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stood, or at least by few. At most there was but a general notion of their possible importance. The great triangular district of Kootenay was a lone land, a wilderness, accessible only over long, circuitous mountain trails and inland water stretches by canoe. It was regarded as a mineralized area of indefinite value, about which some curiosity had been excited owing to the tales of prospectors, but the rich argentiferous lodes that have since been disclosed were then not dreamed of.

Going north the great Chilcotin plateau, yet isolated, with its millions of acres of fertile valleys, had only been traversed by explorers seeking gold or a possible railway route. In fact, what was known about the greater part of British Columbia at the time to which we refer, was little more than was known many years before, through traders, prospectors and explorers, and the greater part of our knowledge was referable to notes of those infrequent travellers. We are speaking now of the ken of the general public, and this will scarcely be denied. Individually, many of the old British Columbians had travelled over a good deal of the Province, and to these intrepid pioneers we are indebted for a great deal of our present knowledge.

Such a description in outline of a Province might read as a story of long ago, but when it applies to a period compassed within a decade, it emphasizes what people engrossed with current events forget about the accomplishments of a few years, what politicians of a day, ephemeral seekers after notoriety, seek to ignore, beclouding public issues with the by-play of a single session of Parliament, for that is what it amounts to. If electors were to be deceived by representations such as these gentlemen place before them, they would commit the blunder of generals who burned bridges that had safely carried their armies across and then found themselves a prey to the enemy.

THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF TO DAY.

"For my monument, look around you,"

was the simple inscription placed on the commemorative tablet in honor of the architect Wren, whose remains rested beneath the great monumental pile, the creation of his own genius. To note what has been accomplished during the last seven or eight years in British Columbia we have simply to look around us. We are not so foolish as to say that the present Government did all this. Progress in this Province was due to a combination of circumstances, ulterior as well as internal. Governments in these matters are only entitled to credit to the extent to which their efforts contribute to advancement. But as we pointed out in a previous article, results are very largely influenced by the policy of the men in power, whereby opportunities are taken advantage of or disregarded as the case may be.

It is true that British Columbia is to-day suffering a severe depression in common with the world, but that her lot is not so bad as that of many other countries is because, as was the case of the Dominion as a whole, her policy while liberal and progressive, has been careful and conservative, and thus the credit of the Province has been conserved. The extremes in this matter are well exemplified in the United States, the South American Republic and the Australian Colonies, where complete collapse has been brought about by reckless expenditure of public monies on public works and in many other ways.

But while revenue has been expanding, trade increasing, assessed value doubling up and credit strengthening, if the Government is not to be credited with some share of the praise due to such a state of affairs, at least the cry that the country is going to the dogs, as the result of misgovernment, cannot be accepted except as a political calumny perpetrated by men who for selfish purposes have placed party ends above patriotism.

"THE POLICY OF APPROPRIATIONS."

Of late an endeavor has been made to offset the apparent effects of expenditure in development works, in roads and bridges, in