

The Colonist.

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THE SEMI-WEEKLY COLONIST

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THE UNITED STATES TARIFF.

The changes proposed in the United States tariff can be only imperfectly understood from the telegraphic synopsis of them, but they seem to be of very great interest. Canada is particularly interested in the reduction of the duty on lumber to fifty per cent, which would be an unconditional concession.

A maximum tariff and a minimum tariff are provided for. These are intended to facilitate the negotiations of the government with foreign countries for trade agreements. We are without details and are unable to make any explanatory comment.

A new expedient to raise a revenue has been proposed, namely the imposition of an inheritance tax. A question may arise as to the constitutionality of such legislation. When an income tax was directed by Congress, the Supreme Court of the United States set the measure aside.

The new tariff will open the door for the free admission of coal into the United States from Canada. If it becomes law, and the Canadian parliament removes the duty on coal, there will be a free interchange in this commodity between the two countries.

THE G. T. PACIFIC LOAN.

The resolution submitted to Parliament authorizing the loan to the Grand Trunk Pacific is substantially as follows: The sum of \$10,000,000 is to be loaned by the government to the company, the money to be used in completing the Pacific section of the road.

The suggestion for a specific line of action to be followed by the Imperial and Ottawa governments in the matter of naval defence, and we have to say by Mr. Gregg of the editorial staff of the Colonist, has now been before the public a sufficient length of time to permit of some idea being formed as to its practicability.

CANADA AND THE NAVY.

The suggestion for a specific line of action to be followed by the Imperial and Ottawa governments in the matter of naval defence, and we have to say by Mr. Gregg of the editorial staff of the Colonist, has now been before the public a sufficient length of time to permit of some idea being formed as to its practicability.

Lord Brassey called attention to the proceedings of the Colonial Conference, 1907, in relation to naval defence; and to the correspondence relating to the naval defence of Australia and New Zealand, 1908. He said that he wished particularly to call attention to the policy of concerted action between the mother country and the colonies for naval defence.

The Earl of Granard, who replied for the Admiralty, said that so far as one could see at the present moment, although the different colonies had been discussing questions of naval defence, they had not come to any definite conclusion. The Admiralty viewed with great satisfaction any efforts that our Colonies might make towards the establishment of a navy or for a certain number of vessels for their own protection, and they would give careful consideration to any scheme which might be submitted to them.

though, technically termed "oboleter" are in speed and general fitness quite adequate for our purposes, is shown by a correspondent of the London Standard. He says that in 1898 a list of the protected cruisers of the second class nine were "retired." They were the Apollo, Intrepid, Rainbow, Retribution, Tribune, Naiad, Matamoras, Anfronache, and Pique.

Judge Barron is a strong advocate of naval defence for Canada, and says that "Naval defence contributes to Imperial strength, because as a chain of no stronger than its weakest link, so is empire no stronger than its weakest part. By strengthening that link, the chain becomes stronger."

In this connection mention may be made of the proposed railway from Victoria to Esquimalt, which was discussed at the Board of Trade the other day. Our contemporary, the Free Press of Nanaimo, is mistaken in saying that the Board endorsed this enterprise; the Board did not act upon it.

Reginald McKenna, in the naval estimates which would be introduced to sanction an arrangement whereby the Canadian government has undertaken to maintain for the Imperial navy, the Esquimalt base.

It is possible that it may be possible to plan for the rehabilitation of Esquimalt as a naval base. It reads as follows: "Reginald McKenna, in the naval estimates which would be introduced to sanction an arrangement whereby the Canadian government has undertaken to maintain for the Imperial navy, the Esquimalt base."

Turning now to a survey of the situation which would be created were the Admiralty to tender a number of vessels to Canada and our government to accept them, we are able to say that, in so far as Esquimalt is concerned, no difficulty whatever would be experienced in the maintenance of such ships on this station.

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RAIL TO THE MAINLAND

We are sorry to see that our contemporary, the Nanaimo Herald, is not disposed to favor an effort to secure railway connection with the Mainland by way of Butte Inlet or some other route in that neighborhood, but thinks such a project "too big and above our present deserts."

Whereas it is in the interest of the people of this province and humanity that some solution of evils arising out of traffic in intoxicating liquors be arrived at;

Whereas local option, which aims at prohibition in given localities of the sale of intoxicating liquors, is objectionable from certain standpoints and ineffective as a remedy;

Whereas the government has decided to grant a plebiscite at some future date on this question;

Whereas it has been shown that the Gothenburg system of manufacturing and selling intoxicating liquors removes many of the evils complained of;

Whereas it is desirable that the people of this province, before taking a plebiscite, be advised of full information on the question;

Whereas it is resolved, that an address be presented to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, asking him to take into consideration the merits of the Gothenburg system;

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directs an inquiry, but only asks the government to consider the advisability of making an inquiry into the Gothenburg system. It does not even direct that in favor of an effort to secure railway connection with the Mainland by way of Butte Inlet or some other route in that neighborhood, but thinks such a project "too big and above our present deserts."

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WEILER BROS

Alteration Sale of China

All Odd Pieces Offered at Interesting Prices TO WELL PLEASD are with the new arrangement of our Drapery Department that we have decided to make some important alterations in the China Store. The workmen have started and the changes are upsetting things in this department.

Fine Tapestry Carpet Squares

The great popularity these Crossley Diamond Tapestry Squares have enjoyed is merited, for they are one of the most serviceable lines we have ever shown. Attractive in appearance, easy to sweep and keep clean and built for hard wear, they have won popular favor here.

For Kitchen Walls

For kitchen walls the very best covering is "Decora"—a washable wall cloth, applied like wall paper and cleaned and washed as you would clean table oilcloth.

Stylish New Curtains

These New Lace Curtain Styles are worthy of a visit from you. We have a grand assortment this season—embracing the very best curtain ideas from all centres. You'll find curtains of more than ordinary worth awaiting your inspection, and you'll be delighted at the small price tags which adorn them.

THE GOTHENBURG SYSTEM.

An erroneous impression has been created in regard to the action of the legislature in respect to the Gothenburg system. Most people think the legislature directed an inquiry into the matter, and that the resolution adopted, as far as we have observed them in the press, have been calculated to deepen that impression.

SNAP THE ANTISEPTIC HAND CLEANER

The best preparation known for removing dirt, grease, paint, ink and stains of all kinds. Positively beneficial to the skin. Makes the hands soft and delicately white.

Charming New Muslins

We have a fine assortment of charming curtain and drapery materials chosen specially for this Spring's selling. We have chosen the best from the best markets, and the offerings of the new drapery department are worthy of inspection.

LOW INSURANCE RATES

The preservation of one garment from the ravages of the moth will more than pay for one of these Moth-proof Camphor Wood Trunks. The moth cannot live in one of these, and garments and furs stored in these are absolutely safe from this insect.

HANDY WRITING DESK

Here is a convenient and useful article to have in the home—a Writing Desk. An English style, made of polished walnut, brass straps and plate, leather covered inside flaps, secret drawers and fitted with a superior lock and key.

HANDSOME NEW LACE CURTAINS

These New Lace Curtain Styles are worthy of a visit from you. We have a grand assortment this season—embracing the very best curtain ideas from all centres. You'll find curtains of more than ordinary worth awaiting your inspection, and you'll be delighted at the small price tags which adorn them.

THE "FIRST" FURNITURE STORE OF THE "LAST" WEST—ESTAB. 1862

Weiler Bros SHOWROOMS: GOVERNMENT ST., VICTORIA, B. C. FACTORY: HUMBOLDT ST. HOMES HOTELS CLUBS BOATS CHURCHES SCHOOLS STORES OFFICES

GOOD WORK DONE BY THE FRIENDLY HELP

Past Year's Work Reviewed at Annual Meeting of the Society

(From Wednesday's Daily) The Friendly Help society held its annual meeting in the city hall yesterday afternoon. Present were the president, Mrs. Perrin; secretary, Wood; and treasurer, Miss Bishop. Mrs. Perrin presided.

My Dear Fellow-workers—Q and unostentatiously the work of the Friendly Help association has been most successful. I wish to express my thanks to our first president, Mrs. William Grant, who took my place during her absence in England and so ably filled the office. To Miss Mary Lawson, secretary, and to the body of devoted workers who have undertaken the investigation of every case reported to them, the community owes a debt of gratitude.

During the past year an increased number of those who have come to Victoria from the Old Country, east of Canada have applied for all their money has been spent. Many and many have found it in getting employment at once, some cases the help given by the district has been great value. Applications are made occasionally by those who have been their troubles upon themselves, as cases where the children have been helped has been given, although we know that the parents were not deserving. It is not to be criticised action and fault may be found the association for thus relieving the situation of the children's cry not be unheeded.

There are many new styles shown, and you'll find here something suitable for every environment. It is a complete and comprehensive assortment of the very finest of the mills produce. And withal you'll find little prices rule. Large purchases enable us to do this—enable you to work wonderful changes in the home's appearance and at little cost.

Annual Report

The annual report read by the secretary was as follows: During the past year we have had a close, the fourteenth in our history, the society has endeavored every way to make the year a fruitful confidence reposed in it by citizens of Victoria. Eleven meetings were held during the year, and the president was Mrs. England the work was carried out under the direction of Mrs. Grant.

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