

## HIS HONOR'S ANSWER.

The reply of the Lieut.-Governor to the memorial of the business men who waited upon him is a clear intimation that in regard to his course on all public matters he intends to be guided entirely by the advice of his constitutional advisers. His Honor also made it plain that the memorial and the reply thereto being something which concerned the community, they should not be expected to be treated as private and confidential, but should be laid before the people. We don't know that anything has been brought out as the result of this correspondence that was not well known before, but we are sure there will be a feeling of satisfaction at the assurance that no unnecessary delay will be permitted in making an appeal to the people. The contention of His Honor that time should be given the electorate to consider the remedies proposed to be applied to end the past unsatisfactory state of affairs we hope does not contemplate the possibility of a ministry, the majority of whom have never represented any part of the people of British Columbia in the legislature, administering our public affairs for an extended length of time without an appeal to the people. The intimation from the Prime Minister and the Minister of Justice of Canada that an election should be held immediately, while probably not adding to His Honor's knowledge on the subject, should certainly be of assistance to him if he had any doubts as to the wisdom of allowing the expenditure of more money by special warrant than the exigencies of the case required. We believe the Lieut.-Governor will see to it that an election is held in time for the new legislature to pass supply and admit of the expenditure of the public funds in the usual way.

## PARTY LINES.

There is not the slightest doubt that Liberals and Conservatives are alike hopelessly divided on the expediency of introducing Federal party lines in the approaching provincial elections. The men on both sides who are responsible principally for the agitation are no doubt actuated from worthy motives, but we believe public opinion is against them, and that their efforts are doomed to failure. We know that an influential body of Liberals think party lines is the only solution of our present administrative complications, but it is equally clear that a still larger number think otherwise, and it is almost certain that the efforts of the section of the party in Vancouver who are so vigorously clamoring for the adoption of their views by the party at large will come to naught. On a question of this kind there can be no harmony until the matter is discussed in representative conventions and leaders chosen by the delegates. For the leading men of either party to arbitrarily decide to conduct the pending contest on Federal party lines in face of the apparent division of opinion among the rank and file would be to absolutely destroy the usefulness of the party organizations in the work for which they were primarily formed, to guide public opinion in Dominion questions. We think the Conservatives acted wisely in postponing action on this important matter, and we hope the Liberal convention which has been called in Vancouver will also see the wisdom of conceding that on this occasion the members cannot be expected to recognize the crack of the party whip.

## CONSERVATIVE PRINCIPLES.

We are at a loss to understand, we confess, the reason why the Conservatives of British Columbia are so anxious that the coming elections should be conducted on party lines, unless it be that they think they see in the divisions in the ranks of the opposing forces a chance to snatch a party victory. There is in the name Conservative nothing to conjure with in Canada at the present time. The record of the party is not one of which any one has reason to be proud. Since the days of the Pacific Scandal, when the government of the late Sir John Macdonald was turned out for corruptly selling the charter for the Pacific Railway to the late Sir Hugh Allan, the story of barter in charters and contracts for public works for the purpose of raising funds to corrupt the electorate has been almost continuous. Now that they are out of power and the old methods are beyond their reach, new and no less discreditable tactics are resorted to. When the Bowell government fell to pieces in 1896 from sheer rottenness within, the members conspiring one against the other for the attainment apparently of personal ends, and Sir Chas. Tupper returned in haste from England and forced himself into the premiership, he appealed to the country on a policy which stamped him as an unscrupulous demagogue. For the sake of retaining power he, on the Manitoba school question, deliberately attempted to array the people of Quebec against the rest of the Dominion. Rejected by the French-Canadians on account of the transparent dishonesty of his pretensions, the Tory leader and his organs have now set themselves to the task of pitting the English-speaking provinces against Quebec on the plea that Sir Wilfrid Laurier and his Quebec followers are disloyal to Britain. Rendered desperate, apparently, by the words of commendation from British statesmen at the action of Canada in the matter of the tariff preference and the South African war, the most shameless tactics are resorted to to discredit the Liberal Premier. Pointed out in Quebec as the man who should be

shunned for giving Britain assistance in the war, in Ontario he is held up as a traitor who would not, if he had had his way, have done anything at all. The more the press of Britain praise the Premier and compare his oratory with that of Pitt and Canning, the more abusive and the more contemptible in their methods the Tory papers of Canada become. Let any one read the remarks of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, published in the Times to-day, in reply to Mr. Bourassa's resolution condemning the government and judge for himself whether the man who can rise to such sublime heights of eloquence is capable of the duplicity attributed to him.

If the Conservatives who are so anxious for the introduction of party lines desire to appeal to the people on the record of the Tory party in Canada they are perfectly justified in their position; but if the only wish is for good, stable government for the province we fail to see how they propose to make out their case.

Mr. Russell, M.P., took a turn at Loyalist Tupper in parliament last week, which stripped him completely of the borrowed plumes in which he has been strutting. He demonstrated by reading extracts from his speeches and correspondence that the Conservative leader not only opposed Canada contributing money towards the carrying on of a war outside of her own territory, but that in 1885 he, while a minister of the crown, had insisted on stipulating while offering troops to Great Britain, that the entire cost of the same should be paid out of the Imperial exchequer. We do not say there is anything particularly discreditable to Sir Charles in this. He was supported by Sir John Macdonald and other prominent Conservatives in his position; indeed, we believe it was the general opinion of the country at that time that we should stand entirely aloof from European complications. It is the discreditable part which Sir Charles Tupper is playing at the present time that places the man beneath contempt. His record and that of his party is well known both in Great Britain and in Canada, and his posing now as the leader of the only loyal section of the Canadian people cannot deceive those who are aware of his readiness at all times to sacrifice Imperial or Canadian interests for the sake of grasping a few years of political power.

The annual report of the Canadian Pacific railway shows that the earnings, which ten years ago were \$16,552,528, this year reached the large total of \$29,230,038. After the payment of working expenses and fixed charges there was left a surplus of \$6,563,687, which enabled the company to pay the common stockholders a dividend of 5 per cent, something that a few years ago even the most optimistic hardly dared to hope for. The increase of revenue is largely due to the unprecedented prosperity of the country, but it is impossible to deny that the efficiency of the management also contributed largely to such a gratifying state of affairs. There are now 9,816 miles of road operated by this great corporation, and the summit of its ambition has not yet by any means been reached.

## DARING ROBBERY.

Three Men Get Away With a Satchel Containing 400,000 Francs.

Paris, March 20.—An audacious robbery of 400,000 francs was committed to-day from the Northern railway. The company, which three times weekly deposits large sums with the Bank of France, sent to-day 630,000 francs, of which amount 400,000 was in small bills. This was placed in a satchel and the money was conveyed from the station to the bank, which was in charge of two clerks. Before they started one of the clerks placed the satchel beside the coachman. Two men then approached and engaged the attention of the clerks and coachman, while a third man picked up the satchel and bolted away with it. The loss was not noticed until it was too late to apprehend the robbers.

## ENTERTAINING THE SAILORS.

Madrid, March 20.—The visit of the Argentine warship Presidente Sarment to Spanish ports is giving rise to repeated Hispano-American demonstrations. The vessel is now at Barcelona, where a bull fight and a municipal banquet have been given in her honor, and toasts expressing mutual sympathy were drunk. The crew of the Presidente Sarment has been invited to Madrid, where a series of fetes has been organized. The Queen Regent and Premier Silva will entertain them at banquets. The Spanish government is evidently anxious to tighten the ties between Spain and Spanish South America.

## TWENTY-FOUR LIVES LOST.

Buda Pesth, March 20.—Twenty-four peasants were drowned during a gale to-day by the capsizing of a boat in which they were crossing the Danube river from Kalosza to Paps.

## One Dose

Tells the story. When your head aches, and you feel bilious, constipated, and out of time, with your stomach sour and no appetite, just buy a package of

## Hood's Pills

And take a dose, from 1 to 4 pills. You will be surprised at how easily they will do their work, cure your headache and biliousness, rouse the liver and make you feel happy again. 25 cents. Sold by all medicine dealers.

## Kloochman Found Dead

An Indian and His Wife Arrested For Complicity in the Murder.

Assistant City Engineer Stuart of Vancouver Resigns—An Investigation.

(Special to the Times.) Vancouver, March 20.—The body of a kloochman named Mary Williams was found in the bushes this morning at the lower end of Granville street. Charlie Seymour, another Indian, and his wife, Susan, have been arrested for complicity in her murder. The body was not found until nearly 10 o'clock this morning, and so far no careful examination for marks of wounds has been made. There is a bruise across her face blacking both eyes, which may have been caused by a blow from some blunt instrument. Seymour and the woman were seen together near the place early last evening. Later Seymour was seen alone, and then had two pieces of rock in his hands. A party of men who met him made him throw these away. An inquest will be held this afternoon. The resignation of Assistant City Engineer Stuart was accepted last night by the City Council. Several aldermen said it was a case of "freeze out" on the part of the City Engineer. A special stipulation was made that Mr. Stuart should give evidence at the investigation to be held on Friday into the conduct of affairs in the city engineer's department. The United States consul has wired the treasury department at Washington Alpha to carry a customs inspector from Seattle or Dutch Harbor to Cape Nome.

## AIDING THE STANDARD OIL CO.

The Two Great Canadian Railways Admit They Discriminate in Favor of Monopoly—Senate Will Kill Redistribution Bill.

(Special to the Times.) Ottawa, Ont., March 20.—At a meeting of the railway committee of the Privy Council to-day the Grand Trunk and Canadian Pacific railways practically admitted discriminating in favor of the Imperial Oil Company in Canada, which is controlled by the Standard Oil Company. It was shown that the rate from Sarnia to Montreal for the Imperial Oil Company was 25 cents, while it was 35 cents from Buffalo, a shorter distance, and not only was this the case, but a reduction of one-sixth more was made on the Sarnia rate without in any way changing the tariff. It was a private arrangement. The rate was being done the rates from Detroit and Buffalo were also raised.

At a caucus of Conservative senators it was decided to throw out or mutilate the redistribution bill.

## BRITISH FORTIFICATIONS.

United States Adjutant-General Declines to Enlighten House of Representatives.

(Associated Press.) Washington, March 20.—When the House must today, Mr. Hull (Wash.) chairman of the committee on military affairs, reported back from that committee the following resolution introduced by Mr. Sulzer, of New York: "Resolved, that the secretary of war is hereby directed to inform the House of Representatives as nearly as possible what fortifications Great Britain is erecting, constructing, and completing along the northern frontier of the United States and at Puget Sound, and other places on the Pacific and contiguous to the state of Washington and the district of Alaska." The committee recommended that it lie upon the table.

The resolution had been referred to the war department, Mr. Hull said, and had come back with the following endorsement: "The information the department possess on this and like cases has always been held to be confidential and for good and sufficient reasons has not been made public. It is remarked, however, that Great Britain so far as the department is informed, is in no instance where erecting fortifications trespassing on our rights." (Signed) H. C. Corbin, adjutant-general.

## HAY-PAUNCEPOT TREATY.

Governments of Central America Opposed to the Davis Amendment.

(Associated Press.) New York, March 20.—It can be stated authoritatively that the State Department has been informed that all of the governments of Central America are opposed to the Davis amendment to the Hay-Pauncetote treaty, says a Washington dispatch to the Herald. In the opinion of the governments designated, the amendment places in the hands of this government the right to not only take measures for its own defense with reference to the canal, but permits it to use force "for maintenance of public order."

## WHEN HOPE'S GONE

Life's Not Worth the Living, South American Nervine Restores Hope and Perfect Health.

Four years ago Annie Patterson, of Sackville, N.B., had a very severe attack of La Grippe, which left her with a very acute form of stomach trouble. She had given up hope of a permanent cure when South American Nervine was recommended to her. She procured it, and in a very short time experienced wonderful relief. After taking six bottles she was absolutely cured. She says: "I believe it to be the most effective remedy for stomach trouble in the market." Sold by Dean & Hiscocks and Hall & Co.

## CANADIAN BRIEFS.

(Associated Press.) Montreal, March 20.—At an early hour this morning, Wilfrid Martin, an employee of an undertaking establishment of this city, committed suicide by shooting himself in the chamber's shanty at the corner of Prince Arthur street and Park avenue. Before committing the act Martin telephoned the Notre Dame hospital authorities to send the ambulance to 227 Prince Arthur street (Cabbies' shanty), as a man had been robbed and shot.

Simcoe, Ont., March 20.—The Liberals of North Norfolk have again chosen John Charlton as standard bearer in the next general elections. Mr. Charlton has represented this constituency for 28 years.

Toronto, March 20.—J. A. Auld, M.P. for South Essex, speaks in glowing terms of the tobacco industry of that country. He says that twenty-five factories in Canada are handling Canadian grown tobacco, which means that \$800,000, which formerly went to the United States, now finds its way into the pockets of Canadian farmers.

Quebec, March 20.—Investigation proves the murder committed in Laval, Montmorency county, a few days ago, to be groundless.

Ottawa, March 20.—The Supreme court had to adjourn for a week this morning on account of being unable to get a quorum, only four judges being present.

Toronto, March 21.—Andrew Tingle, yardman in Wilmore & Hillcock's lumber yard, died suddenly at the age of 80 years.

Counsel for Williams, the murderer of Varcoe, the grocer, is making every effort to have sentence of death commuted to life imprisonment.

Ottawa, March 21.—The Canadian patriotic fund to date amount to \$196,753.56.

It is understood the budget will be brought down on Friday night.

Montreal, March 21.—The Gazette, Conservative, says there are rumors to the effect that when Mr. Fielding brings down his budget he will surprise the country with a number of radical tariff changes.

Kingston, March 21.—Gunnery Lawler and McGregor, of B battery, are reported as deserters.

## NOTES FROM NANAIMO.

(Special to the Times.) Nanaimo, March 21.—A miner named James McKinnell was caught under a falling roof yesterday and badly bruised. Two props which were carried down with several tons of rock, crossed over the prostrate man in such a way that they were the means of saving his life. The employees in the various mercantile establishments in the city met last evening to make arrangements for a Thursday half-holiday this season. They enjoyed this privilege last season and will no doubt succeed in having the stores closed one afternoon a week this year.

## THE MARKETS.

(Revised every Wednesday.) There is no change in the market prices this week, although there is a large demand for seed potatoes and seed grain. The quotations are as follows:

Flour—		
Ogilvie's Hungarian, per bbl.	5.00	
Lake of the Woods, per bbl.	5.00	
Leitch's, per bbl.	5.00	
O. K., per bbl.	5.00	
Snowflake, per bbl.	4.40	
Snowflake Hungarian, per bbl.	5.00	
Premier, per bbl.	5.00	
XXX Enderby, per bbl.	4.50	
Grain—		
Wheat, per ton	27.00/28.00	
Corn (whole), per ton	25.00/26.00	
Corn (cracked), per ton	27.00/28.00	
Oats, per ton	28.00/29.00	
Oatmeal, per 10 lbs.	40¢	
Rolls (H. & K.), per sack	04	
Rolls (H. & K.), 70 sack	80	
Feed—		
Hay (baled), per ton	15.00/16.00	
Straw, per bale	5.00/6.00	
Midlings, per ton	20.00/21.00	
Brass, per ton	20.00/21.00	
Ground feed, per ton	28.00/29.00	
Vegetables—		
Potatoes (new), per 100 lbs.	1.00/1.25	
Water cress, per bunch	10¢	
Cabbage, per lb.	10¢	
Onions, per bunch	10¢	
Lettuces, 4 lbs. for	25¢	
Onions (pickling), per lb.	20¢	
Onions, per lb.	6¢	
Radishes, 2 lbs. for	10¢	
Carrots, per lb.	10¢	
Tomatoes, per lb.	10¢	
Cucumbers, per lb.	10¢	
Turnips, per lb.	2¢	
Fish—		
Salmon (smoked), per lb.	20¢	
Salmon (spring), per lb.	12¢	
Oysters (Olympian), per pt.	50¢	
Oysters (Eastern), per pt.	50¢	
Shrimps, per lb.	50¢	
Crabs, per lb.	50¢	
God, per lb.	80¢	
Halibut, per lb.	10¢	
Herring, per lb.	10¢	
Smelts, per lb.	10¢	
Flounders, per lb.	10¢	
Crabs, 3 for	25¢	
Farm Produce—		
Fresh Island Eggs	25¢	
Butter (Delta creamery)	25¢	
Best dairy	15¢	
Butter (Canadian)	18¢	
Cheddar, per lb.	12¢	
Hams (American), per lb.	16¢	
Hams (Canadian), per lb.	15¢	
Bacon (American), per lb.	17¢	
Bacon (Canadian), per lb.	14¢	
Bacon (rolled), per lb.	12¢	
Bacon (long clear), per lb.	12¢	
Shoulders, per lb.	12¢	
Beef, per lb.	80¢	
Mutton, per lb.	100¢	
Veal, per lb.	120¢	
Pork, per lb.	100¢	
Fruit—		
Jap. Oranges, per doz	150¢	
Jap. Oranges, per box	500¢	
Oranges, per doz	300¢	
Apples, each	10¢	
Lemons (small)	100¢	
Apples, per box	1,500¢	
Pears, 2 lbs. for	25¢	
Granberries, per lb.	125¢	
Muscades	15¢	
Wash. Naval Oranges, per doz	25¢	
Poultry—		
Dressed fowl (per pair)	1,500¢	
Ducks (per pair)	1,600¢	
Dressed Turkey, per lb.	20¢	
Duck, dressed, each	75¢	
Game—		
Brant, per pair	1,000¢	

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Jap. Oranges, per box	500¢	
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**SEE THAT THE FAC-SIMILE SIGNATURE OF EVERY BOTTLE OF CASTORIA**

**900 DROPS**

**CASTORIA**

**Vegetable Preparation for Assimilating the Food and Regulating the Stomachs and Bowels of**

**INFANTS CHILDREN**

**Promotes Digestion, Cheerfulness and Rest. Contains neither Opium, Morphine nor Mineral. NOT NARCOTIC.**

**Fac-Simile Signature of Dr. H. H. Pitcher**

**NEW YORK.**

**At 6 months old 35 Doses—35 CENTS**

**EXACT COPY OF WRAPPER.**

**A HAPPY FACULTY.....**

We have the happy faculty of pleasing all our customers. Whether your purchases are great or small they will receive our best and prompt attention. All our goods are guaranteed fresh and reliable.

**Fresh Island Eggs .....20c. doz**  
**Received every day from reliable farms**  
**Snowflake Flour .....95c. sack**  
**Three Star Flour .....\$1.00 sack**  
**Hungarian Flour .....\$1.15 sack**  
**Australian Butter .....30c. Pound**

**DIXIE H. ROSS & CO.**

**J. PIERCY & CO.**

**WHOLESALE DRY GOODS.**

**MAKERS OF**

**Topshirts, Underwear, Tweed Pants,**

**ETC., ETC.**

**WHITE LABOR ONLY EMPLOYED.**

**21, 23, 25, 27, 29 YATES STREET, VICTORIA, B. C.**

**FREE**

**DAISY AIR RIFLE**

We give this splendid rifle for selling our two dozen packages of our special 10 cent each. Each large package contains a nickel plated, carefully sighted and tested before leaving the factory. It is just the thing for target practice or for shooting rats, mice, sparrows, etc. Return this advertisement with your address and we will send you a rifle. Send money and we will forward your rifle all charges paid. The reason for selling these is short so order at once. Our Special Two packages sold themselves. Franklin Supply Co., Inc., V.T. Toronto.

**DEATH OF RUFUS SYLVESTER.**

Old-Timer Passes Away in Seattle Recently—Well-Known Here.

In the death of Rufus Sylvester, which occurred in Seattle several days ago, another member was removed from that rapidly diminishing band of pioneers whose names are indelibly associated with the exploration and development of this province. Of these hardy and energetic pioneers there was none more widely known nor favorably esteemed than Mr. Sylvester.

Born in Maine about 35 years ago, he became actuated by a desire to cast his lot on the coast, caused doubtless by the many alluring reports regarding the gold discovery in the different portions of the province. Upon his arrival he engaged in mining for a considerable time, but in 1871 he left Cariboo for the Peace River country, and engaged in mining and express between that country and the mouth of the Quesnelle during 1871, 1872, 1873 and 1874. When the excitement arising from the discovery of gold in the Cassiar arose he too caught the "fever" and went to that country, where he engaged in business and mining. He established three fur trading posts, one at the mouth of the Peace River, another at the confluence of the Peace and Liard rivers, and another to the eastward on the Mud river. He was quite successful in business, and in the latter eighties sold out the aforementioned posts with their stock to the Hudson's Bay Co. He afterwards engaged in business in Wrangell, where he established a sawmill, became associated with Robert Reid in the general store business and remained in this connection until his death. His remains were shipped to Wrangell, where they were interred.

Mr. Sylvester was a man of great energy and unblemished integrity, with which he combined a most generous disposition. Although not a resident of Victoria he purchased a great deal of merchandise from the merchants of this city. The old-timers of the city are unanimous in their expression of regret at his death. He leaves a family at Wrangell.

**ALLEGED EMBEZZLER ARRESTED**

James Goddard Taken in Custody by Local Detectives Yesterday.

James Goddard, for some time past employed as night clerk at the Central Hotel, was arrested yesterday afternoon by Detectives Palmer and Perdue on a warrant issued in Hamilton, Ont., for embezzlement in that city to the extent of \$2,500.

About a month ago Chief