

ANNOUNCEMENT.

It is the intention of the proprietors of the Rosland Miner to vastly improve the paper in respect to its news service in the very near future; and as this will entail considerable additional expense it will be necessary to endeavor to secure revenue commensurate with the outlay. To that end, on and after March 2nd next the advertising rates will be so adjusted as to make an increase over present rates, and also, the subscription price of the paper—now 50 cents per month delivered to subscribers in the city—will be raised to 75 cents. It is felt by the proprietors that the patrons of the paper will display no hesitancy in meeting the new arrangements in respect to advertising and subscription rates once it is demonstrated that the Miner is to be vastly improved in all its features as a newspaper.

A special attempt will be made to make the Miner what it ought to be—the leading mining journal of the West. And to that end correspondents will be appointed in all the leading mining camps so that the Miner may be in a position to chronicle at first hand the chief events of interest in the mining world.

In this connection we may state also that due attention will be paid to covering in a thoroughly comprehensive fashion all local and general news of an interesting character and—in short—the Miner will be made an up-to-date newspaper in every respect.

REGARDING DISALLOWANCE.

A lively debate is promised in the House of Commons when the papers in regard to the disallowance of the B. C. Immigration Act are brought down. If we correctly interpret the situation we think it will be found that the Government will have but one explanation to make—namely, that it has all along acted in a manner to conserve Imperial interests, and that its policy in respect to the disallowance of provincial measures affecting immigration has been dictated to a very large extent by the Colonial Secretary, Mr. Chamberlain. That an influx of Oriental immigration has proved decidedly detrimental to industrial conditions in this province has been demonstrated up to the hilt; and we believe the Federal Government appreciates quite fully the justice of our grievance in that respect. But what is Sir Wilfrid Laurier to do? provide a remedy, when he finds that the restrictions which our legislature is inclined to put upon undesirable immigrants clash very seriously with the policy of Great Britain in respect to its relations with the countries which our legislation aims at? The matter simply narrows down to a question as to whether the Colonies are prepared to support the Empire in its Imperial problems at some slight loss and inconvenience to themselves or are going to insist upon complete liberty of action in respect to Colonial autonomy. We are inclined to think that as long as we maintain Imperial connection there will be little remedy forthcoming for the injury we suffer because of Oriental immigration.

MR. BOURASSA.

Mr. Bourassa is a gentleman of whom we have heard a great deal during the past three or four years. He first achieved an unenviable notoriety among Canadians because of his attacks upon the Government for having sent a contingent to South Africa to assist the Mother Country in the Boer war. His latest attempt at playing to the galleries consists of a bitter denunciation of Great Britain for having "sacrificed Canadian interests in every case in which the United States is concerned." Mr. Bourassa ought not to be taken seriously. Were he only a private citizen, his "crankiness" would command but slight public attention, but from his seat in the Commons he commands the ear of a large audience and is able to make his puny

whimperings about the way our national affairs are being mismanaged heard far and near. What Mr. Bourassa says on the majority of occasions is the most arrant nonsense. His charge that Canadian interests are sacrificed by Great Britain is not borne out by the facts. In the absence of knowledge of his specific allegations in support of his contention, we cannot disprove his charge by argument as completely as we would wish; but that Great Britain is prepared to go to extreme measures in an endeavor to aid the Colonies is shown by a dispatch which we printed in yesterday's issue. According to the Toronto Telegram's special London correspondent the Chancellor of the Exchequer has decided to tax foreign grain imports, the Colonies being exempt. We have no doubt that the statement is correct; and it goes without saying that Canada will benefit immeasurably by such an arrangement.

AN UNPLEASANT EPISODE.

What we may characterize to use a very mild term—as an unpleasant episode, occurred in Montreal on Wednesday last, according to our dispatches of yesterday. At a meeting of the French Board of Trade a resolution was passed calling upon the Government to refuse the demand of the Toronto Imperial League that Canada should meet the full expenditure entailed in sending the contingents to South Africa. Aside from the unwisdom of such a public body making a declaration so contrary to the feeling throughout the whole of the Dominion, the incident cannot fail to inflame the racial feeling which the shrewdest statesmen are attempting by all the means in their power to allay. We have heard, all of us, a great deal about the "French influence" in our national affairs, and on more than one occasion it has been publicly charged that the French in Canada have shown themselves disloyal to Canada and Canadian institutions. The attitude of the great bulk of Canadians in the face of such statements has always been one of great tolerance. We paid but very little attention to what we were inclined to characterize as unwarrantable attacks upon the French Canadian people; but we must confess that in view of the action of the Montreal Chamber of Commerce there seems to be legitimate reason why we should amend our opinion in that regard. It would be superfluous to present argument calculated to show that Canadian loyalty is sufficiently strong to demand that Canada shall be permitted to bear the expense of sending the contingents to the assistance of Great Britain in South Africa—we all know that that is the wish of every loyal Canadian. And that the French Canadians should so misrepresent public opinion is indeed surprising, and not a little disappointing.

THE SPEECH.

The Speech from the Throne at the opening of the Legislature on Thursday cannot, in all fairness, be characterized otherwise than a most disappointing document. It contains absolutely nothing which can by any stretch of the imagination be construed into a declaration of policy in respect to matters chiefly concerning the welfare of the province and the people. In view of the mistakes and blunders made by previous administrations, perhaps we ought to be thankful that that is so; but it must be confessed by the warmest friends and staunchest supporters of the Government that there is the clearest evidence at hand that the session will prove absolutely abortive as far as arranging for the passage of legislation directly beneficial to the country is concerned. We can readily understand why the Government refrained from hinting at the introduction of any contentious legislation. It finds itself in a very delicate position indeed. On the first division—a vote for the adjournment of the debate on a motion that the writ be issued for the Victoria vacancy—the Government only had the narrow majority of two; and this circumstance is not likely to prove reassuring to the Government or its friends. But to return to a brief consideration of the speech, it will be seen that it consists of nothing but a lot of glittering generalities. Satisfaction is expressed that the output of the mines last year "considerably exceeded that of any twelve months"; but there is not one word of encouragement to those who had anticipated legislation favorable to the industry. It is remarked that there is to be a further discussion with the Federal Government upon matters affecting the relations of the Province with the Dominion under the Terms of Union, but we think all will be inclined to agree that little is to be expected from any such conference as long as the complexion of the Legislature remains as it is at

present. The question of redistribution is dealt with in a most ridiculously vague manner. The assurance is not given that a redistribution measure will be brought down—the Government contenting itself with the delightfully ambiguous statement that "steps will be taken with the view" to the introduction of such a measure, etc. Another loan is hinted at—and this will serve to accentuate the distrust of those who have been disposed to believe that our financial affairs are in a highly unsatisfactory condition. The important problem of railway construction is disposed of in a sentence—the one enterprise of this nature mentioned being that of the Canadian Northern and Island connection with Victoria. On the whole the Speech is disappointing in the extreme; and we think it may be taken as a certainty that nothing in the way of important legislation will be attempted during the session. That the Government is in a sorry plight is admitted on all sides. The chances are ten to one that it will meet early defeat.

EXTRAORDINARY FOLLY.

One must seriously question the sanity of the Boer leaders when one comprehends the situation as it actually is in South Africa today. Helplessly defeated, their ranks shattered to such an extent that they now only present the appearance of a disorganized rabble, driven from their homes and broken up into wandering bands, it is simple madness for the Boers to persist longer in a struggle in which they were vanquished months ago. If one were to look for a logical reason why they should display such preposterous obstinacy, the thought would suggest itself that perhaps they had received promises of assistance from some of the powers of Europe; but in view of the knowledge which all the world has of the attitude of the neutral powers, we cannot suppose that the Boers are comforting themselves with any such delusion. Were the Boer leaders who are responsible for the prolongation of conflict to look at the matter sensibly they would see that they have everything to gain and nothing to lose by a manly surrender. They have already lost absolute control of the territory for which they have been contending; they must realize, as does all the world, that their last hope of triumph has been shattered; and were they now to lay down their arms and open negotiations for peace we are sure that they themselves would be surprised at the extent of the magnanimity which Great Britain is prepared to display in arranging terms of the final settlement of a conflict which will go down in history as the most deplorable known in the annals of modern civilization.

BRITISH COLUMBIA'S OPPORTUNITY.

The Miner published a piece of information in its news columns yesterday which ought to rouse the government of British Columbia to immediate action. The special correspondent of the Toronto Evening Telegram in London cables his paper that an important scheme for the development of emigration to Western Canada has been finally arranged by the Deputy Minister of the Interior, who has been in London for some time with that object. No fewer than 2500 to 3000 persons will leave Liverpool or Glasgow during March to settle in Canada, while others are expected to follow in April, May and June, at the rate of 4,000 per month. This is a most important announcement. The government of British Columbia ought to take immediate steps to have placed in the hands of each of the intending emigrants full and complete information regarding the advantages of this province as a field for settlement. Were this done, we have no doubt that we should receive an almost immediate increase to our population. We suggest that the government should take the matter up with our agent-general in London at once.

THE CARNIVAL.

Rosland's Winter Carnival of 1902 is over and we think we are justified in saying, all the circumstances taken into consideration, that it was a success. The attendance was fairly good, the various events were keenly contested, and the efficient manner in which the various committees performed their duties elicited complimentary references on all sides. The pluck displayed by the people of Rosland in determining to go ahead with their one annual fête this year in the face of very adverse circumstances was most commendable and serves as an eloquent illustration of the dogged determination to succeed at all hazards which is a characteristic of the citizens of the premier mining town of Western Canada. Next year an effort should be made to hold the Carnival at an earlier date.

THE VICTORIA BYE-ELECTION.

At last the writ for the vacancy in Victoria for the provincial legislature has been issued. Nomination is fixed for March 7th and polling takes place on the 10th. The contest promises to be a very pretty one. E. V. Bodwell, K. C., the eminent barrister, will oppose the government candidate, who will in all probability be Mayor Chas. Hayward. Both men are very popular in Victoria; and were the vote to be one purely confined to a decision of popularity, the contest would be very close. But such will not be the case. The last named candidate will enter the field seriously handicapped by the unpopularity of the government, which is not only weak in the House, but thoroughly discredited throughout the country. On the other hand, Mr. Bodwell is the nominee of the leading citizens of Victoria without regard to federal party sympathies—his initial meetings being attended by leading Liberals and Conservatives. For those reasons we think Mr. Bodwell will prove an easy victory. His entrance into the legislature will be a very important event in the history of British Columbia politics. Mr. Bodwell is a very strong man and will make his influence felt to a very marked degree. It would not be at all surprising to find him Premier inside of six months; and were that to eventuate, many are inclined to think that it would be very much in the interests of the country, as he is a gentleman of very great ability and possessed of sound ideas.

THE NAVAL ESTIMATES.

That Great Britain has no immediate intention of relinquishing her title to Mistress of the Seas is shown by the announcement made by H. O. Arnold-Forster, secretary of the admiralty, in introducing the naval estimates for 1902-3 in the house of commons on Friday. The enormous expenditures of last year are to be outdone by the estimates for the new program. That Great Britain has serious reason for thinking that her position as a great power is menaced by the aspirations of rival nations is shown by the concluding remarks of the secretary. He said that what the admiralty was determined upon was to prepare the fleet for war—a preparation for that day of trial which it was hoped would never come, but against which the admiralty was in duty bound to provide.

Nothing is more astonishing than the resourcefulness displayed by Great Britain in maintaining her supremacy among the nations of the earth, and the equanimity with which the British taxpayer views the demand for more money to meet the extraordinary expenditures. After expending millions monthly in a three years' contest in South Africa, it would have created no astonishment were the government to have announced that the proposed naval expenditures for this year would be cut down to the lowest possible notch. But there seems to be no limit to Britain's financial vigor, and thus we find her at the close of a contest which would have spent ruin to almost any other European nation, ready to spend no less than the huge sum of £31,255,000 on her navy during this year.

The secretary of the admiralty in touching upon the details of the proposed expenditures, mentioned that there would be a departure from old lines in the construction of a certain class of vessels. He virtually admitted that the present type of torpedo-boat destroyers had been found almost worthless. Another interesting statement was that to the effect that a squadron of submarine vessels would be added to the navy.

PARTY LINES.

Much is heard nowadays regarding the expediency of dividing on federal party lines in contests affecting the personnel of the provincial legislature. The declaration of the Liberal "convention" at Vancouver in favor of the adoption of party lines makes the question a very live one with the people of British Columbia at this time. We believe we are stating the case accurately when we say that nine-tenths of the electors of the province are in favor of the adoption of such a system. And we think that the arguments which can be presented in support of their position will be found very convincing. In the first place, we have tried non-party government—that is to say, government made up of individuals who have sunk their federal party sympathies in provincial affairs—and we all know that it has proved a monumental failure. There has been no strong public opinion behind our political movements and as a consequence we have been unable to arrange for that stability in our government which is essential if we are to have a guarantee of peace and permanency. Party lines would unquestionably give us that guarantee. We do not argue that the adoption of party lines would immediately give us good government, but we do say it would go a long way towards bringing that about—and for this rea-

son: Once there would be a division on party lines there would be some responsibility felt by the leaders of the two great federal parties for the proper conduct of the provincial government. That is to say, if a Liberal government was to be installed in office at Victoria tomorrow, Sir Wilfrid Laurier and his colleagues would watch carefully the conduct of that government, lest it might bring the great Liberal party into disrepute, posing as it would as an exponent in provincial affairs of the great principles of Liberalism, and the same thing would apply were it the case with the Conservatives. Perhaps the situation at present is so complicated that the adoption of party lines just at present is out of the question, but the day is not far distant when such action will have to be taken, and we are strongly of the opinion that the adoption of such a system will prove very much in the interest of the country and be largely instrumental in restoring good government.

THE BUREAU OF INFORMATION.

We are very glad to note that at last the government have acted in accordance with a very sensible suggestion made at the last meeting of the Boards of Trade of Southern British Columbia and established a Bureau of Provincial Information in connection with the Mines Department. The first of the bulletins has already made its appearance. It is a valuable and interesting pamphlet, giving in brief form a general review of mining in British Columbia. It is intended to supply the demand for up-to-date information during the course of preparation of the usual elaborate report of the Department of Mines. The government should make a special endeavor to see that the bulletins get a wide circulation among the proper people. There are thousands all over Canada, the United States and in Europe who are thirsting for just such information as will be contained in the bulletins and how to reach such people ought to be the study of those in charge of the Bureau. The Miner thinks it would be an excellent plan for the government to place an advertisement in the leading mining journals of the world, calling attention to the publication of the pamphlets and stating that they may be had for the asking upon application to the provincial government.

THE LAST STRAW.

The last straw which makes us fall prostrate beneath our load of disgraceful political incidents was added by the scene in the house on Monday when Joe Martin interrupted the progress of the session for hours by nagging for the possession of a particular seat in the chamber. We are told by the dispatches that the crowded galleries shouted "Throw Martin out!" But, unfortunately, that was not done; and this political trickster is apparently still "ruling the roost." To our everlasting shame be it said that we calmly tolerate such an abominable condition of affairs. To see the country brought practically to the verge of ruin, industry paralyzed, capital driven away to more favorable fields and general stagnation engendered—and all because we permit the conduct of our government to be in the hands of a set of men whose incompetency is so apparent as to be notorious all over the world—is enough to drive to distraction anyone who has the true interests of the country at heart.

ARE ENGLISHMEN DETERIORATING?

Under this caption the Toronto Globe in a recent issue takes its contemporary, the Toronto World, to task for making a curious application of the lessons Mr. Kipling's "Islanders" conveys. The poet is quite right, says the World. The people of the United Kingdom have deteriorated during the past century, particularly during the latter part of it. The deterioration is seen in physical deterioration, whereas there is no charge in "The Islanders" that the people have deteriorated physically. The flannelled fools and mud-died oafs are probably as fine specimens of the fleshy Englishman as the country has produced at any time of its history. The deterioration that is the author of the poem laments is a deterioration in civic virtues. Having thus put an interpretation of its own on the lines, the reader of the World is next told that this physical deterioration is due to free trade. "The scarcity of nourishing food," says the Globe, "would be more likely to impair the physique of Englishmen than the evils of insanitary factory life. Surely these evils are removable, and we understand, are being gradually removed. Factory life is healthier today than it was 50 years ago, and it never was worse than in the days before free trade. Contemporaneously with the adoption of free trade, legislators began to realize that helpless classes of workpeople could not be left in all cases to the tender mercies of their employers. In the days before free trade, as Mr. Cobden showed, the very class which the high corn duties should

have benefited, if there were any virtues in them so far as the masses were concerned, were living on bread in which chopped straw was an ingredient. A very robust manhood or womanhood could hardly be reared on chopped straw. Good bread made out of No. 1 Manitoba hard, Canadian beef and Australian mutton, which the working classes in England now find on their dinner tables, are more likely to produce a sturdy yeomanry than the kind of fare that they would have to return to if the corn laws were revived. Fresh air is a good thing, but if it merely creates an appetite, for which there is no appropriate provision, it may not lead to the most robust health after all. Factory life may be inimical to physique, but we are not certain that it is necessarily so. Mr. Lecky, in his 'Eighteenth Century,' tells us that in the first three-quarters of the period of which he writes the position of agricultural laborers was extremely good. The price of wheat was then low and steady, and white wheat bread, which formerly only the middle and upper classes could afford to eat, had become the universal food of the people. In the period succeeding that, when wheat attained extravagant prices, the condition of the laborers became deplorable, arriving eventually at the chopped straw, of which Mr. Cobden speaks, and it was only in the last 40 years of the nineteenth century that their condition reverted to the comforts they had known in earlier times. In fact, the chapter on the social condition of Englishmen in the eighteenth century to be found in the seventh volume of Mr. Lecky's history would be illuminating reading for the writer of the article to which we are referring."

THE KASLO CONVENTION.

The 'meetin' got the Associated Boards of Southern British Columbia at Kaslo ought to result in considerable benefit to this section of the province. The questions to be dealt with are most important ones; and it is a reasonable assumption that the conclusions reached by the convention will have great weight with those in a position to provide a remedy for the various grievances complained of. The personnel of the delegations to the convention is representative of the large interests of this section; and we are quite certain that the deliberations of so important a body of business men will be characterized by an earnest desire to advance the true interests of the country. The Rosland delegates go pledged to endeavor to arrange that the next annual session of the Associated Boards may be held in Rosland. We think they will have little difficulty in accomplishing their purpose in this regard, as Rosland is certainly the most central point for a meeting of this sort, and in other respects has claims for a preference which cannot fairly be overlooked. One of the items on the program of discussion refers to the necessity of the federal government immediately filling the vacancy on the Supreme Court bench. If the dispatches are to be believed the department of justice is impressed with the necessity of quick action in this regard and we have no doubt that within a few days the appointment will be made.

By far the most important question, however, which the convention will deal with is that affecting the tax on the output of the mines. To all fair-minded men it must be apparent that the tax in question works a great hardship to the country. The tax is imposed on the value of all ore mined in the province, after deducting therefrom the cost of freight and treatment. On the face of it this might appear an equitable arrangement, but a little thought will show that it works out very unjustly, discriminating as it does against companies mining low grade ores. It is undoubtedly true that this tax is looked upon as an unnecessary burden on the industry and has resulted injuriously to the country, the investing public being unwilling to put money into properties in a field where such an inequitable system is in existence.

The mail service and its shortcomings will also receive attention at the hands of Associated Boards; and it is to be hoped that they will be able to accomplish something in the way of much-needed reform. The suggestion, that a resident assistant post-office inspector should be appointed seems a good one.

MARRIED IN SPOKANE.

Two popular young people were united for life in Spokane last evening. The participants in the happy event were Miss Lottie Robinson and Angus M. Macleod. The groom is manager of the freight department of the Rosland Warehouse & Transfer company, and is well known and well liked among the business men of the city, while the bride is equally popular among a large circle of friends. The ceremony was celebrated by Rev. G. William Gibney at his residence. Mr. and Mrs. Macleod propose remaining in Spokane for several days before returning to the Golden City, where Mr. Macleod has prepared a home for his bride.

MINING IN THE PROVINCE

IN THE SLOCAN.

The creditors of the Chapeau company have succeeded in securing an assignment of the government grant to the wagon road of \$8000 and R. F. Green, M. L. A., is arranging the matter with the department at Victoria. There is still nearly \$3000 of indebtedness in connection with the wagon road, apart from the liabilities of the mine. The creditors are informed the amalgamation of the Hilo and Chapeau had been successfully concluded, so that all the indebtedness will soon be cleared up. A largely signed petition is being sent in to the provincial government, praying for the extension of the Chapeau wagon road for another three miles up the first north fork of Lemon creek. It would serve a host of properties capable of shipping ore.

The promoters of the Republic company, owning property on corn mountains, write that the condition of the concern is very sound. Instructions have been given by the president to R. C. Campbell-Johnston to let the contract for building the wagon road to the Republic group as soon as possible. Operation will be commenced just as soon as their engineers advise.

The last of the Payne concentrator went up to the new structure this week. The only ore shipped from Sandon this week was 20 tons from the Ivanhoe.

The Last Chance people find their paymaster improving in the lead tapped by the long tunnel.

Some of the Ivanhoe force were laid off on Wednesday, and the entire crew are now working in No. 8 tunnel, where two upraises are being driven and a good lot of stopping is being done.

The ore body continues good in the Silvermine, although the company are doing but development work.

Mr. Gintzberger says the Monitor mine never looked better than at present. They are now upraising from 4 to 3 tunnel, 117 feet. They are up about 75 feet in a solid body of good ore all the distance, giving them a large body in sight. The mine has not shipped for some time, but is now shipping steadily to the Trail smelter.

It now appears a certainty that the Urban, (late Donnelly group), is sure to become a mine. In the tunnel of 100 feet in length, 40 feet vertical depth this week, the mine has encountered a streak of several inches of good steel and cube galena, first-class shipping ore. In prospecting work in any section of the vein they encounter very strong stringers of good ore, showing the presence of a large body close by. At the same time, the mine has encountered a streak of several inches of good steel and cube galena, first-class shipping ore. In prospecting work in any section of the vein they encounter very strong stringers of good ore, showing the presence of a large body close by. At the same time, the mine has encountered a streak of several inches of good steel and cube galena, first-class shipping ore. In prospecting work in any section of the vein they encounter very strong stringers of good ore, showing the presence of a large body close by. 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