

Twice-a-Week Times

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A STATESMANLIKE ADDRESS.

The speech of the Minister of Agriculture delivered on Saturday evening was worthy of a larger hall and a larger audience. The claim is not put forward on behalf of Mr. Fisher that he possesses the oratorical gifts of some of his colleagues in the government of Sir Wilfrid Laurier; but those who heard him on Saturday evening are unanimously of the opinion that he has the grasp of a statesman, the enthusiasm of a buoyant Canadian and the faith in the future of a devout, loyal Imperialist. After listening to Hon. Sydney Fisher's description of Canada as he saw it on his journey from the East to the West, no one will wonder at his optimistic predictions as to the wonderful future of this country of climatic diversities and resources. And in connection with the visit of the Minister of Agriculture it may be well for us not to forget that, next to the Prime Minister himself, Mr. Fisher has had a larger hand in directing the destinies of Canada than any other single individual in public life. The strength of the nation lies chiefly in her agricultural resources. Mr. Fisher is a practical, scientific, highly educated agriculturist. He was a successful farmer before he became a member of the government. He has devoted all his energies and his talents to the work of developing markets for the products of Canadian farmers and he has employed all his influence as Minister of Agriculture to teaching and persuading Canadian farmers to cater to and foster those markets. Other Ministers have attended to the secondary matter of promoting immigration; Mr. Fisher has, probably, performed the better part. He has demonstrated that there is no country in the world in which the opportunities for the agriculturist are so favorable.

But, although a farmer, the Minister of Agriculture has still found opportunities to acquire the graces of an accomplished public speaker. There were some at the meeting on Saturday evening who hold that Mr. Fisher's speech was one of the best he has ever delivered in the manner of its delivery and the matter contained, ever delivered in Victoria. As all the members of the Dominion government are becoming more deeply impressed with the possibilities of the great west and are more inclined to visit this part of Canada, we shall probably have the pleasure of welcoming Mr. Fisher again soon, on which occasion he will assuredly address a larger audience.

THE PACIFIC DOCKYARD.

We cannot understand why there should be any discussion in regard to the location of the Canadian naval dockyard on the Pacific. When Esquimalt was chosen as the site of the drydock, the headquarters of the fleet and the natural location for the construction of forts, we may feel assured that the Imperial government did not make the selection without consideration, investigation and expert advice. The conditions in regard to defensive operations and measures may have changed somewhat since the choice of Esquimalt was made, but if they have so changed, the alteration only appears to confirm the wisdom of the original selection, unless the experiences of Japan in her late naval engagements with Russia go for naught.

We do not regard the matter of the selection of a naval dockyard with all the permanent works in connection therewith as a matter which ought to be made a political football, or to be kicked into the net of the community, possessing the larger political influence or the more important "workers." It is announced that the government of Canada will very shortly take possession of the Esquimalt dockyard. With the assumption of the property and the many works and institutions in connection with it the government will also assume a very great responsibility. It ought to be permitted to discharge such responsibility without attempts upon the part of boosters to influence its judgment. Such attempts will be futile in any event. Several members of the government have already intimated their belief that Esquimalt is the natural and the strategic headquarters of the national defenses on the

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 Ladies' and Children's Outfitting and Dry Goods Store
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Pacific Coast. Hon. Sydney Fisher expressed himself unreservedly to the same effect on Saturday evening. The matter is one for the government acting on the advice of experts to deal with. To be sure representations from the Board of Trade can "hardly" do any harm, especially if they be merely advisory in character, but the efforts of the Board of Trade are not to be regarded as counteracting the efforts of another city whose appetite for government favors is as ravenous as that of the ground-squawk which is reported to frequent its waters.

CORNERED.

If there were but one source of water supply for Victoria the solution of the problem (which promises to be still a problem when the youngest inhabitant of the present day is the oldest inhabitant of the future) would be easy. But between Elk Lake, Goldstream and Sooke Lake the inhabitants of this fortunate, or unfortunate as the case may be, city have been reduced to a state of hopeless division. Not enough of them can agree upon any one of two alternative schemes to be productive of practical results. The consequence is that Elk Lake water will probably remain our sole source of supply for some years to come, and, as many maintain, will continue to be a satisfactory source of supply.

Some contend that if the question of the adoption of Sooke Lake were submitted to the ratepayers in a by-law it would carry by a good majority. Well, we doubt that. It is quite true that in a referendum vote a year and a half ago the "ayes had it." But they had it by a small majority—and the opinion of the majority of voters in a municipal election is not the opinion of three-fifths of the ratepayers on a by-law. There is sufficient difference to make the result at least very doubtful.

A goodly number of people think there is no necessity for being precipitate about tapping Sooke Lake. They prefer to wait and see whether it is true that there is a danger of Elk Lake falling. Some of them even go so far as to protest that there is sufficient water in the Saanich reservoir to supply a city of one hundred thousand people.

There is another element which will hear of nothing but buying water from the Esquimalt Water Works Company by the gallon. They hold that by adopting this course the people would not be placing on their shoulders the burden of the interest on possibly a million and a half of dollars. This class fears going into debt, which is admittedly a vicious habit. But they wilfully shut their eyes to the fact that if we paid the Esquimalt Water Works Company, say, seventy-five thousand dollars a year, we should be contributing to the far-seeing shareholders of that company the equivalent of the interest and sinking fund of a very large sum of money. In the one case we would have nothing but receipts to show for our expenditure. In the other case we should have the assurance that in time the debt would be liquidated and of ultimate possession of a more or less valuable property.

So there you are. Can you make anything out of the situation other than this: That if the Sooke Lake by-law be submitted a sufficient number of standpaters and buy-by-the-galloners will vote against it to kill it. On the other hand, is there a doubt in the mind of any person who knows Victorians that nothing but dire extremity will induce them to consent to buy water by the gallon from the Esquimalt Water Works Company? Elk Lake will go dry before such a consummation.

We pass the matter on to Father Time. He alone is qualified to deal with it.

CANADA'S FIRST MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE.

We believe it is absolutely correct to state that Hon. Sydney Fisher, who is now visiting Victoria, is the first practical farmer who has ever occupied the position of Minister of Agriculture in a government of Canada. Previous to the call of Sir Wilfrid Laurier to Mr. Fisher in the year 1896 the department of agriculture had been administered by brewers, lawyers and men of various occupations and professions. The position had never been regarded seriously by either the heads or the subsidiary members of previous governments. It was merely a sinecure, bestowed upon politicians with recognized claims upon the party. Little was attempted for the encouragement or the promotion of the most important of all Canadian industries. Agriculture was left to work out its own salvation. Manufacturing was nourished at its expense. That was the principle, or rather lack of principle, that was at the root of the N. P., which Conservatives at one time held, which an isolated few Conservatives still hold, would be the industrial salvation of Canada.

Hon. Sydney Fisher has been Minister of Agriculture in the Laurier government for thirteen years, which is not an unlucky number as concerns the agricultural industry of Canada. He is one of the original members of the most gifted and the most progressive governments ever sworn to office by a Canadian Governor-General. Agriculture, and the country in general through agriculture, has reaped the benefits of an intelligent effort upon the part of a practical farmer, who knew his business both as a student of the best methods and from experi-

ence to direct the efforts of agriculturists along the right lines. The aim of the government under the inspiration of Mr. Fisher has been not only to find profitable markets for farm produce, but to teach farmers how to cater to and to hold the markets when found. No one with a knowledge of the circumstances but will admit that the prosperity of Canada for the past twelve years and the still increasing to-day is due chiefly to the wonderful growth of the agricultural industry, for which the Minister of Agriculture must be given a large modicum of credit.

DEATH OF OLD RESIDENT.

Peter Wolf Passed Away Last Evening—Was Early Settler Here.

(From Monday's Daily's).
 The death occurred last evening at the family residence, 1911 Government street, of Peter Wolf. Deceased was born in Tuer, Germany, and was 64 years of age. In the early days he came across the Atlantic ocean in a sailing vessel to Boston, Mass., and later came to San Francisco via the Isthmus of Panama, in 1855 Mr. Wolf arrived at Esquimalt in a sailing vessel.

In this city he engaged in the butcher business and later ran the Restaurant Hall, where the Excelsior saloon now stands. Mr. Wolf, a few years later went to Napa City, Cal., where he was married and in 1872 he again returned to this city, where he has resided ever since. Entering into the employ of Loewen & Erb, brewers, Mr. Wolf stayed with that firm until the present Victoria Phosphoric Company bought them out and he then entered the employ of the latter firm.

He is survived by three daughters, Mrs. G. Brett and Mrs. C. R. Carter, of Victoria, and Mrs. A. J. Hagen, of Seattle, and two sons, H. E. and E. G., both of this city. Mrs. Wolf predeceased her husband by six years. The funeral has been arranged to take place on Wednesday afternoon at 2 o'clock from the residence and at 2:30 o'clock at the Odd Fellows hall, Douglas street.

TWO THOUSAND PROBABLY DEAD

It is Feared Pestilence Will Follow Flood at Monterey.

Monterey, Mexico, Aug. 30.—Three hundred miles of valley lands of the Santa Catalina and San Juan rivers in this state have been devastated with an estimated loss of 2,000 persons dead and \$30,000,000 of property, ruined by the floods.

The situation in Monterey to-day is worse than at any time since the disaster. The city's reservoir is broken, its waters having run out, and lack of water for sanitation threatens to end in pestilence. Thirty thousand persons are homeless and hundreds are living in water soaked adobe houses which threaten to collapse at any moment.

Monterey is without train service owing to washouts and communication through the streets is crippled because of wreckage which blocks the thoroughfares.

SEEKING MISSED.

Frank E. Davis is sought for by Relatives in Portland.

(From Monday's Daily's).
 The secretary of the Vancouver Island Development League is in receipt of a letter from Mrs. Lucy G. Davis, mother of Frank E. Davis, who has been missing from his home in Portland, Ore., since the first of May last. He is thought to have come to Victoria, as he had often expressed a wish to locate on Vancouver Island. A reward of \$100 is offered for information which will lead to his discovery.

Who was last seen the missing man was going on a fishing expedition up the Willamette river. Davis is about 23 years of age; 5 feet 7 inches tall, and weighs 150 pounds. He is of medium build, light complexion, light brown hair, smooth shaven, blue eyes, wears glasses. All information in connection with his whereabouts should be addressed to C. Gritzmacher, chief of police at Portland, Ore. The reward will be paid by Gilbert C. Davis, 31 Second street, Portland.

PICNIC PARTY RUN DOWN BY STREET CAR

One Man is Killed and Another is Probably Fatally Injured.

Portland, Ore., Aug. 30.—One man was killed, one fatally injured and four persons badly bruised last night when an electric car on the Upper Albina line struck a wagon containing a party of picnickers.

The dead: Wm. Barker, engraver, employed on the Oregonian.
 "Fatally injured": Wm. Brandt, driver. The wagon was returning from Columbus slough, where the picnic had been held and was following along the car track. The car dragged the wagon and its occupants for about 100 feet. When the car was brought to a stop, the wagon and the victims were piled underneath so firmly that it was necessary to jack the end of the car up before those imprisoned could be taken out.

LEAVE FOR COAST.

Winnipeg, Aug. 30.—In a special train on Saturday Lord Strathcona, Commissioner Chipman and Sir Thomas Clouston, president of the Bank of Montreal, left for Vancouver and Victoria.

PREFERENTIAL TRADE POLICY

NOT FAVORED BY PROFESSOR CLARK

Free Trader Addresses the Members of British Association.

Winnipeg, Aug. 30.—Outside the agricultural sections, where questions of supreme importance to the wheat-growing industry of the West were discussed, the chief interest this morning centered in the economic section of the British Association, where Prof. A. B. Clark, of Edinburgh, read a paper on the policy of preferential duties within the Empire. He proved himself an out and out free trader, as were a majority of the large number of members present.

Prof. Clark thought the self-governing colonies are not prepared to take any serious steps in the direction of free trade with the Empire, nor would they be likely to accept the policy of Great Britain of a policy of all round protection, colonial productions merely receiving at British ports preferential treatment equivalent to that accorded to British goods at colonial ports. Prof. Clark thought any scheme such as that under which the United Kingdom is asked to tax imports from foreign countries and to admit colonial produce free from duties at the present time, while the colonies continue to tax British products, was indefensible. He thought that it was unlikely to increase materially Great Britain's export trade to the colonies, and it would inflict a heavy blow on her export trade to foreign countries. From an economic standpoint he described the whole policy of preferential duties as unsound, and it could only be defended as a step in the direction of free trade.

An interesting discussion took place following Prof. Clark's paper on preferential duties, during which the Canadian Manufacturers' Association was arranged by Mr. Bland, who characterized it as the embodiment of selfishness to increase materially Great Britain's export trade to the colonies, and it would inflict a heavy blow on her export trade to foreign countries. From an economic standpoint he described the whole policy of preferential duties as unsound, and it could only be defended as a step in the direction of free trade.

MINISTER LEAVES FOR SEATTLE FAIR

Hon. Sydney Fisher Concludes Very Pleasant Visit to Victoria.

(From Monday's Daily's).
 Hon. Sydney Fisher, minister of agriculture, left this morning on the Chippewa for Seattle, where he will spend a few days at the A.-Y.-P. exposition before returning to take up his departmental duties at Ottawa.

The minister expressed himself as delighted during his brief stay in Victoria, which he had visited on previous occasions, but never to better advantage than the present. The weather during the past few days has been delightful, and Hon. Mr. Fisher had every opportunity to see the surrounding districts to the best advantage.

On Saturday he visited the quarantine station at William Head, going down on the government steamer Madge as guest of Dr. and Mrs. Wait, and the short trip was very enjoyable. The minister expressed himself as immensely pleased with conditions at the quarantine station, which he pronounced to be the best equipped and well managed in the Dominion.

ASSEMBLY RINK.

It Will Open Again on Wednesday for the Coming Season—New Management.

The Assembly rink on Wednesday once more opens its doors to the public, which will no doubt be very gratifying to the followers of this favorite winter pastime. The interior which has been thoroughly renovated and very prettily decorated will present an entirely different and vastly superior appearance to that of last season. The new management has spared no expense to give its patrons a thoroughly first-class and up-to-date place of amusement.

Mr. Irving will have the management and with the assistance of Mr. Brendt as instructor, will do all in their power to give devotees of the little rolls a good time. Mr. E. G. Heinel, of Milwaukee, will have charge of the skate room, and while he is there the management is confident there will be no occasion for complaint as to the action of the skates.

NEGRO LYNCHED.

Soperton, Ga., Aug. 27.—Enraged citizens of this town at sunrise to-day shot and killed E. Clark, a negro, and afterwards burned his body on a rubbish heap. Shortly before the negro was killed he had fatally shot three others, members of a posse that was hunting him. The negro had escaped from the Bibb county chain-gang, where he was serving a life sentence for murder.

It Will be Worth While Purchasing Furniture and Housefurnishings Here Today & Tuesday

That our August Furniture Sale has been a success goes without saying—in fact it has exceeded our highest expectations. This we attribute to nothing else than our efforts in placing before the public values in furniture that would bear investigation, and at prices that would meet the most modest purse. If YOU have not as yet taken advantage of this saving opportunity, do so at once. To-day and Tuesday will be days when one dollar will very nearly do the service of two.

Our New Stock of Dining Tables

How many people must sit around your dining table? Makes no difference whether you want one for four, six, ten or twelve people—round tables or square—this is the month of all months to buy, and save money by buying. Each table shown is of the highest quality—and we are confident it is the best that money, material and workmanship can produce.

AN EXCEPTIONALLY FINE LINE OF SOLID AND QUARTER CUT GOLDEN OAK DINING TABLES

Square End Tables, extending 10 feet, strongly built	\$20.00	Round End Table, extending 8 feet, carved legs	\$30.00
Square End Tables, extending 8 feet, shaped legs	\$20.75	Round End Table, extending 8 feet, pedestal base	\$30.00
Square End Tables, extending 8 feet, round legs	\$21.75	Round End Table, extending 8 feet, massive base	\$32.50
Square End Tables, extending 8 feet, new pattern	\$25.00	Round End Table, extending 8 feet, pedestal base	\$34.00
Square End Tables, extending 8 feet, pedestal base	\$28.00	Round End Table, extending 8 feet, extra heavy	\$40.00
Round End Table, extending 8 feet, square cut legs	\$19.50	Round End Table, extending 10 feet, octagonal pedestal	\$46.00

SOME CHOICE AND EXCLUSIVE DESIGNS IN "MISSION FINISH" DINING TABLES

Square End Tables, extending 8 feet, pedestal base	\$25.00	Round End Tables, extending 8 feet, claw foot legs	\$40.00
Round End Tables, extending 10 feet, square legs	\$36.00	Round End Tables, extending 10 feet, heavy pedestal	\$46.00
Round End Tables, extending 8 feet, massive built	\$36.00		

Call and see these Tables—THIRD FLOOR

Cheval Dressing Bureau

Regular Value \$65. Special August Price

Extraordinary value is a very artistic Cheval Dressing Bureau. It is elegantly finished in solid mahogany of a curved design, four feet eight inches in length and twenty in wide, fitted up with one large drawer and two cabinet end drawers. The bevelled mirror is the best quality British plate, gracefully shaped and measures 30 inches by 44 inches, suitable for a dainty lady's bedroom. Worth \$65. Special August Sale Price

Wilton Carpet Squares

Regular \$44. for

25 WILTON CARPET SQUARES, in splendid range of colorings and designs.
 Size 9 x 12 ft. Regular \$44. for

Spencer's Exclusive Designs in Folding and Collapsible Go-Carts and English Carriages

FAMOUS FOR QUALITY ORIGINALITY, SIMPLICITY.
 The Line That Sets the Pace. Call in and see it. They Are Selling Very Rapidly
 FOLDING GO-CARTS, ETC., each, \$3.50, \$4.50, \$7.50, \$8.50, \$9.75, \$11, \$11.50, \$11.75, \$12.50, \$14, \$14.50, \$14.75, \$15, \$16, \$16.50, \$17, \$17.25, \$18.50, \$19.50, \$20, \$20.50, \$22.50, \$27.50, \$36, \$37.50, \$41, \$55.

Bedroom Table

Special August Sale Price

This natty little Bedroom Table in Golden Oak is something especially for ladies. If you knew the manufacturer, and our reason for selling them at such a reduced figure, you would not hesitate a moment. You need a bedroom table. Now is your opportunity to get one to-day. Special August Sale Price

Extraordinary Values in Special Line of Spring Mattresses

One hundred and twenty springs, best hardwood frame, size 4 in. by 6 in. wide. The fabric is made of 5-16 inch single weave wire with four broad "Hartford" weave bands. This is fully supported by tempered helical wires mechanically to steel bands. The binding is the patent "Vermin Proof" binding. The helical wires are oil tempered and japanned. For sure clearance, each

DAVID SPENCER, LTD.

GEMMELL'S BODY FOUND.
 Remains of One of Victims of West Coast Drowning Accident Recovered This Morning.
 (From Monday's Daily's).
 A dispatch received from the West Coast this morning by the Dominion government telegraph conveyed the information that the body of C. T. A. Gemmell, the lineman who lost his life while attempting to make a landing from a boat near Jordan river, had been recovered. Provincial police are still searching for the body of Gus Swanson, Gemmell's companion at the time of the accident.
 The body will arrive this afternoon by the Tees. The funeral arrangements will be in the hands of the local lodge of Knights of Pythias, deceased having been a member of the Ladyamth lodge.
 By a strange coincidence the body was recovered by the man who was the solitary eye-witness of the tragedy of Friday last. J. McVickers, a lineman temporarily in the employ of the government. The corpse was discovered floating amongst the rocks at Slide Hill. The police are hopeful of recovering the body of Swanson also, though there is a possibility that it may have been carried out by the tide.

OPENS SUNDAY BALL GAME WITH PRAYER
 Minneapolis, Minn., Aug. 30.—Initiation of religious preludes to Sunday baseball games was issued here yesterday, when Rev. G. L. Morrell delivered a short prayer and address before the Minneapolis-Kansas City game at Nicollet park. Mr. Morrell was introduced by Umpire King.
 "The west," said Mr. Morrell, "is never content to be behind the east in any progressive movement and will not take a back seat when baseball religious services are considered. For myself, I usually do not attend Sunday

Minneapolis Minister Sees No Sin in Playing on the Sabbath.
 NANAIMO'S NEW JUDGE.
 C. H. Barker Succeeds Office Vacated by Resignation.
 The resignation of Judge Harrison from the county court judgeship of Nanaimo, which has been accepted at Ottawa, means the retirement of a judge who has seen over twenty years' service in this province.
 C. H. Barker, a prominent Nanaimo lawyer, has been appointed to the vacancy. The new judge stands high in his profession and should make a model judge.
 Miss Raymond, Belleville street, is entertaining Mrs. Kiddie, of Northport. The latter will leave on Wednesday for Seattle, en route for home

FIFTEEN PRO SURVIVOR ARR

Those Sav Night on

Ketchikan, reports obtained indicate that in the wreck of Shire Island. Several rescued for, casualties will be. The body of heretic rescues his key until lost his life to board of ships come board the steamer. The known C. E. operator. Pursuer Fred Quartermaster. Two other men to have been total seven. Survive Vancouver, ing with her steamer Ruppel noon to-day, the steamer heroic United gave up his summoning an Ohio. Briefly, as crew of the vessel's v the Ohio. Seattle's Yalmer port Aug Thursday mo of heavy rain a strong gale the submerge rows, known reef, and san forward. In the time way W. Mahoney bridge and T was Capt. A low. Immediated there were tw as she plough passengers, a wrenched by Time way to save a thing, deck clad as below deck passengers, the steamer struck and lifboats, which made ready. note that alim among the w to the work promptly ca foreigners to. The women safely lowered the men of t were taken of the doomed watchman, C mate, T. Coel last boat left was an explo which tore the sent the ship. The saved buoyouced a rock where t o'clock on T the steamer up and took. There they morning at 1 es Humboldt passengers 2:30 o'clock steamer Ruppel son Bay and passengers and. Fifteen. As near as statements of is probable the with the wred known desc. E. Stuebs, W. Eeles, Quarte son, a soldier, gers. Of the life in his wife with a life pr sending the " and answering Humboldt and location. It would not hav explosion, wh after deck app his head was showing the plion had re conscious and. The quarter a gallant effort soldier, who h friend, but fa evidently, and gerated. And the cabin and The body was recovered floated ashor from where t. The tale of to-day by md passengers ca of paths and big men and Ohio and t launched by fier Cochran very hon d work, his im save the shi very last mo tain and nigh pelled to leav vessel's side, picked up by the crew will