. Shaw thinks children should be compelled to dispense with adult guidance, and depend on themselves to the full limit of their resourcefulness; so as to accustom them to the tyranny of nature and circumstance from which they are only too willing to be shielded.

They should be let loose in the country, and not too obtrusively policed. A considerable compliment should be made of teaching them anything beyond what is necessary to enable them to use pennies and shillings and to take journeys and get meals in a town. The present obligation of the schoolmaster to retain by force an unwilling and consequently unruly child, merely for the sake of its school bill, should be unknown. Under such conditions, real live learning would soon flourish on the boundless basis of human curiosity and ambition. At present it can hardly be said to exist. The grown-up man turns with loathing from all the associations of the penal servitude of his youth. The grown-up woman revenges on the governess to whom she is forced to hand over her own children (because she can see no practicable alternative) the miseries of her childhood in the schoolroom.

The hobbies of both men and women are something they were never forced to dudge at, just as their religion, when they have any is, . . . anything rather than the religion of bibles and catechisms and compulsory pew sittings in fine Sundays.

It must not be supposed that the remedy for "the evil called Education" is to keep children at home:

The right course is to respect children; to secure their rights and liberties exactly as those of adults are secured; to protect adults against annoyance by them; to stop telling them lies and posing before them as gods; . . . to keep constantly in mind that every child is an experiment which must be carried through on its own lines, and not aborted so as to produce a monster of moral perfection (which is the universal pretence of education); to give children variety of experience and company, the world to live in, homes to sleep in, communal halls to eat and associate in, safe cities to roam through. . . .

Any person professing or attempting to pass off his opinions on children as absolute truths should, in Mr. Shaw's opinion, be "classed with the quacks who sell panaceas and nerve-restorers—preferably by summary execution.

THE POLITICAL SITUATION IN GREAT BRITAIN.

From the nature of the press despatches during the past few days it appears highly probable that Premier Balfour will shortly resign the reins of office. This, coming upon his Manchester speech just recently, would seem to indicate that he has been unable to bring about a reconciliation of differences among his followers, which in the interests of the country he deplored on that occasion. He has chosen the course that was inevitable. It is far better to resign now than to suffer defeat in the House of Commons at its next session.

Political conditions are more favorable now for an appeal to the country than they have been for some time or they are likely to be again for some time to come. The government's foreign policy is popular with the people, and to a very large extent the government has regained lost prestige. Interest is keen in regard to matters of Imperial relations, a subject very much discussed now, and we shall have a campaign in which such issues will be very prominent.

Chamberlain, who has introduced a rather definite phase of Imperialism, which involves a measure of protection as in favor of the colonies, will undoubtedly be an issue; but his policy may not be the determining issue of the fight. There is a large and important element of Imperialists not definitely pledged to his programme, who will be on his side, or rather on the side of opposition to the Liberals. Chamberlain stands for Imperialism, and in the campaign to follow the retirement of Mr. Balfour it is wholly possible that the preential tariff scheme will only be an incidental feature of it. There are other large issues that may be introduced as well, such as an all-Imperial cable, an Imperial council, and a universal postage scheme, as is advocated by Mr. Heaton. Closer relations of the different parts of the Empire, mutual co-operation for the purposes of development, the consolidation of the sentiment of the Empire, world-wide intelligence service—these are some of the things to obtain on which all wings of the Imperialists can unite.

Fortune seems to favor an imperial campaign of the kind indicated. It is announced that the leader of the Liberals will definitely commit himself to a measure of Home Rule for Ireland. Whether that will secure the support of the Irish members remains to be seen, but it will certainly bring about a serious cleavage in the Liberal party and will estrange the members of the Unionists' party, that might have been inclined to support, and probably would have supported, the Liberals in opposition to the Chamberlain programme. They may prefer to support the party that is led by Mr. Balfour, with its taint of protection heresy, to forming a separate wing of the opposition. Nothing could have helped Mr. Balfour so much at this juncture as a pronouncement by Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman of the nature referred to. As a choice between two evils there are hundreds of thousands in Great Britain who will prefer to go with Chamberlain, with his preferential tariff scheme, to following the Liberal with Home Rule for Ireland as his goal.

SUCCESS IN ADVERTISING

Success of the Small Advertiser—Its Is Not Overshadowed by the Large Advertiser—His Chances of Success Are Equally as Good.

(Written for The Colonist by Allen West.)

(Chapter 8.)

If I were to say that there is not enormous force in the largeness and the systematizing of the great departmental stores, I would be stating an untruth.

Equally so would I be stating something not true were I not to recognize the opportunity for the small advertiser.

What do you read most and easiest in a newspaper?

The small items—the paragraphs.

When I was asked to take the city editorship of one of the Eastern papers years ago, the proprietor said:

"We expect you to get up a column of short items every day. People judge us by them. If we have over a column we have plenty of news. If less than a column we have fallen short." No matter how much other news we have, we fail to make the right impression if we are short on items."

Schillings' Tea some years ago began advertising on the Canadian market at 29 1-16d. per ounce in London and 64½ cents in New York for commercial bars. These figures are notable, as they are the highest which have been recorded in the silver markets here or abroad since the year 1900, when the prices touched 30 3-16d. and 64 cents respectively. It would seem that the demand from the east has been large and steady of late and that the rise is due mainly to this cause, being, in fact, an entirely legitimate movement. An interesting question has also arisen as to whether the Mexican government will not take advantage of the situation to sell at least a part of its silver reserve carried against note circulation and thus provide a gold reserve.

NAME, PLEASE!

Ridgetown Dominion.

Will the Conservative papers who keep knocking Mr. Borden as leader please tell an awaiting public the name of the man they desire to see in his place? Then an awaiting public may guess the reasons why.

LAMBY WAS THERE.

Tit-Bits.

In a Liverpool restaurant recently a gentleman let his wife for a few moments to chat with an acquaintance at another table, and while he was there his friend persuaded him to partake of some lamb. Under a misapprehension the lady removed the lamb before he had eaten it, whereupon he exclaimed, "Goodness! Where is my lamb?"

His wife, overhearing the question, answered in a clear voice, "Here I am, darling!"

ANOTHER COCOS EXPEDITION.

Portland Oregonian.

Another expedition will be despatched from Victoria for Cocos Island for the purpose of attempting to discover the buried treasure which is supposed to be there. There has not been almost as much money spent in searching for this pot of gold at the end of a South Sea rainbow as was wasted on the Atlantic coast in a fruitless quest for the hidden spoils of one Captain Kidd. The expedition, which is now fitting out in Victoria, will be in charge of a skipper who taught the chrome expedition from the British Columbia metropolis about two years ago. The financial backers of the present undertaking are, with a few exceptions, the same as those who financed the former effort. This would indicate that at least some of the Canadians are not so extremely conservative as we have been led to believe.

B. C. IN GEOGRAPHY.

Success.

Little Rob was the prize geographer of his class; that is, he could locate cities and bound countries with great glibness. He could draw the most realistic maps, printing on the rivers, mountain ranges, and cities from memory. Rob considered geography the only line in which he came, in which he always beat, but he never associated it with the great world about him. Rivers were to him no more than black, wiggly lines; cities were dots, and states were blots. New York was green, Pennsylvania was red, and California was yellow. Of course Rob had never travelled. He was born in a canyon near the country school he attended. One day the teacher made the discovery of Rob's idea of geography through the following incident: After vainly inquiring of several of the children where British Columbia is located, she called on Rob, who, as usual, was waving his hand excitedly, wild with the enthusiasm of pent-up knowledge.

"It is on page sixty-eight," he declared.

After the rear had derided the teacher explained that that was only a picture of British Columbia. Then she asked Rob to bound British Columbia.

"Can't, teacher; it's all over the page."

AN UNPLEASANT INCIDENT.

Montreal Gazette.

Mr. Motherwell, the minister of agriculture of the province of Saskatchewan, appears to be in a place he does not like, qualified for. Mr. Lockie Wilson, an old-time Ontario campaigner, has been up in Saskatchewan, defending the government. Among other places he undertook to construct bulwarks at Abernethy. Somewhat carelessly, he carried his materials in his overcoat pocket; and when the time to use them drew near, he found that both overcoat and materials had been taken away. The coat was returned to the hotel some time later by the secretary of the local Liberal association. The materials he discovered still later in Mr. Motherwell's possession at a meeting he was to speak at. They included both printed and written documents. Some were returned to him on his demand, and some are yet missing. This is Mr. Wilson's story. Mr. Motherwell appears to admit its accuracy. He does not, however, seem to have seen the necessity of retiring from a position his admission shows he is not fitted for. A minister of the crown should not have been found with the surreptitiously obtained papers of an opponent in his possession, should not have had the papers, and should not have sought to use them.

ALBERTA SUGAR INDUSTRY.

Winnipeg Commercial.

Outsiders are so accustomed to hearing Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta spoken of as great wheat growing provinces and British Columbia as a rich mining country that they no doubt lose sight of the possibilities for other industries of which we have several profitable ones. Foremost among these is destined to be, from all indications, the beet sugar industry of Alberta. The Knight Sugar Company's plant, situated at Raymond, Alta., is a concern that is rapidly growing, and is assuming proportions that will at no distant date place it on a large shipping basis. Within the next few weeks the company will be shipping its product into Vancouver, B. C., where they are figuring at the present time on putting up a sugar refinery. Since sugar making at Raymond was started this fall, thousands of tons of beets have been delivered to the plant, principally from Raymond fields. Other parts of the West, however, are commencing to realize the importance of this industry in our midst, and beet growing will receive more attention than ever before. It is expected that 24,000 tons will be used in the run this season.

The Knight Sugar Company employ about 325 hands, and the outpound this year will be in the vicinity of 6,000,000 pounds. The present capacity of the mill is 100,000 per day. The probabilities are that a very large quantity of beets will be raised in this country in future, as they are safer than the grain crop, and the returns are realized promptly.

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Hard Shell Almonds, per lb.	20c.	Shelled Almonds, per lb.	40c.
Brazil Nuts, per lb.	25c.	Shelled Walnuts, per lb.	50c.
Extra Large Peccans, per lb.	25c.		

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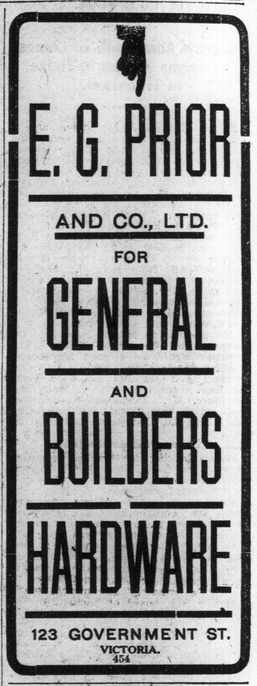

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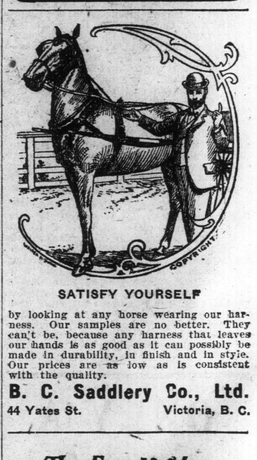

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WANTED—TO LEASE

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FOR SALE—Good sound buggy horse; price $100. T. Shotbolt, Pioneer Drug Store, Johnson street. n24