The Colonist.

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THE SEMI-WEEKLY COLONIST

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CITIZENSHIP

If we may accept as settled the general tions will take place within the next two months, a very grave responsibility rests upon the people of Canada and it ought not to be regarded lightly. The evolution of our institutions has resulted in the development of a general elections really delegate to a set of public men the full charge of the affairs of the State until another general election shall be held. Theoretically this may not be true. Theoretically this may not be true. Theoretically the members of Parliament are at liberty to vote as they please on all subjects and may dismiss from office a ministry at any time, by one of many ways with which all people are more or less familiar. Practically this power remains in abeyance. The majority with which a government meets a new House of Commons remains unchanged as long as the House lasts, except so far as it is afmains unchanged as long as the House vinced that you can up overstain state lasts, except so far as it is affected by the result of by-elections. The instances in which members, elected to support a government, go day's work with a resolve to do every-elected to support a government, go The instances in which members, elected to support a government, go into opposition, or vice versa, are so few as to be negligible. As the people vote next October or November, as the case may be, so will the government be, in all reasonable probability, for the next four years at least. In practice Canada is not materially dif-ferent from the United States. In that country the political complexion of the administration cannot be changed be-

a freeman's part in the coming con-test. The welfare of the country is the welfare of the citizens of the country, and all citizens ought to lend the welfare of the citizens of the country, and all citizens ought to lend their assistance to the accomplishments of the results, which in their opinion will best promote that welfare. If they believe it is to the interest of the country that the present government should be retained in power, let them say so in terms that cannot be misunderstood. If, on the other hand, they think it is time for a change, let them vote so as to bring about a change. Let them not take the position, as so many persons are inclined to do, that after all there is no difference between parties except in names, and no real issues except between the outs, who want to get in, and the ins, who want to get in, and the ins, who want to stay in those who take this position are too indolent or too indifferent to appreciate the real nature of public questions. If men believe that the affairs of the country are well administered, it is their duty to say so by their votes; if they believe they are being investigations and at the same time extend the courtesies due it is their duty to say so by their votes; if they believe they are being badly administered, or might be better administered, they ought to express their views at the ballot box. But if this expression is to be of any value, it must be the result of a thoughtful study of public questions. Therefore we hope that the forthcoming campaign will be one of intelligent discussion and one in which all citizens will take part will take part.

MORE FIGURES.

Guesses as to the result of the election are coming in with some rapidity. The latest is from the Toronto World,

the state of the second state of the second	Libs.	Cons
Ontario		58
Quebec	50	15
Nova Scotia		. 5
New Brunswick	- 5	8 (
Manitoba	3	7
Saskatchewan	5	5
Alberta	4	3
British Columbia	1	6
Prince Edward Island	0	4
Yukon	0	1
	400	100

Conservative majority, 3.

This is based on the supposition that the Conservatives will make gains in all the provinces. It presupposes the loss by the Liberals of 11 seats in Ontario, 4 in Quebec, 4 in Nova Scotia, 3 in New Brunswick, 4 in Manitoba, 4 in Saskatchewan, 1 in Alberta and 6 in British Columbia. Such a result as the World anticipates would not be very satisfactory to any one, because it would necessitate a new election, for no premier would attempt to carry on with a majority of three. He would hardly feel safe in opening a sufficient number of seats to provide himself with colleagues. In Great Britain the course that we are present, and the relations between Russia and Great Britain that in and the relations between Russia and the relations between Russia and Great Britain may be severely strained before a satisfactory solution of the Persian problem is reached. The British people will not countenance anything on the part of their government which seems to be in keeping with the repressive and bloodthirsty methods pursued by Russia in Northwest Persia. If it were not for this a partition of the empire might be possible, Russia being given the extreme northwest and the relations between Russia and Great Britain the course in Nova Scotia, 3 in New Brunswick, 4 in Manitoba, 4 in British people will not countenance anything on the part of their government which seems to be in keeping with the repressive and bloodthirsty methods pursued by Russia in Northwest Persia. If it were not for this a partition of the empire might be possible, Russia being given the extreme northwest and the relations between Russia and th Conservative majority, 3. probably be followed in at would be for the leader position to refuse to accept

a summary of the new law relating to elections to be published. Some of the principal provisions are the fol-

All newspaper people know the men to whom an inscrutable Providence has seen fit to grant a corner in omhas seen it to grant a corner in om-nisience, especially as to the manner in which a daily newspaper should be run. The newspaperman is ever-con-scious of his own shortcomings. He finds before him, when he begins his day's work, a great blank, out of which he must manage in some way to ex-tract enough matter of sufficient in-terest to be readable and, if he ever looks over his work on the following day, it is not with a feeling of prido because of what he has accomplished, but one of profound thankfulness that he did not make more mistakes. As a system under which the people at the he did not make more mistakes. As a general elections really delegate to a rule he has not time to read critically

day's work with a resolve to do everything wrong, which is within the limbulation of the English language and the statutes of the realm. They themsteves do not know this. They are under the impression that they endeaver to be fair, accurate and considerate. They think that they give to all different and the status of the impression that they endeaver to be fair, accurate and considerate. They think that they give to all different endeavers such degree of thought as to their method of treating them, or as to their method of treating them, or as to the status with 12 to the status with 12 to the status with 12 to the status with 13 to the status with 12 to the status with 13 to the status with 12 to the status with 13 to the status of the most steadfast in its political faith and rarely placing its confidence in a Republican. Twelve of the Southern States, the Democratic the groups of states, the Democratic the political faith and rarely placing its confidence in a Republican. Twelve of the Southern States, the Democratic the political faith and rarely placing its confidence in a Republican. Twelve of the Southern States, the Democratic the political faith and rarely placing its confidence in a Republican. Twelve of the Southern States, the Democratic the most the most the most the status of the realm. They them the confidence in a Republican. Twelve of the Southern States, the Democratic thing wrong, which is with a real many political faith and rarely placing its confidence in a Republican. Twelve of the Southern States, with 127 votes in the electoral college, are conceded to Mr. Bryan, making it necessary for his friends to carry other states with 125 votes to get him a bare majority. administration cannot be changed between elections; in Canada it is no longer likely to be. We have drawn party lines hard and fast. Hence the serious nature of the duties which citizenship imposes upon the people of Canada at the present time.

This article is not intended as an appeal to partizanship, and therefore we make no mention of any issues before the people. It is intended to impressupon those, who read it, the imperative duty devolving upon them, to take a freeman's part in the coming contest.

THE MINING INSTITUTE.

The meeting of the Canadian Mining Institute, which is to be held in this city in about two weeks, will be of very great interest. There will be quiries and investigations and at the same time extend the courtesies due to such a distinguished party. We hope that the citizens generally will co-operate in making the visit of the

, CONDITION OF PERSIA.

While Northern Persia, which is within the Russian sphere of influence, is a scene of bloodshed and oppres-sion, the southern part of the empire, which is within the British sphere of influence, and the western part, some of which is not under the surveillance of either of the great powers, is the scene of a revolution promoted by the Constitutionalists, who seem to be carrying all before them. There has been some very severe fighting, in which the troops of the Shah have been worsted, and the government offices everywhere are falling into the hands of the insurgents, who demand the promulgation of the constitution anew and the summoning of a parliament; otherwise they declare they will proclaim themselves independent and set up a government of their own. It is not easy to forecast the outcome of such a state of things. The Shah such a state of things. The Shah seems absolutely helpless. The ele-

that we probably be followed in such an at would be for the leader of the position to refuse to accept office and compel the government to appeal again to the people, or to accept office form his government and then appeal to the people. The latter course would be most in harmony with constitutional practice, but there is at least one case on record where a British parliamentary leader declined to take office after defeating the government by a small majority, and assisted the latter to pass Supply, on the understanding that there should be an immediate dissolution. But there is no great point in speculating on what might happen in such an event as the World anticipates. When the votes are counted on election night, there will be no guess work as to who will be in power.

The Dominion government has caused a summary of the new law relating to elections to be published. Some of the principal provisions are the following the provision to grow mindistrict the former is a fluggistic. The people show an THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION a summary of the new law relating to elections to be published. Some of the principal provisions are the following:

"It is made a criminal offence, punishable by a heavy fine, to take down, mutilate or deface any proclamation, notice, voters' list or other document required to be posted up under the provisions of the Act.

"No person can make an contribution on behalf of any candidate except through the agent of such candidate.

"The bribery provisions in the Act are made much more severe.

"Canvassing by persons residing outside Canada is made an indictable offence.

"Printing offices are required to give the address of the printer and

The president is chosen, not by the people direct, but by a body of electors for whom the people vote. In this col-lege, as it is called, the states are rep-resented according to their population. The total number is 483 votes, allotted in the individual states as follows:

Alabama 4 New York. 39 New Jersey. Georgia Pennsylvania Rhode Island

Michigan

West Virginia. Washington Vermont . There are geographical divisions of

ervers seemingly without prejudice oncede him Missouri and Kentucky with 31 votes, which, however, leaves him 84 short. It is for these that he will have to do his hardest fighting. Almost everything will depend on New York, which has 39 votes, and seems

In these prosaic and self-seeking days it is delightful to find a patriot, indeed, in whom there is no guile. In most cases the man seeks the office. Rarely indeed does the office have to put on its hat, take its lantern and go out seeking the man. It is therefore all the more pleasant to learn that the Minister of the Interior places his services at the disposal of and go out seeking the man. It is therefore all the more pleasant to learn that the Minister of the Interior places his services at the disposal of his country much against his will, and that he only desires to remain in office because the voice of the country demands that he shall go "into exile" for the public good. The phrase is not ours. The Minister reached Victoria on Wednesday hight, and on Thursday he told the people through his paper his feelings in this regard. He said: "The Minister of the recommended more than thirty years ago for the Canadian Pathrough his paper his feelings in this regard. He said: "The Minister of the Interior will regret that in the discharge of his duties in accordance with the popular will, it will be necessary for him to be absent the greater part of the time from home, but he will submit to exile in a spirit of resignation." He likewise said: "Probably the Minister of the Interior would be well pleased if he were relieved from the duties of his office and permitted to enjoy life in Victoria for the remainder of his days." We should not ourselves have thought of using the expression "the remainder of his days." We should not ourselves have thought of using the expression "the remainder of his days." We should not ourselves have thought of using the expression "the remainder of his days." We should not ourselves have thought of using the expression "the remainder of his days." We should not ourselves have thought of using the expression "the remainder of his days." In connection with so substantial a specimen of mankind as the Minister is, but we will let that pass with the hope that the said remainder may be a long one. We might also comment upon the spirit in which the Minister will return to Ottawa. It is to be "a spirit of resignation." His resignation will probably take effect within a few days after the returns are all in; but let that pass also.

What cannot pass without serious than thirty years ago for the Canadian Pacilic, and we venture to believe that his judgment in other matters, in which Victora is especally interested, will be confirmed by events not in the remote future. From Fort George, the telegrams say, the road will go in almost an alr-line to Fort Fraser. Fort Fraser is on the south side of Fraser Lake, out of which the Nechaco flows, and from this we infer that the railway will be on the south side of that river.

Take all this sensational news about the way and interfered with the success of the latest flight of the Wright Bros.' aeroplane. They ought to be moved.

The first part of the Canadian Pacilic a

What cannot pass without serious comment, is the attitude which the Minister sees fit to take towards the What cannot pass without serious comment, is the attitude which the Minister sees fit to take towards the Minister who for the Sees fit of the Minister who for the Minister sees fit is his own paper which says so and it takes occasion to say so as soon as he reaches town. Surely it is a strange attitude for the Minister to take. If he feels that he is making a great sacrifice in going to Ottawa, why does he not remain in Victoria. "For the remainder of his days." Those of us who have not for south of the Minister which have been accused for grossly misrepresenting him and of endeavoring to Ottawa, why does he not remain in Victoria. "For the remainder of his days." Those of us who have not for south of the Minister which heave the whole thing is can be three days of the Minister we will heave the seem accused of grossly misrepresenting him and of endeavoring to put him in a false light before his constituents. But it is his own paper which says so and it takes occasion to say so as soon as he reaches town. Surely it is a strange attitude for the Minister to take. If he feels that he is making a great sacrifice in going to Ottawa, why does he not remain in Victoria. "For the remainder of his days." Those of us who have not for south of the Minister is take. If he feels that he is making a great sacrifice in going to Ottawa, The Minister which he will have been accused to find the minister. Whitehead from the political campaign would be suicidal. Mr. Whitehead, previous to the announcement of his remember how the members of the Senature of the Senature

publisher on every class of printed material issued in connection with an electrons.

"The making of a false statement with regard to be personal character of a candidate renders the person making it liable to a fine of not less than \$100.

"Contributions for political purposes by any company or association are made an indictable offence."

THE OMNISCIENTS

All newspaper people know the men to whom an inscrutable Providence has seen fit to grant a corner in omnisience especially as to the manner.

The president is chosen, not by the position.

The president is chosen, not by the position.

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It wo men. As a general proposition an electrorate, that is more likedly known to he more electrons that the distinguished Roman had a successor in the Minister of Inland success

GERMANY AND BRITAIN

A writer in Figaro says that if Germany is not satisfied with her past conquests "the first thing to be done is to crush England now, as then, the guardian of the liberty of the world"; guardian of the liberty of the world"; but he does not believe that Germany cherishes any such ambition. This view is strengthened by the recent utterances of Chancellor Von Bulew's South German organ, which said: A change in the European situation as a whole had silently set in before Friedrichshof and Isdhl, but these

Friedrichshof and Isoh, but these meetings have accentuated the process. The characteristic feature of this transformation may be called a detente. This development must be supplemented by the definite improvement, once and for all, of the relations between Germany and England, which their rulers and their governments and the overwheiming majority of both nations sincerely aspire to achieve, and this improvement can only be the outcome of prolonged and patient misoutcome of prolonged and patient mis-sionary efforts with a view to arriv-ing at an understanding with regard to the aims of each other's naval policy. A premature agitation in favor of disarmament might impede the efforts to discover a solution to this difficult problem. Sooner or later however, all the heretical doctrines which represent an armed conflict be-tween ourselves and Great Britain as inevitable are bound to be confuted by the realization that the German and British navies have other things to do than to fight sea battles with

The Frankfurter Journal says "a udicious limitation of naval armament is imperatively demanded by the York, which has 39 votes, and seems to be fair fighting ground, first because of the strength of the Democratic organization in New York city, and, second, because the Republicans are not as harmonious on state issues as they should be to make their success of some sepectional translation of the German Empire." The Berlin correspondent of the London Times seems impressed with the general tendency of German public opinion in this direction, and taken altogether, in spite of the efforts they should be to make their success of some sensationalists and hot-headed sure. It is likely to be in New York jingoes, who are intent more upon that the most strenuous efforts will be making political capital against their more sentetives. that the most strenuous efforts will be put forth by the representatives of each of the parties, by the Democrats to save their chances, and by the Republicans to make their expected sucnething in the nature of an under standing, which will enable the gov-ernments of both powers to put a stop to the tremendous and exhaustive

ROUTE OF THE G. T. PACIFIC

It has just been discovered that John D. Rockefeller's ancestors were French barons. Almost anything can be discovered about a man as rich as

Mr. SPORTSMAN!

Give your Dog a bath, so that he is all smart and fit to accompany your up-to-date outfit on that Hunting Trip.

USE BOWES' DOG SOAP Per Tablet - - 15c .

Unmatched for killing fleas, lice, ticks and all vermin, Equally good for horses and other animals.

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HONEST LABOR

There are many grades of labor, but only two sorts—honest and dishonest—or, to adopt an everyday term, sweated labor, with which can also be classified sweated materials, for the one is first cousin to the other. Honest labor takes honest-all-through iron,

brass or wood and builds honest-allthrough bedsteads, chaste of design and solidly comfortable; the lacquer or enamel does not peel off or the metal snap until you have 🐉 had every dollar's worth of use out of it. The honest carpet

manufacturer buys the finest and purest wools, uses honest, adequately paid labor

and skilled designers; he makes a carpet that will last a lifetime and never look shabby or out of date, provided it is

cleaned by good machinery once a year. Manufacturers like this earn and receive world wide reputation, such as Crossley's and Templeton's, of the Old Country. The firm or individual who

labor honestly, select the best woods and honest, thoroughly efficient artizans, who build

honest, reliable and attractive chairs, settees, sideboards, chiffoniers, dressing tables, wardrobes, tables, etc. They build carefully, securing the parts and fitting the pieces together in a manner which guarantees satisfaction to the ultimate owner in his home.

The honest manufacturer and dealer do not stain common wood, tack it together with a few sprigs and call it weathered oak, nor face a common wood with a thin veneer of mahogany and call it



solid mahogany, neither do they mahoganize birchwood and omit to mention the birch when describing it in their catalogues and public advertisements, still less'

do they hire incompetent, underpaid labor. Just think these little

matters out when you are resting in your easy chair on laborday, and when that exquisite sense of perfect rest steals over you and the smoke ascends in blue rings from your cigar or pipe, or, should it be a woman



who reads this, as she sits in her cozy, room laboring in comfort at crossstitch or dainty embroidery: let both cast a thought from beautiful Victoria to the crowded manufacturing cities of the East and Europe, and picture the half-starved, half-clad, men

women and children, toiling in abject misery amidst filthy, unsanitary surroundings who are the direct product of dishonest labor through the medium of trashy goods and the sweating system which is the certain and direct result of so-called bargain sales and the storekeeper who in his blind avarice climbs to wealth over the ruined lives and bodies of his fellow creatures.

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We are born;

hours old. To mass of matte functions, chies one of taking fo same thing, an Does this pers what becomes narkable thing ments, cannot can tell us mue not tell us wh helpless when' personality is. enough to mak for want of a peculiar attribu personality of nearly a mile f meet him at t not. The dog w affectionate do trait of charact Wherein does that of a man? will become of We are accusto the line of dem If it is true

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Aerolites, m different name to the ground described as so mosphere from the earth in of dust; others it again. The are so minute are of considerate of the lar many of them at least half a of them might posed of mater ferent to what simply stones; found usually ites have almo with the air. shine, by rend the heat is so one has seen th meteors, which and then die posed to pass a speed and to of the earth b that most of th away, and thei led astronom

four to thirty-The number Observations e one hundred In these belts tween the be number that : When, therefor sky and disan of matter a flying around miles long, ar body through few hours it Moon against parently very as seen by us rific rate at v along through continents and