The Colonist.

MONDAY, APRIL , 1898.

THE PARTY OF INSINCERITY.

We heartily approve of conducting political campaigns in a manner that will not give rise to personal animosities, and for this reason have felt that Mr. Semlin as leader of the opposition was entitled to the most kindly feeling from those with whom he is in political antagonism. So when we say that his opposition has lacked in sincerity, we do not desire to imply that he is an insincere man, but only that he has shown by the nature of his criticisms that he is not opposed to the government because of any fixed principle upon which they differ, but only because under the British system of conducting politics there must be an opposition and the role of leader of that element of the legislature has by the accident of politics been assigned to him. He has not during the years in which he has led his party, betrayed any reason why he could not, without any sacrifice of principle, give his support to Mr. Turner and his colleagues. His opposition has been of the sort that might naturally be expected in a province where things are carried on in a businesslike way and the differences of opinion which arise are over minor details.

The vindictive features of the opposition have been introduced by Mr. Cotton. In his newspaper he has employed the strongest language of which he was capable in order to represent the government as utterly unfit mentally or in any other way to carry on the affairs of the country. Mr. Cotton did not think this a year ago. It is an open secret that, if at that time the portfolio, which the government is authorized to create, had been created and been given to an ambitious gentleman from Vancouver, the expletives and epithets which Mr. Cotton now bestows upon Mr. Turner and his colleagues would have been devoted to those with whom he is now acting in temporary political sympathy. We think that Mr. Cotton will hardly claim, even to himself, that his opposition is sincere.

We mention these two gentlemen because one of them is the national and the other the real leader of the members who sit on the left of Mr. Speaker. They give character to the whole party. It is by their attitude towards the government that the party must be judged. It will be recalled that these gentlemen were responsible for a certain address to the electors; also that they hastened to adopt the posthumous child of the New Westminster convention. Everything was fish that showed the least disposition to come into their political net. Like the man from Cork who defined his politics on his arrival in New York by saying: "If there's a governmint in this country, I'm agin it," all that these gentlemen asked was that the individual or organization was opposed to Mr. Turner to welcome him or it to their arms.

The insincerity of the opposition has been demonstrated during the present session. Take the meaningless obstruction practised on the motion to go into supply. Would a sincere party have engaged in such tactics? Would not men, who really believed they had a case to which the attention of the country could be directed, have made a formal presentation of that case? Would they have simply frittered away long hours in the dreary repetition of vague generalities? Would they not have discovered some way in which they could at least profess to show some reason for their existence as a political party?

THE COAST MINES.

The news which we print this morning of the immediate erection of a smelter by the Van Anda company, is not only of passing interest, but means much for the future of mining on the Coast. The erection of the smelter is the best possible evidence that can be given of the confidence of the Van Anda owners in their property, a confidence which appears to be fully warranted by the very extensive work which has been done upon the mine. Presumably the capacity of the smelter will not exceed the requirements of the mine, but if it does not smelt a ton of other ore the fact that it is in successful operation will be to the Coast mines what the erection of the Trail smelter was to the district in which it is situated. It will take them out of the purely speculative class and do more than any one thing to attract the attention of the world to them.

This is a matter for very great congratulation. At the time word came of the discovery of Klondike, every one on the Coast was looking forward with the most sanguine expectations to the development of mines near at home. Such expectations seemed well-founded. From many places, so far apart that they indicated a general distribution of valuable ores over a wide area, reports of the most encouraging nature were received and interest approaching enthusiasm in regard to Coast mining was being aroused. A great deal of quiet work has been done since and it has all gone to show that a very prosperous mining community, or more properly, series of communities can be built up in this part of the province. The action of the Van Anda company will tend to revive interest in this important line of business and we may expect will lead some of those persons, who have had in contemplation investments further north, to turn their attention to metalliferous deposits nearer home.

A CORRECTION.

In the report of the proceedings in the Queen vs. Wolf in yesterday's Colonist a very annoying and wholly inexcusable error occurred. In the report of Detective Palmer's evidence he is made to state that when the accused was arrested she exclaimed: "My God I am guilty of this." What Detective Palmer said was that the accused exclaimed: "My God, I am NOT guilty of this." The reporter's manuscript gave her expression correctly; but the compositor omitted the negative. Mr. Walls, we may add, has wholly disclaimed that he threatened proceedings against the Colonist for printing its account of the first day's proceedings. The remarks made by the Colonist were therefore based upon a misunderstanding of what occurred in court.

The News-Advertiser deals with the budget debate in a characteristic article. That is, the article is strong in adjectives and weak in facts. Our contemporary is displeased at the order in which the members of the government spoke, complaining bitterly that Messrs. Baker, Eberts and Pooley waited "until certain members of the opposition had spoken." That is the complaint of a child; the sort of whimper one might expect from the defeated side in a boy's debating society. Coming from a paper controlled by a gentleman who is prepared, if need be, to pit himself against Omniscience, it is certainly very remarkable. Why should not members of the government wait until "certain members of the opposition had spoken?" The government is under no obligation to defend itself until it is attacked. Possibly if Mr. Cotton had been allowed to speak after every one else had spoken he might have got off with that absurd blunder or misstatement, whichever he may prefer to call it, about the $14,000 for taking care of the parliament buildings. In view of the manner in which he displayed either utter mental confusion or wilful disregard of facts, we are not at all surprised that in his paper he expresses his chagrin that any of the ministers followed him. He no doubt felt that way when Col. Baker exposed his fallacies and made him appear ludicrous even in the eyes of his own friends.

The memorandum which the European powers have presented to the United States is not in the nature of an offer of mediation. It is simply a request that another effort be made to preserve peace. There is no suggestion that any pressure will be brought to bear upon the United States in case of a failure on the part of the government or congress to comply with the request. Rightly interpreted what the powers do is to take advantage of the delay in the presentation of the President's message to speak a word against war. It is a well meant effort, but unless it is followed up by a notification from Spain that she will be prepared to accept any solution of the difficulty that may be necessary to keep Cuba tranquil, it will be in vain.

Referring to the sentence of John Davis to be hanged at Nelson for the murder of Dennis Conner, the Economist says: "The murder was committed on the 13th of February, the murderer was arrested on the 15th, tried on the 22nd of March and will be executed on the 22nd April." Our contemporary thinks this will demonstrate to the rougher element that crime cannot be committed with impunity in British Columbia. With this every one will agree and will join the Economist in congratulating the people of the province that the law is so well and promptly administered.

We confess to be unable to understand what the legislature means by its anti-Japanese legislation. In view of the fact that not one reason has been given in the house why Japanese ought not to be accorded the same privileges as are extended to any other nation, we can only regard the action of the majority of the house as based upon prejudice. If the Dominion government shall decide that such legislation cannot be allowed because it is contrary to Imperial policy, the measures in which it has been incorporated will fall to the ground.

Hitherto the German element in the United States has been a source of strength and satisfaction only, but we gather from exchanges that of late it has begun to assert itself as something apart from the original English-speaking American, and to have very strong views of its own on the question of foreign immigration. Americans of British descent desire to shut out a certain class of Europeans; the Germans are said to favor opening the doors to every one. This may be the entering wedge of a serious dispute.

The Kootenaian gives currency to a report that the Canadian Pacific has in contemplation the construction of a direct line to Rossland, running across country south of Nelson and leaving that city on a branch. If this should prove to be true, we do not see that Nelson would be very greatly injured. There are some advantages, but there are also some disadvantages in having a main line run through a city.

We print a letter signed Notreval, which deals with a matter calling for action on the part of the police authorities. Our correspondent is a gentleman of repute and we have no hesitation in accepting what he says as absolutely correct. Such an exhibition does great injury to the reputation of the city. If the police are incapable of preventing performances of this nature, it is high time they gave place to more efficient officers.

THE BANKS OF VICTORIA.

There is no lack of banking capital represented in Victoria at the present time, and some statistics in regard to the five institutions which have offices here will be read with interest. First take the capital stock paid up:

CAPITAL STOCK.	
Bank of Montreal	$12,000,000
Bank of B. N. A.	4,866,666
Bank of British Columbia	2,919,996
The Molsons' Bank	1,500,000
Merchants' Bank of Halifax	1,500,000
Total capital stock	$23,286,662
RESTS.	
Bank of Montreal	$ 6,000,000
Bank of B. N. A.	1,338,333
Bank of British Columbia	486,666
The Molsons' Bank	1,655,073
Merchants' Bank of Halifax	1,175,000
Total rests	$10,499,999
CIRCULATION.	
Bank of Montreal	$ 5,239,101
Bank of B. N. A.	1,160,975
Bank of British Columbia	996,460
The Molson's Bank	1,635,073
Merchants' Bank of Halifax	1,082,103
Total circulation	$10,113,712

ASSETS.	
Bank of Montreal	$67,491,224
Bank of B. N. A.	12,882,071
Bank of British Columbia	7,322,224
The Molsons' Bank	16,715,091
Merchants' Bank of Halifax	11,409,699
Total assets	$116,820,309

This is a splendid showing. Such an array of moneyed institutions is unparalleled in any city on the Pacific Coast of the United States. The above statements signify strength of exceptional character. Against the above assets of $116,820,309, the banks named have liabilities of $86,430,042, leaving a balance of over thirty millions as a security to creditors in addition to the double liability of shareholders. This swells the amount to which note-holders and depositors can look for their money to $140,000,000, which is certainly about as good security as could be asked for $86,430,042. A banking system which produces such results as these deserves the confidence of the people of Canada and very justly commands the admiration of the financiers of other countries.

We may add some statistics of all the banks of Canada:

Capital paid up	$ 62,292,614
Rests	27,580,993
Circulation	35,011,722
Deposits	223,056,071
Assets	355,897,624

In comparison with these great sums the amount of of actual money held by the banks does not seem large. It consists of:

Specie	$ 8,498,424
Dominion notes	16,422,086
	$24,920,410

The banks which hold specie above half a million dollars are:

Bank of Montreal	$2,147,879
Bank of Toronto	613,479
Imperial Bank	573,701
Bank of British Columbia	566,945
Dominion Bank	540,309

Quite a number of the banks hold upwards of half a million of Dominion bills.

Sir Louis Davies has written a letter to the Charlottetown Lodge I.O.G.T. in which he defines the attitude of the cabinet in regard to the prohibition plebiscite. He says:

"They will take care that all side issues are left out, and as nearly as possible the plain question put, but they think that the question as to whether the elector is in favor of total prohibition of the importation, manufacture or sale of alcoholic liquors should have as part of it the further question, as to whether he is prepared for the imposition of such new taxation as experience might show the workings of such prohibition call for."

He also intimates that the voting will be under the lists prepared under the Franchise act now before parliament.

We have again to apologize for the lack of our usual telegraphic service. Nothing that we can do can prevent these interruptions and all that readers can do is to wait for the time when the city will have better telegraph communication. It is exasperating to be without telegraphic news at this critical time, but there is no help for it.

The intention of the provincial government to go on with all possible speed in making a road from the Stickine to the Teslin that will be fit for use all summer long will be heartily commended by every one. Even if a railway is built, and we have every reason to suppose it will be, the roadway will be necessary.

Where does all the gold go to? Untold millions have been dug out of the earth, but where have they gone to? A recent writer on India says that incalculable amounts are hidden in India. Over $500,000,000 are said to have been buried in Gwalior alone.

The Dingley bill is failing to produce anything like enough revenue to meet the demands of the United States government, and expenditures are increasing rapidly quite irrespective of what is being done in the way of getting ready for war.

Reports from the Sound cities say that the outfitting trade has fallen off very greatly; but all the transportation centres say that as soon as spring opens the tide of travel to the Yukon will be very much greater than ever.

The Rossland Miner gives circulation to a statement that Price Ellison, of the Okanagan Valley, will contest East Yale as a candidate at the forthcoming election. Mr. Price will, if elected, support the Hon. Mr. Turner.

United States battleships are named for states and cruisers for cities. This may be a useful piece of information if there is going to be war between that country and Spain.

If you want the best Emulsion of Cod Liver Oil, ask for Griffiths' Norwegian Emulsion. It is no more expensive than others, and one bottle is equal in medicinal value to at least two of any other, and it also possesses the additional value of the Iron and manganese which no other Emulsion possesses, and is the most palatable and easily digested.

"SCOOPED THE WORLD."

It is not every city newspaper that would glory in being ivtimized, yet here in Victoria the Victoria Times is peculiar. It is still chuckling that it "scooped the world" in obtaining Jack Carr's news from the North, "for which the great papers of the world were bidding thousands of dollars."

The news that the representative journals and their readers wanted was reliable news of Andree. This Carr said he had, and for this they were willing to give—not political support for Carr's schemes, but good coin and plenty of it.

But—and the "but" was important—they would not be persuaded into buybuying of the authenticity of Carr's story, and when Carr discovered that they would not be persudded into buying an unverified yarn, he decided to seek an easier mark.

And that was how the editor of the Times came to get his story.

As to the Andree falsehood, the half has not yet been told. The following statement was made yesterday by Mr. Davis, of St. Jo, a passenger down by the Centennial:

"Carr was merely a tool in this matter for a Dawson City gambler, who happens to be as bright as Jack Carr is not. I think I'm not far out when I say that when Carr reached Dawson and exhibited his St. Michael's paper with the 'josh' in it, it was this shark that hit upon the idea of making capital out of an Andree fake. It was an easy matter to get a little note written in Swedish and on tissue paper, with the name 'Andree at the end of it. This was to be the text of the tale, and the whole thing might have gone through all right if Tom—the main man in the scheme,—had thought in time that Andree's handwriting would have to be imitated. This point was overlooked—and no one with his eyes open would buy without proofs of genuineness."

The Victoria Times was "ready to go against the game," as the gambler would put it.

Knowing quite well of the false pretence Carr had endeavored to perpetuate on newspaperdom and the public, few papers would have thought for an instant of dealing with him in any way. The Times on the contrary expressed unbounded admiration and appreciation of him, printed six columns about his adventures in the North, and, well knowing that he brought no news of Andree, to save itself from the charge of containing nothing at all of the news of which it had claimed exclusive possession, said:

"Here," (at St. Michael's) "Mr. Carr obtained the news he brings of the daring aeronaut, Herr Andree, the whispering of which by Mr. Carr created such a furore in newspaperdom throughout the world."

And a little later on:

"In regard to the Andree story, Carr says that a little paper published at St. Michael's printed a short paragraph to the effect that news had been received by certain officials at St. Michael's, but what the news consisted of, or who were the officials, the paper did not state."

Both of these paragraphs were unquestionably intended to deceive the public into the belief that there was a basis in fact for Carr's statement that he had news of Andree. The Times was specific in its declaration that "what the news consisted of or who the officials were, the paper did not state."

When it gave this to the public, the Times well knew that it was untruthful and a deceit, for it had in its possession the St. Michael's paper referred to, with names and all particulars of the "josh" article. The Colonist in exposing the imposition yesterday outlined the nature of the St. Michael's publication—which had been carefully concealed by the Times, and the Times last evening sealed its own conviction as a fakir of the worst type, by publishing in full to corroborate the Colonist's charge, the "short paragraph" seriously referred to by it on Wednesday, as news of Andree, which "short paragraph," headlines and all, reads as follows:

AT LAST NORTH POLE DISCOVERED.

Where Hundreds Have Failed One Succeeds.

Andree Reaches the Pole and Perishes in the Attempt.

Word Brought by a Carrier Pigeon, Which Was Found On St. Michael's Island.

Andree's Farewell to the World.

When Messrs. Dunn and Bell were out hunting last Tuesday they found lying exhausted on the ground a white pigeon (carrier). The bird was easily captured without firing a shot, and a peculiar protuberance was observed on its body. It was brought to Dr. Edle, who performed an autopsy on the bird, and discovered in its gizzard a partially digested can of Wilson's celebrated brand of Boston Baked Beans. It was the unbiassed opinion of Dr. Edle that the beans killed the bird rather than the exertion of its flight from the pole. Inside the can of beans were found two messages from Andree giving the glorious news of his success and the sad news of his probable death from exhaustion and thirst.

The following is the substance of the messages, which were necessarily short owing to the limitation of the messenger:

Andree's Log.

We sailed along nicely for over a week with a fair southerly wind and it looked as though success was within our grasp. Suddenly it became intensely cold; so cold that a strange and disastrous thing happened. The hydrogen gas inside the balloon became liquified by the low temperature and began to pour down in the form of rain on our heads. We put up our umbrellas for protection, but soon found that our difficulties had but commenced. The liquid hydrogen as it trickled through the bottom of the car was forming a huge icicle which would soon reach the ground and freeze fast, holding us stationary.

It became necessary to lighten the balloon at once, so it was determined that two of the three of us should be hove overboard. In order to determine the two unfortunates we played three card monte, and I dealt the cards. Fortune favored me and the lot fell on my two comrades. The first man fell a distance of two miles, and I watched him as he struck through my field glasses. The ice was twenty feet thick, but he went through it like a "Krag-Jorgesen" bullet and disappeared for ever.

I threw the doctor overboard just as we drifted into a dense fog. My amazement cannot be described when I saw his body drop but ten feet below the car and float suspended in mid-air supported by the fog. His piteous appeals to be hauled back nearly drove me insane, but I drifted away and left him like Mohammed, suspended between heaven and earth, and literally rocked to sleep in the bosom of the atmosphere. May God have mercy on his soul.

Just as I reached the North Pole the icicle, which had continually been growing longer, struck the frozen surface of the sea with a terrible shock and froze fast instantly. The shock was so fierce that my teeth were ground into bone dust without a moment's warning.

Now indeed my plight is pitiable and I have resigned myself to death, for hope has deserted me. It is 200 feet to the surface of the earth and to attempt to slide down my pole of hydrogen would mean instant destruction. My beans are all frozen as hard as bullets, even if I had the teeth to eat them with. I am consumed by thirst, a regular Yukon river, Dawson City, Arctic circle thirst, and if I only had one little schooner of beer I would die happy. If the daring explorer should reach this awful place he will find a tall pillar of ice, on the top of the pillar a basket, and in the basket the bones of poor Andree."

The following farewell we suppose was written after the daring aeronaut had become insane in his despair, as it is slightly incoherent. It also illustrates the fact that the "ruling passion is strong in death."

"Hail, oh Pole! Thou apex of the world: Thou goal for which brave men have struggled, starved and died. Hail! I, who am about to die, salute thee. My ambition is fulfilled, and I stand above all men as King. My kingdom is this frozen zone, my subjects icebergs. Farewell, oh World! Thou world of home, of love and peace. I send thee my prayers. Thou world of science on whose altar I die, speed along on thy relentless way.

"Oh, beer, beer, just for one keg, one stein, one schooner, one little glass, and I could hop—"

Here the message ended abruptly.

Porterhouse or tenderloin steaks will be accepted from subscribers in lieu of cash.

No walrus flippers, seal meat or whale blubber will be received.

One beefsteak for a year's subscription.

Our motto: "I don't know."

As they were speeding along in a railway train, one young man was overheard to say to another: "Well, as to my future career, I feel no such indecision as you express; I feel it in my bones that destiny has designed that I should be an actor."

Just then there was a head-on collision and the two young men were thrown from the car into a lumber yard. Disengaging himself from a hemlock splinter on which he had been impigned, the spokesman continued:

"I told you that nature intended that I should take to the boards!"—Richmond Dispatch.

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'Oh, Had I Known the Value of Health—Why Did Not Some Friendly Hand Guide Me?"

THIS IS THE CRY OF THOUSANDS OF YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN—victims of careless, reckless youth. The vital spark is dimmed by the loss of that priceless boon, nerve strength. Life seems full of trouble because the nerves are weak and the spirits depressed. Pains are felt in the back, the head is dizzy, and there are hot and cold flushes. Nervous debility is approaching.

RESTORE HAPPY YOUTH

By using Dr. Sanden's Electric Belt. Get back all the joy of youthful vigor. Feel the life bouncing through your veins and carrying ambition to your brain. There is a new pleasure in living when you are wearing Dr. Sanden's Electric Belt. It replaces the nerve strength. It pours vitality into the body for hours at a time. Thousands of young men and women owe their happiness to it. So will you. Write to Dr. Sanden tell him of your troubles, and he will send you a book for men or for women, which will tell you how to regain vital nerve strength. Send to-day. Address

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