

## The Colonist.

The Colonist Printing & Publishing Company, Limited, Liability.  
57 Broad Street, Victoria, B.C.

## THE SEMI-WEEKLY COLONIST

One year ..... \$1.00  
Six months ..... .75  
Three months ..... .50  
Sent postpaid to Canada and the United Kingdom.

## MR. M'BRIE'S OPTIMISM

The statement of Premier McBride, which we printed last Saturday, attracted a great deal of attention. Whether his estimate of the actual amount of money that will be expended in the province during the next four years is too large or too small, it certainly is evident from the facts now at hand that there will be a vast outlay during that period. Our own view of the case is that his estimates will be found to err on the side of conservatism, for the impetus that has been given to the development of the province will be found to be like a circle in the water which steadily widens. It is very evident that British Columbia has entered upon a career of unexampled prosperity, which is really not surprising because it is the last great area in North America, fit for colonization and development in a large way, remaining open to exploitation.

In making his very optimistic forecasts, Mr. McBride was silent as to the part which he has played in making possible such a future as he anticipates. There is no question at all that the initial step was taken towards enabling British Columbia to come into her own when he adopted the policy, which filled the provincial treasury to overflowing and placed his administration in a position to enter upon those public works which the increasing population and the enlarged sphere of settlement demand. He followed up this policy by inaugurating a period of railway construction. When he made a contract with the Canadian Northern to enter British Columbia with a transcontinental railway, he gave a tremendous stimulus to railway construction in all directions. He also concentrated the attention of capital upon the resources of the province. The fact that the province, with a great surplus revenue, stood prepared to endorse the bonds of the Canadian Northern to a large amount, so far from affecting the public credit, as some timid people feared, had exactly the contrary effect. It placed British Columbia before the world in the character of a province that felt sure of itself, that appreciated its great potentialities and had the courage of its convictions. We do not claim for Mr. McBride that to him alone is due the most excellent outlook of which he has spoken so forcibly, but we do claim that he has contributed in no small degree to making it possible.

## NEW YEAR'S HONORS.

Among the New Year's honors conferred by His Majesty those that will be most generally appreciated and understood are the elevation to knighthood of Mr. Aylesworth, Minister of Justice, Mr. William Mackenzie, president, and Mr. Donald D. Mann, vice-president of the Canadian Northern Railway Company. The title has been given to the Minister because of his distinguished services to the Empire at the Hague Tribunal, when the fisheries dispute with the United States was settled. It is interesting to recall that Sir Charles Hibbert Tupper received the honor of knighthood for services of a similar nature. Sir Allen Aylesworth certainly earned the honor which has been conferred upon him and his political opponents no less than his political friends will unite in hearty congratulations.

The two distinguished railway men, whose names are on the list, illustrate in a conspicuous way what can be accomplished in Canada by those who combine with an appreciation of opportunities the courage and skill necessary to their utilization. Their record is almost unique even in America, where so many men have begun with nothing but the qualities with which nature endowed them and have advanced from step to step in fame, fortune and usefulness. Sir William Mackenzie and Sir Donald Mann have been empire-builders in no ordinary way. Their achievements have been conspicuous and they have been in spheres of activity where success has been for the public advantage. Their thousands of friends will heartily congratulate them and will join with us in the hope that they may long enjoy the honor they have so richly deserved.

## PUBLIC OWNERSHIP

The Toronto Star, discussing the statement that there is a cleavage line between the East and the West upon the question of public ownership, denies its existence and argues that from East to West the sentiment of the people runs in favor of the principle. We are not as sure about this as we would

like to be. Our observation inclines us to the belief that the love of the public for public ownership is largely platonic. We can do exactly as we like in Canada federally, provincially and municipally; and yet we have done almost as little as possible in the way of acquiring the ownership by the public of public utilities. Take the matter of telegraphic service. Here is something that could be put under government control, but no one seriously proposes such a thing. We have some government-owned lines, but the changes and service on them are not as a rule such as are calculated to wish us to have any more of them. Sir Sanford Fleming has demonstrated that it ought not to cost any more to send a message across the Continent than it does to send one from here to Vancouver, and yet we pay four times as much. If we are all so greatly in favor of government ownership as the Star believes, why do we not arise in our dignity and insist that the government shall establish telegraph lines wherever there is need for new ones? Why have we not insisted that the line along the Grand Trunk Pacific shall be a government owned line, operated at minimum charges? It may be said that other lines would not exchange business with such a line, but there is nothing in such an objection, for parliament could pass a law in five minutes that would fix such a thing beyond the shadow of a doubt. The explanation is that we are not really in earnest. We talk public ownership; we are all in love with it in theory, but none of us really wants it, that is we do not want it badly enough to compel our parliaments and legislatures and our municipal councils to give it to us. When the local companies wanted to sell out, this paper wanted the city to buy it out, but we were almost alone. Nobody backed us up. We used to contend that the proper way to develop Vancouver Island was by a government-owned railway from north to south with all necessary branches, but the public took no interest in such a suggestion, although it is well known that some men, high in office, would have liked to have carried out such a plan. Why are not people all over Canada backing up the demand of the Prairie farmers for public ownership of the Hudson Bay Railway? The Star says the extension of the Intercolonial to Georgian Bay would be an exceedingly popular step if that is so why do we not hear more of a demand for it? Depend upon it, most excellent contemporary, when you think that public sentiment in Canada is really actively in favor of public ownership, it is a case of the wish being father to the thought.

## THE GLIDDEN TOUR

An effort is being made to induce the managers of what is known as "the Glidden Tour" to extend its itinerary of 1911 to the Pacific Coast. This tour is made in motor cars. The proposal of the Good Roads Association is that the tour shall embrace the whole coast from Tia Juana, Mexico, to Vancouver. This would be a very fine tour indeed, but its promoters will make a very great mistake if they do not extend it to embrace Vancouver Island. The Association in a circular letter says:

"If this National motoring event is brought to the Coast the coming year, there is no question but that the reception that will be given the visitors will outdo everything that has been provided for them in the past in the way of entertainment and hospitality, for it is acknowledged by all that the people of Southern California especially are the premier entertainers of the world, and for that matter, the entire West has the reputation, which is founded on experience, of extending everyone enthusiastic hospitality. There is but little doubt that all Good Roads and Automobile associations in the three Coast states and in British Columbia will join hands in urging the Glidden Tour for the Pacific Coast for the coming year."

The people of Victoria would be very glad, we are sure, to assist in any way in their power to make this tour a success if it shall be decided upon, and we need hardly add that, if Vancouver Island is included in the itinerary, the pleasure of the tourists will be very greatly enhanced. The Canadian Pacific railway can, we feel sure, be trusted to do whatever lies in their power to make the transfer of cars from the Mainland to the Island as expeditious and as little troublesome as possible.

## MR. BALFOUR

That Mr. Asquith has a difficult task in hand in reconciling the divergent views of his supporters is admitted, and now we have the story told with a good deal of circumstantiality that Mr. Balfour also has troubles of his own. There are two wings of the Unionist party. One of them, which is strong numerically—it was stated to the Colonist by one who ought to be in a position to know that 160 members of the late House were included

in it—favors a plan of devolution, whereby some of the powers exercised by the British Parliament could be transferred to local governing bodies in the three kingdoms and Wales. The chief exponent of this idea was Mr. Garvin, of the Observer, but he had many very prominent supporters. Earl Grey was known to be favorable to such a line of action. Mr. Balfour was not unfavorable to it, and almost all the Unionist papers, we think, indeed, with the exception of the Morning Post, endorsed it. It was reported, although never officially admitted, that at the Constitutional Conference Mr. Balfour gave Mr. Asquith to understand that he would not oppose a measure of that nature. The Observer distinctly accepted Mr. Redmond's Home Rule plan. There are three very prominent Unionists who will not hear of any plan of devolution. They are the Marquis of Londonderry, Sir Edward Carson and Mr. Walter Long. It is alleged that they were able to prevent Mr. Balfour from effecting any agreement with Mr. Asquith. But this is not the sole source of Mr. Balfour's difficulty. The extreme Tariff Reform wing of the party is not satisfied with the manner in which he conducted the campaign. When he declared his intention to submit that question to a referendum, if entrusted with power, Mr. Austen Chamberlain took occasion at the earliest opportunity to express his lack of sympathy with such a proposal. In point of ability Mr. Balfour stands very high among British public men. There are those who say that he is much the ablest man in public life in the United Kingdom, although necessarily that must be a matter of opinion only, for there is no standard of measurement that can be applied to such a thing. To add to his troubles, Mr. Balfour's health is not nearly as good as can be desired. While these things are admitted, the better opinion in Unionist ranks is that he will remain in the leadership.

The city of Hamilton is going to print its assessment roll in pamphlet form for general distribution. Here is a suggestion to the Victoria city fathers. If the roll were printed here and were sold for a dollar or so a copy, the deficit to be charged up against its publication would be small.

The Ontario government brought 1,000 young women into the province from the Mother Country this year to take places as domestic servants. They were assisted in their passage money on the understanding that they should refund it and it is said that in the most cases they have done so promptly. This is very satisfactory.

A London letter writer to the press directs attention to the fact that the social relations between Mr. Asquith and the leaders among his political opponents are much more intimate than are his social relations with some of his own colleagues, and notably with Mr. Lloyd George, between whom and the Prime Minister there is said to be very little personally in common.

Mr. Clifford Sifton in a recent speech before a Canadian Club spoke of the Laurier ministry as men "who had been my political friends." It would, we fancy, be assuming a great deal too much to take this as signifying that Mr. Sifton is going over to the Conservatives. It was only a facetious remark in all probability. Mr. Sifton is theoretically out of politics, and may be supposed to have no political "friends."

There is a very strong movement to induce Mr. Alexander Stewart, to consent to become a candidate for the majority. Petitions are being numerously signed, and the desire to have him enter the field is growing intense. Mr. Stewart is a level-headed business man, with a capital record as a former alderman. He has been identified with the city for a long time, and not any one of the citizens is held in higher respect than he. Mr. Stewart would make an excellent head of the city government. He is progressive in his views, firm in giving effect to them, reasonable in all things, and a very excellent and useful member of the community. He will do his fellow citizens excellent service if he will place himself in their hands at the forthcoming election.

## Mayor Evans' Seat Attacked

Winnipeg, Jan. 3.—A petition was today formally filed against the re-election of Mayor Sanford Evans on the usual grounds of impersonation and corrupt practices. In connection with the attitude on segregation it is interesting to note that Alderman Adams is re-elected to the police commission, of which the mayor is ex-officio chairman and Magistrate Daly is a member. The other member is Ald. Douglas, who replaces Alderman Willoughby, who marked his displeasure with the attitude of the majority of the police commission by resigning last November. It is stated on good authority that this action was not directed against the mayor, but is designed to force investigation into the charges of impersonation and other corrupt practices, which during the late municipal election are stated to have been on a scale hitherto unparalleled in Canada.

Enormous  
Value in  
Style,  
Beauty,  
Wear  
and  
Satisfaction

## Bedroom Furniture



Dear People—

My name is "Lou." I've had a long experience in buying furniture and things for the home.

I have a young friend by the name of "Amy," who wants me to keep her posted on where to buy things for her home.

While I am about it, I might as well publish my letters in your paper here. I have no secrets. I will tell you lots of things you ought to know about furnishing your home. See my letter to "Amy" each week.

Believe me,

Faithfully yours,

LOU.

Goods  
You  
Want  
At Prices  
You  
Can  
Pay

## Bedroom Furniture

### Look Everywhere—These Are the Best Anywhere

We have been receiving shipments of furniture lately that we have had no time to tell you about, being so busy this holiday season. Quite a portion of the latest arrivals have been bedroom furniture which is the very latest 1911 style. We have at present an unequalled assortment of furniture in this line, and if you are contemplating furnishing another bedroom or buying a cheffonier, dresser or stand, we have some odd pieces that you can have at a very reasonable figure. By paying us a visit it will pay you. We have the most beautiful bedroom furniture of the best quality at the most reasonable prices in the Great West, and when furnishing, buy goods that will last a lifetime. Our store keeps no other kind. Come today.

2-Piece Dresser and Stand, mahogany finish, British bevel mirror 24 x 30, 2 small drawers, and 2 large drawers in dresser ..... **\$40.00**

3-Piece Suite, in mahogany, dull waxed finish, British bevel mirror, in dresser 24 x 30, Dresser, Stand and Cheffonier for ..... **\$100.00**

Dresser, mahogany finish, British bevel mirror, 20 x 28, top 20 x 28, 3 large drawers ..... **\$30.00**

Dresser, mahogany, dull wax finish, British beveled mirror 28 x 24, top 22 x 42, 2 small and 2 large drawers ..... **\$40.00**

2-Piece Suite, Mahogany Finish Dresser and Stand, British bevel mirror 22 x 28 ..... **\$42.00**

Dresser, mahogany finish, top 22 x 40, British bevel mirror 22 x 28, 2 small and 2 large drawers ..... **\$30.00**

Dresser, mahogany finish, top 22 x 42, glass 24 x 30, 2 small and 2 large drawers ..... **\$40.00**

2-Piece Suite, Dresser and Stand, solid quarter cut oak, golden finish, Dresser with 2 small drawers and 2 large drawers. Stand with 1 small drawer and 2 cupboards. For ..... **\$50.00**

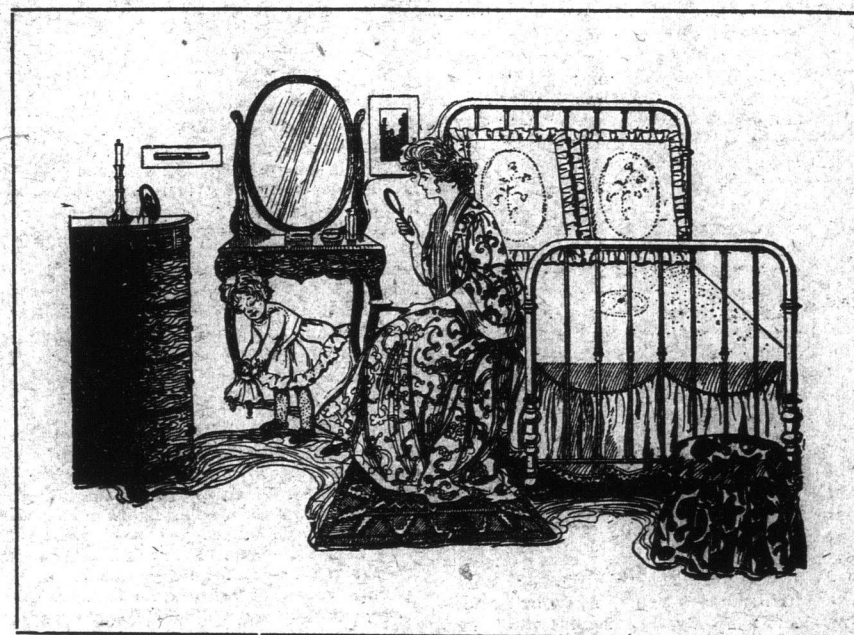
2-Piece Suite, Solid Quarter Cut, Golden Finish Dresser and Stand. Glass 30 x 30 ..... **\$55.00**

Dressing Table, in solid quarter cut oak, golden finish. A fine assortment. Something that will delight the ladies, at \$30.00, \$25.00, \$22.50 and ..... **\$20.00**

Dressing Tables, in Empire oak, \$16.00 and ..... **\$14.00**

2-Piece Suite, Dresser and Stand, solid oak, golden wax finish, British bevel mirror 24 x 30, oval shape glass. For ..... **\$35.00**

Dresser, solid quarter cut oak, golden finish, large Princess style British bevel mirror 26 x 40 ..... **\$50.00**



Dresser, mahogany finish, British bevel mirror 26 x 26, 2 small and 2 large drawers ..... **\$32.50**

Dresser, mahogany finish, 46-in. top, British bevel mirror 28 x 32, with 2 small and 2 large drawers ..... **\$50.00**

Chiffonier, mahogany, top 20 x 30, glass 16 x 16, 2 small and 4 large drawers ..... **\$30.00**

Chiffonier, mahogany finish, 2 small and 3 large drawers. Special at ..... **\$19.00**

Chiffonier, mahogany finish, 4 large drawers. Something new, at ..... **\$20.00**

Chiffonier, mahogany finish, top 20 x 32, British bevel mirror 18 x 18, 2 small and 2 large drawers ..... **\$36.01**

Chiffonier, mahogany finish, 2 cupboards and 4 drawers, British bevel mirror 18 x 21 ..... **\$35.00**

Solid Quarter Cut Oak, Golden Finish Dresser, top 22 x 40, British bevel mirror 22 x 28, 2 small and 2 large drawers. For ..... **\$30.00**

Dresser, solid quarter cut oak, golden finish, British bevel mirror 26-inch, round top 21 x 40 ..... **\$35.00**

Chiffonier, solid quarter cut oak, golden finish, British bevel mirror 16 x 20 ..... **\$32.50**

Chiffonier, solid quarter cut oak, golden finish 38-inch top, British bevel mirror 16 x 22, 2 small and 3 large drawers and cupboard ..... **\$35.00**

## NEW GOODS

We have a shipment just come to hand of some Bedroom Furniture at wonderfully reasonable prices. We herewith quote you a few to give you an idea.

Dressers, solid oak, with British beveled mirror, \$25.00, \$20.00, \$18.00, \$15.00 ..... **\$12.50**

Dresser and Stand, in Empire oak ..... **\$14.00**

Chiffoniers to match the above, in solid oak, \$20.00, \$18.00, \$14.00 ..... **\$10.00**

Ladies!  
Use the  
Rest Room

# WEILER BROS

Order  
Your Goods  
by Mail

## WIRELESS

Dominion Gov.  
To Make Gov.  
quarters On  
British Colum.

The Dominion decided to make the headquarter system on the Pacific coast in view of the fact that the Dominion two acres of land with the purpose of radiating space. at Gonzales Hill. added to by an in plant, so as to provide a communication much longer distance. The new installation is of the most modern character. It will enable the Dominion to maintain a constant communication with the ships at sea. The installation increases the accuracy of the Dominion's wireless system. The decision to build the new station was made by the Dominion government. The station will be built on Gonzales Hill, which is a prominent point on the coast. The station will be built on a hill which is about 100 feet high. The station will be built on a hill which is about 100 feet high. The station will be built on a hill which is about 100 feet high.

## THE NEW

Some Front B...

The last five years have seen great changes in the Dominion. Death served oblivion has been the lot of many. Let us look back to the day in 1906 when the Dominion government listened to the Throne inspired Lord Chancellor, and turned from ten years of the wilderness of death to the light of life. Death has taken its toll of the Dominion. Sir Henry man from the scene of the little success. In the Dominion, the death and adroit lawyer, the Dominion of Empire, everyone prophesied party, which had a long and successful career. The Dominion was a lawyer and a patient good man. He was never accused of any of his followers capable of tact. He was a lawyer and a patient good man. He was never accused of any of his followers capable of tact. He was a lawyer and a patient good man. He was never accused of any of his followers capable of tact.

Mr. Acland, then in speech in moving by the subtle production, become a minister. The Empire's father of our Empire left the Unionist party sudden and lamented more than ever, the of men such as by an amazing Manchester (Mr. back into the house London's open door for the Dominion. With him he has other then def Pugnacious Mr. Ideas of Chinese him to be at once most courageous that weighty presence and "beau ideal" of Mr. Chaplin, and ready tongued former, Mr. Bone's leadership of the one day fall.

On the minister's stranger indeed is from 1906. The has taken away the statesman, the before senility quite ceases of many p Lord Tweedmo- trator at the adm Majorbanks, was which Sir John