

## THE SEMI-WEEKLY COLONIST

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

## REDUCING TAXATION

The amendments in the Assessment law in the direction of the reduction of taxation will be very satisfactory. Possibly they will involve some reduction in the revenue, but at the rate at which the province is being developed it cannot be long before the reduced taxes bring in a larger income. The reduction in the rate heretofore in force, the reduction in all cases are substantially, but, perhaps the most satisfactory feature of the changes will be found to be the increase in the exemption from \$500 to \$1,000. It is not upon the man of large property that the weight of taxation bears most heavily. If he has to pay a good deal, he has a good deal to pay it out of. Not so the man, who is seeking to make his living, or a new farm. To him even a small tax may be a burden, and the action of the government is asking the legislature to double the value of the property exempt from taxation will be welcomed by the new settler and have the cordial sympathy of every one else. Nothing speaks more eloquently of the prosperous condition of the province and the complete success of the government's financial policy than the fact that, at a time when the demands upon the resources of the provincial exchequer are increasing in number and value, the government is in a position to go before the legislature with a measure reducing the burden of taxation.

## INVESTIGATING COMBINES.

Mr. Mackenzie King's "Combines Investigating Act" legalizes a piece of newspaper slang by giving a definition to the word "combine," which is defined as follows:

"Combine" means any contract, agreement, arrangement or combination which has, or is designed to have, the effect of increasing or fixing the price or rental of any article of trade or commerce or the cost of the storage or transportation thereof, or of the restricting competition in or of controlling the production, manufacture, transportation, storage, sale or supply thereof, and includes the acquisition, leasing or otherwise taking over, or obtaining by any person to the end, of any control over or interest in the business, or any portion of the business, of any other person, and also includes what is known as a trust, monopoly or merger.

After providing for a Registrar of Boards of Investigation, the Bill goes on to say that when six or more persons believe a combine exists they may make application to a judge on a sworn statement, and the judge shall after hearing the parties order an investigation if he thinks fit, and on his decision to that being communicated to the Minister of Labor, who shall issue a commission to three persons, one chosen by the applicants, one by the parties against whom complaint has been made and one chosen by the two others. The Commissioners are to have all necessary powers to make a thorough inquiry, and their findings shall be published. Failure to comply with the finding of the Board will subject the offender to a fine of \$1,000 per day. The Bill authorizes the Governor-in-Council to reduce the customs duties on articles in case it shall appear that the existing duties are being used to prevent "reasonable competition" and to revoke patents, where they are being employed in restraint of trade.

## AFTER LAURIER.

An observation made by Sir Wilfrid Laurier at Toronto has led to some friendly observations as to who will take his place in the affairs of Canada. The Colonist hopes that he will be long spared to give the country the benefit of his counsel, although it would be pleased to have him proffer it from the left of Mr. Speaker, and we do not suppose it would have occurred to us to say anything in regard to the person who shall take his place in the imagination of the people of Canada if some of the papers, which support him, had not spoken of it. Such observations as we shall now make relate rather to a general principle than to any individual. Since Confederation only two men have really been able to impress their personality upon the public in a predominant way, namely Sir John Macdonald and Sir Wilfrid Laurier. There have been many men in our political life more eloquent, with greater mastery of details, apparently as well equipped as they to guide a party. Take on the Conservative side such men as Sir Charles Tupper and Sir John Thompson. On the Liberal side take Mr. Edward Blake and Sir Oliver Mowat. In some respects these men were more able than their leaders; but successful as they were to a certain degree, they seemed to lack some quality of national leadership from 1878 to 1891 Sir John Macdonald's will was the law of Canadian public life; since 1896 Sir Wilfrid Laurier has occupied the same place in our affairs. This is the sense in which we ask the question: Who will come after Laurier? We are not going to make any predictions. No one can claim to know who may be in the political arena when the Lib-

eral chieftain lays down the reins of power. The Dominion is advancing steadily and rapidly along the path that leads to nationhood, and the man to guide the destinies of the country will have a different set of conditions to deal with than have existed in Canada in the past or now exist. Obviously the question admits of no answer, but as in all countries, even in those where popular government finds its best expression, there is always one man who leads the people, one naturally is inclined to wonder who will play the role in the Dominion when Sir Wilfrid Laurier makes his exit, which he has reminded us cannot in the nature of things be long deferred. We are not now speaking of party leadership nor of the possible premier of the future. These places can always be filled. In the United Kingdom the places filled by Salisbury and Gladstone in the routine of public life were taken by men of great ability, but there has not yet risen a man to take the place of either of them in the popular imagination. The nearest approach to it is Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, but he is physically incapable of leadership. Mr. Tait is Mr. Roosevelt's successor; but he does not take Mr. Roosevelt's place. This illustrates what we mean in speaking of the public life of Canada.

## THE BRITISH ELECTIONS

The Nationalists have in one sense the balance of power in the new Parliament; but not necessarily so. Much depend upon the Unionists. The discussion of the political situation has been carried on upon the supposition that no matter what may happen, the Unionists will vote in a block against anything that the Asquith ministry may propose. It seems to be taken for granted that if they could catch the ministry in such a corner that by using the Nationalists they could defeat it, they will promptly do so. But this is to assume something that remains to be proved. It means in the first place that the Unionists wish to take office by the grace of the Nationalists, which is hardly conceivable, for a political combination of those parties would be a union of two political elements having nothing in common. The very name Unionists is a protest against the existence of any such party as the Nationalists. We can suppose a set of circumstances under which the Unionists and the Laborites might unite. For example, we can conceive of the Laborites being converted to party reform, however remote such a contingency may now seem to be; but imagination cannot discover any common ground upon which the advocates and the avowed opponents of Home Rule can unite.

We suppose the first thing that the new Parliament will be called upon to deal with will be the Budget. Whether Mr. Lloyd George will be willing to modify his proposals in any degree no one can at present say; but in any event a Budget must be passed, because means must be found whereby the government can be carried on. It is improbable that the Lords will interpose any obstacle. They compelled a dissolution by taking the position that the people ought to have an opportunity to pass upon the measure. That opportunity has been given, and while the verdict of the voters is not very pronounced, it certainly cannot be claimed that they have decided against the Budget. With this question out of the way, the complexion of the political situation will be greatly altered.

The powers of the House of Lords will be dealt with, it may be assumed, but just in what way no one in a position to speak with authority, has yet intimated. We are inclined to think that this question will be taken up as soon as the Budget has been passed, and it is one of such difficulty and importance that it may engross public attention for a long time. If we find it difficult in Canada to reform the Senate, how much more likely are the people of the United Kingdom to find the task of reforming the House of Lords onerous? It is to be remarked that Mr. Asquith has not yet intimated that he intends to propose any change in the composition of the Hereditary Chamber. The newspaper correspondents have said he does, but he has not committed himself in this direction even to as great an extent as some of the Unionist speakers went during the campaign.

The third great question which the people are thinking about is that of Home Rule. We have not the slightest expectation of seeing a Home Rule measure become law during the life of the present Parliament. If the Commons should pass such a measure,

we believe the House of Lords, no matter how it might be constituted, would reject it, and we think it ought to be rejected, and we say this without expressing any opinion as to the merits of such a measure, which no one could presume to have an opinion about until it was introduced. We think that any Home Rule proposal ought to be pronounced upon at a general election, no matter by what majority it was carried through the Commons. In our humble judgment the next great issue in British politics will be Home Rule, and it will be submitted to the electorate for decision before very long.

## THE ART OF ORATORY

It is frequently said that oratory has ceased to be of much value and that what the people want nowadays is a straight story plainly told. But to tell a straight story plainly is the very perfection of oratory. There is a maxim that "a case well stated is half proved." The amount of useless debate and needless irritation caused by the failure to present a case accurately cannot be estimated, and the man who, out of a mass of more or less irrelevant matter, can extract the real point involved and so state it as to make it perfectly understood by his audience, has mastered the first great principle of oratory, and will be a successful public speaker, if he is never able to accomplish more than this. This article is written especially for young men who may have ambitions in the direction of public speaking, and to such we say that they should think less of how they will speak than of what they will say. They ought to have some fixed object in mind on which they want to fix the attention of their hearers, and they should think of nothing else. To this everything else connected with speaking ought to be sacrificed. The most beautiful imagery, worked out with great labor, should be allowed to remain unemployed, if it is not necessary to produce conviction. A well-told story often helps a speech, but no one should ever rely on stories for illustration, or as a respite from close reasoning. In any case a story in a speech should be short, and should be capable of being applied to the subject matter under consideration. But the young speaker should be very cautious about experimenting with stories, for a reputation for flippancy is difficult to live down. Cultivate in the first instance clearness of thinking, that is, get into your own mind exactly what you wish to get into the minds of others, and having done this, then you will find the task of expressing your ideas in words comparatively easy. The turning of nice sentences will come later. Remember that nothing is so effective with an audience as simple language. The good old Saxon words may not be quite as mouth-filling as some others, but everybody understands them. There is but one preacher who used to pray that he would "remember us in the multitude of our exigencies." It sounded well, but it was not much like prayer. A certain other minister told this story on himself. He had written a sermon, and in it used the expression "an ostentatious man." Being in some doubt as to whether all his hearers would understand the expression, he called a housemaid and asked her what it meant. "She curtseyed," said it meant "a real pious gentleman." Then he sent for the coachman, who stated that it meant what he called "a jolly good fellow." This is perhaps an extreme case, but we have met in newspaper work with others quite as glaring. Never use a long word when a short one will do just as well.

Some Seattle people are planning for a city that shall reach from Everett to Tacoma. This may be very much more than a dream.

And now arises a physician in the United States to say that two ounces of meat are enough per day for one person. No doubt of it, and at present prices especially.

Mr. Clifford Harman is a New York aviator, and he says that one aeroplane can annihilate any fleet in the world. So can a boy with a lot of dynamite, but we have met in newspaper work with others quite as glaring. Never use a long word when a short one will do just as well.

In the matter of bank clearings and building permits the records of January show totals that are a source of the greatest satisfaction and establish beyond question the increase in the volume of business and the growing prosperity of the city. If there were any way in getting at the volume of the real estate transactions for the month they also doubtless would show equally satisfactory results.

## Corns Easily Removed

By the use of BOWES' CORN CURE it is a very simple matter to remove any corn. This splendid preparation has been tried for years and has always been found to give perfect satisfaction. No matter how many so-called corn-cures you may have tried without success, do not be content until you have given Bowes' Corn Cure a fair trial. Every person who has tried it speaks well of it. Follow the directions carefully and you can remove the worst corn with little or no pain. The whole outfit with camel-hair brush costs only 25¢ at this store only.

CYRUS H. BOWES, CHEMIST

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"Best in the West"

"The One Price Shop"

The West's Greatest Furniture House

"The Better Value Store"

WEILER'S



## You Want Quality

As Well as Attractive Appearance When You Purchase Carpets.  
Be Sure You Get Both.

LOOK for quality, as well as pretty patterns, when you go buying carpets. They "run into money" quickly, and you don't want to be frequently renewing. Get reliable, guaranteed brands and be safe. Most shops talk "quality," but we shall leave it to our "record of results." Ask anyone who has had a carpet from this establishment their experience. Satisfied customers are our best "boosters."

If you have a floor that would look the better of a pretty carpet or a handsome rug, come here and choose it.

## New Spring Carpets Are Now Arriving

We have received advance shipments of Spring carpets already. This first consignment includes some of the handsomest Wilton Squares we have had the pleasure of displaying for many a day. Pretty Persian effects—authentic copies of the richest Wilton rugs we have shown for a long time.

Size 9 x 12 ft. Each ..... \$42.50    Size 11 ft. 3 in. x 12 ft. Each \$54.00    Size 11 ft. 3 in. x 13 ft. 6 in. \$60.00

We list here our carpet prices—prices that have become popular with Victorians because of an absence of fluctuation, and because they represent unbeatable values in carpets of qualities. No better carpets made anywhere than the sorts we sell—Templeton and Crossley productions. They guarantee them, and so do we—with a guarantee that means something.

INGRAIN CARPETS, from per yard ..... 60¢  
TAPETRY CARPETS, from per yard ..... 75¢  
BRUSSELS CARPETS, from per yard ..... 85¢  
VELVET CARPETS, from per yard ..... \$1.50  
WILTON CARPETS, from per yard ..... \$1.90  
AXMINSTER CARPETS, from per yard ..... 1.90

These prices are for carpets made and laid by skilled workmen.

## If You Prefer Rugs, Choose From This List

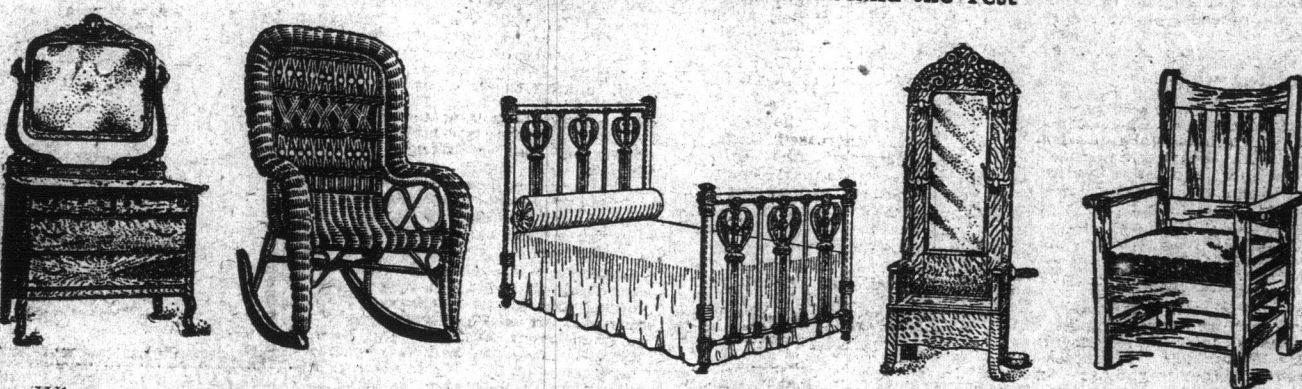
For those who favor carpet squares and rugs as a floor covering we commend our present magnificent display. The most comprehensive stock in Western Canada is offered you. Hundreds of rugs, from low-priced jute to handsome Oriental. And these are shown on specially constructed rug racks, which enables us to show you the whole range in variety.

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:

INGRAIN SQUARES, from \$5.00 to ..... \$29.00  
TAPETRY SQUARES, from \$9.00 to ..... \$26.00  
BRUSSELS SQUARES, from \$16.00 to ..... \$42.00  
AXMINSTER SQUARES, from \$18.75 to ..... \$65.00  
WILTON SQUARES, from \$27.00 to ..... \$48.50  
VELVET SQUARES, from \$24.00 to ..... \$42.00  
SMYRNA RUGS, from \$30.00 to ..... \$55.00  
GENUINE ORIENTAL RUGS—All prices.

## Try to Look Beneath the Surface

When Purchasing Furniture—Ours Will Stand the Test



When you go to make a purchase of furniture don't buy just because the piece "looks good"—try to look beneath the surface. Finish isn't everything—won't hold a flimsy piece of furniture together. You want it well built—and well finished, too.

If you need anything in furniture—even a single piece—self-interest should strongly draw you to Weiler's. Our reputation for quality that will redound to our benefit years hence.

On a room's complete furnishing, or on the home's complete equipment, we claim to be able to save you money and at the same time give you furniture of superior quality. Many have found this to be true—see what we offer in the following:

## The Parlor

Parlor Suites, Odd Chairs, Reed Chairs, Parlor Chairs, Parlor Cabinets, Parlor Tables, Rich Carpets, Beautiful Squares, Handsome Curtains, Drapery Materials.

## The Bedroom

Iron Beds, Chiffonieres, Bedroom Suites, Ladies' Dressers, Carpet Squares, Fiber Matting, Bedding, Curtains, Brass Beds.

## The Dining Room

Extension Tables, Dainty Buffets, China Cabinets, Dining Chairs, Beautiful Linen, Rich Carpets, Finest Silverware, Charming Curtains, Beautiful China.

## The Kitchen

Refrigerators, Enamelware, Tinware, Kitchen Tables, Bin Tables, Kitchen Cupboards, Kitchen Chairs, Linoleums, and the "kitchen things."

See the Window Display of Dinner Sets

WEILERBROS

"The Home of Homes"

## DATES SELECTED FOR B.C.

Board of Agriculture  
Difficulties in Pleasantsentatives of Different vinctial Districts.

Practically all the time of session of the representative Boards of Agriculture of the province was occupied in the selection of dates for the year. A table of suggestions submitted as a basis but it was the favor of many changes and in the end everybody trouble was being unfortunately Wednesday, April 13, 1910, week. Monday wouldn't it was too soon after Sunday and Saturday, in most didn't meet with approval draw in on the end of the further explanation is to indicate that Live Stock C. Hodson and Deputy Minister culture Scott encountered effort to arrive at an arrangement.

Victoria Centre As it was there developed sensation. For the most over the dates of the two Victoria and New Westminster delegates from up country that it put them to market once to have come to the place in Victoria at the Fair. In discussing this the Board of Agriculture for some cause at the Redman of Kamloops, who very bluntly, that this expect much assistance from breeders and agriculturists the inland districts inasmuch taken the dates for its Kamloops always had sent. The selection had been made reference to outside section by and selfishly. The explanation of the reports the exhibition's finances found in its application and those to whom such situation usually looked for.

Who Started Them Dr. Tolmie, one of the of the local association. He know who started this fallness in British Columbia, that it was general knowledge first exhibition in the West place in Victoria, and still Still Victoria wasn't stand rights that it might claim seniority. It was thought that, while he was accredited representative, the sentiment of the Board when he said that the ing to do anything with meet with the wishes of of the outside farmers and era. The reasons that the Victoria exhibition had to come in ahead of the Westminister was to make possible of securing good show. Everyone one days of rain was enough weeks exhibition on the vulgar exhibition in the Or was a big chance of ruin weather while in September was minimized. The board take every possible precaution this because rain spelled profits and sunshine meant a

This exposition of Victoria was enthusiastically received by the New Westminster Association rising a that he for one realized ties under which the Island and their reasons taken concerning dates. He the mainland exhibitors for better treatment than the in Victoria and he said of the Chilliwack farmers sorry to see the Island fall to the Island, and they doing in as great if not numbers.

Premier Speaks Before the proceedings, uted Deputy Minister of Scott introduced Premier M was received with hearty He delivered a short address he expressed his pleasure and representative gathering to consider exhibition and for the forwarding of the and other interests of the pr 1910. It was the govern to assist the farmers, and last, stockbreeders, and the in kindred pursuits in the of British Columbia's Whatever requests they make would be given the m attention of the administration hoped that these present v that the opportunity thus them of conferring and com decision as to concerted m wards helping the province cultural lines was well advi

After the Premier's retirement for fair throughout the drafted as follows:

First Circuit Alberni, Sept. 14 and 15 Sept. 16 and 17; Cowichan and 24; Islands, Sept. 21; Sept. 27 to October 1.

Second Circuit Surrey, Sept. 27; Langley, Sept. 28 and 29; Le 23 and 24.

Third Circuit Nicola, Sept. 13 and 14; Sept. 22 and 23; Vernon, 17; Kelowna, Sept. 20 and 21; Sept. 23 and 24; Sept. 28 to 30; Summerland.

Fourth Circuit Coquitlam, Sept. 20; May 21 and 22; Mission, Agassiz, Sept. 27 and 28; Sept. 29 and 30.

Fifth Circuit Nelson, Sept. 23 to 30; Sept. 31 and 32; Kaslo, Sept. 23 to 30.

Vancouver's Show An explanation of Vancouver's Show in the way of an ex