

The Colonist.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 1899.

THE PROVINCE IN DANGER.

The following despatch has been widely published in Great Britain. We do not know who sent it out, but this is not very material.

The notification by the Imperial Government of the enactments of the British Columbia legislature against Asiatic immigrants has led to a very difficult situation in the province. There are over 3,000 Japanese in British Columbia, and their numbers are increasing by several hundreds per month. They, together with Italians and Chinese, have now almost completely driven out the Canadians from lumbering and work on the main roads. The feeling among Canadians against the Japanese is intensified by the latter's request to be accorded the franchise, after a moderate residential qualification. A revolt is threatened if this request is granted. Some reports describe a sharp racial conflict as inevitable.

This is a gross exaggeration in many respects. So far as the franchise is concerned, we have never heard it suggested that Japanese should be allowed to enjoy it. No one but British subjects have the right to vote in this province, and a proposal to allow aliens any race to do so, no matter how long they might be resident here, would not receive any support whatever.

Notwithstanding its falsity, the despatch will do a great deal of harm. Business men from this province who have recently been in London, and nearly all operators having financial connections there, agree that British Columbia investments are not regarded with favor. Several things have contributed to this. Among them were the adoption by the legislature, under the lead of the Semlin government, of the policy of repudiation, the needless precipitation of a labor question which has tied up many important mines, the evidence of socialism in the policy and administration of the government, and the loose and reckless talk of the ministerial press, which has taken care to let it be known that the industry proposes to take an antagonistic attitude towards the investing class, such as the avowed by the News-Advertiser that its party is bent upon inaugurating what it calls social reforms, which are only a lot of ill-considered experiments to deceive the laboring vote until after a new election. Such a despatch as this, forego, coming upon a nervous market, that is nervous so far as British Columbia investments are concerned, is calculated to do an immense amount of harm.

It will call for no effort of the imagination to see that, when on top of this extraordinary despatch word goes out to the people of Great Britain that a member of parliament, who is the son of the Lieutenant-Governor, has publicly declared his intention of resigning his seat, and has called upon the workingmen not to doubt as to the sincerity of political progress, but to take the law into their own hands and resort to acts of violence, the last straw may be added to the burden. People in this province do not in the remotest way connect the Lieutenant-Governor with his son's utterances. We are very sure that to do so would be to do the former a very great injustice, but people elsewhere will not know the local conditions, and may be excused if they read into the naked statement of the facts more than is warranted. For example, they may take note of the following facts: The Turner ministry, which is alleged by the present government party to have been representative of the capitalistic element of the population, was dismissed by Lieutenant-Governor McInnes for reasons which under the most favorable construction are open to doubt as to their constitutionality. The new ministry was made up of a party which was avowedly socialistic in its ideas. This ministry marked its assumption of power by the inauguration of paternal government and subordination of its policy to the demands of labor agitators. The Finance Minister has boldly declared in his newspaper that it is the intention of the government to inaugurate social reforms. When the question of disallowance of the anti-Japanese legislation came up, the government did not accede to the very strong representations of the Imperial government, and refused to consider the very adequate remedy offered, preferring to insist upon a demagogic assertion of rights which the legislature does not possess. The policy of the government alienated so many of its supporters that it finds itself in a minority in the legislature, yet it is allowed to continue in office, and the son of the Lieutenant-Governor makes a violent speech exhorting workingmen to rebellion. If public opinion in Great Britain connects the installation in office of a socialistic ministry by the act of the Lieutenant-Governor with the appeal of the Lieutenant-Governor's son for mob law, no one need be at all surprised. For ourselves, we are fully satisfied that no such connection exists, and we believe that no one will deprecate more strongly his son's extraordinary attitude than will Lieutenant-Governor McInnes himself. But the despatch above quoted, which has appeared in all the financial papers, shows how facts become exaggerated and distorted. The harm that will be done the province by the dissemination of such an idea in Great Britain cannot well be measured. A government which practices repudiation and is committed to the policy of socialism allowed to remain in power, although not supported by a majority of the legislature; a threat of serious racial troubles with the subjects of a friendly power; a member of parliament and the son of the Lieutenant-Governor of the province declaring himself ready to resign his seat and head a

mob—can worse things be said about a province?

The Colonist has addressed no appeal to Lieutenant-Governor McInnes in connection with the existing political crisis, because it is opposed to the needless interference of the representative of the crown in the political affairs of the province. But the facts set forth above are not of a political character; at least there is no party politics in them. It is very clear that His Honor ought to endeavor to discover some way whereby the evil that is being done to British Columbia abroad can be averted. An emergency of the gravest nature exists. His Honor's duty is to grapple with it. We shall not presume to suggest to him what course he ought to take, but it has become necessary to demonstrate to the world that British Columbia is not a hot-bed of socialism, racial discord and mob rule. It is the high privilege, as well as the grave and difficult responsibility, of Lieutenant-Governor McInnes to come to the relief of the province, of whose future he has always been so hopeful, and with which he is so largely identified. We are sure that he must appreciate the gravity of the situation, which has passed beyond the small question of whether one man or another shall be premier, and reached that stage where only a radically new departure will prevent disaster or at least the most serious set-back any province of Canada ever experienced.

MR. RALPH SMITH'S SPEECH.

Mr. Ralph Smith, M.P.P., made a speech at Rossland on Labor Day. Judging from the synopsis printed in the Rossland Miner, it is not a particularly strong speech, and it certainly was anything but violent. When we say "strong" we mean that it does not appeal very effectively to the judgment of unprejudiced men. For example, Mr. Smith likened a non-union workman to a deserter going over to the enemy in time of war, and therefore claimed that he was a fit subject for punishment. If an opponent of Mr. Smith should describe a non-union man as one who resisted the right of any man or combination of men to dictate to him how he shall employ his birthright as a free man to work for whom he wishes and for what he pleases, he would be very much nearer the mark. The day is not far distant when this will be the view that will prevail among workmen. Trades-unionism has done a great deal of good, but like all other movements designed for the betterment of social conditions, its tendency is to become a mere machine in the hands of ambitious leaders. In Great Britain unprejudiced observers already see the collapse of this system. What will take its place is not clear, but the good work it has accomplished will not be lost, and the common sense of employers and employed will find no difficulty in discovering something more to their mutual advantage.

Mr. Smith's second point was in denunciation of the paid delegate, whom he likened to a peace commissioner appointed by a government to settle terms of peace. The objection to this is that the paid delegate is usually employed in stirring up war. He is generally a man who professes to know that contented workmen are oppressed, and he manages to stir up strife where but for him there would be only peace and prosperity.

Mr. Smith spoke of "the public sentiment against a short working day." We do not think any such sentiment exists. We think the general sentiment of people is that an eight-hour day is long enough for men who have to do manual labor for wages. There are exceptional cases, where men cannot give value for their wages except by working longer than eight hours, but the general view is that they should be paid accordingly. In fact we think the public are fast coming to the conclusion that the unit of time and pay for manual labor should be the hour and not the day, whenever practicable. Mr. Smith has invented a grievance when he talks about "the public sentiment against a shorter working day."

We think also that he was talking at random when he professed to think that any one who wishes to deprive workingmen of the right to complain when they have reason to think that the conditions under which they are employed are dangerous. Perhaps in some places there may yet be a few employers who disregard the safety of their men, but they are growing fewer in number every year, and they are condemned by public opinion everywhere.

ADMIRAL PALLISER AND VICTORIA.

We reprint an article from the Army and Navy Record dealing with the relations between Victoria and Admiral Palliser. As the Record says the information from which it speaks has been obtained since the arrival of the Imperieuse in England, the conclusion is warranted that Admiral Palliser is himself its informant, and the illiteracy of the article confirms this suspicion. We must express regret that a gentleman in his position could be so extremely inaccurate. It is not accurate that what Admiral Palliser countermanded was a proposal to land a party from the ships at Beacon Hill. Capt. Finnis, R.N., who took great interest in the Queen's Birthday celebration, informed the Citizens' Committee that such a plan could not be adopted, but expressed his entire willingness to land a party at Beacon Point, which is perfectly safe place, and it was this which Admiral Palliser refused to allow. This completely disposes of the case for the Admiral, and it is not necessary to refer to the efforts which Capt. Finnis made to have the refusal withdrawn. The reference to the Queen's Birthday celebration on the occasion when the sham fight referred to took place, is also inaccurate. How Admiral Palliser marched men fourteen miles going from the B. & N. railway depot on Store Street to Beacon Hill and return must remain a profound mystery. The distance is about one mile. We should be very sorry to intimate that Admiral Palliser is not the popular officer which the Record says he is, but perhaps the Record may change its mind later. It has not had much to do with the gallant Admiral since the failure of a much-coveted event to happen during Jubilee year. There are some things that are enough to sour the most genial disposition, and Sir Henry St. Ledger Bury Palliser would have been, like Mrs. Eury 'Awkins, "a first-class nime."

THE NEW KEARNEYISM.

The new William Tell is probably by this time sorry that he did it. His bid to be "a dangerous man" has fallen extremely flat. Like the Bad Man from Badville, his pretensions to badness will wither under the ridicule of every one. His position is palpably nonsensical. When his mythical prototype pranced around Switzerland with his hat cocked to one side and defying Austrian tyrants, he had something to kick about. When his real model, the hero of the San Francisco sand lots, breathed out threatenings and slaughter, declaring his intention to blow up the docks and raise merry Hades generally, the wages of the average workman of San Francisco were about \$6 a week and hard to get at that. It is a foolish job to talk rebellion to men whose stomachs are comfortably full and who draw good pay with regularity. It will, we fancy, be difficult to excite the masses of Nansimo to such a pitch that they will want to hang Mr. Robins or induce those of Wellington to dynamite Mr. Dunsmuir. Our new Kearney will find his name is "Dennis" as soon as he tries to put his incendiary notions into practical shape. So far as Mr. McInnes is personally concerned, the Nansimo outbreak might be suffered to drop into the obscurity which it deserves. But there is something more to be considered.

The present government party, when in opposition, was distinctly socialistic in its ideas. This is no new statement to make regarding them. It was freely made at the time and was never denied. Mr. Semlin was not an active propagator of socialistic notions, but he no more gave his party its complexion than he gives his government its policy. The then opposition had for its spokesmen Messrs. Cotton and Forster, both of whom advocated socialistic principles, the latter because he believed in them, the former because he thought the surest way to reach office was to pander to the vote of the radical element. As soon as the Semlin government came in, evidence of socialistic principles being in the ascendant was at once manifest. It took the shape of concentration of power in the hands of the ministry to control private business, such for example as the order-in-council refusing to permit anyone to purchase public land except after explaining why he wanted it to the satisfaction of the government—an instance of the rankest kind of paternalism—also the authority taken from the legislature to permit only such persons as ministers thought fit to carry on hydraulic mining and the right to drive them out of business at any moment without compensation. These measures resisted every effort to bring capital into the province and clamored for the government ownership of railways. Some people have been inclined to attribute these things to Mr. Martin, but Mr. Martin only made use of what he found all ready to his hand; he did not originate it. In proof of what we say it is only necessary to refer to Mr. Cotton's speeches in the Cowichan campaign, a campaign not approved of by Mr. Martin. Mr. Cotton then appealed to the prejudices of the people against a large business concern, employing the stereotyped language of the socialist agitator. It is true that he was not sincere in this, and that he would not, as he would at any time during the past three years, have thrown himself body and soul into the arms of those whom he attacked, if they would have let him; but he was playing the role of socialist just the same, just as he played it during the session of 1897, when he spent his spare time intriguing to get Mr. Turner to take him into the cabinet. Since Mr. Martin was dis-

mised from the government, we find Mr. Cotton appealing to the support of unthinking men by falsely representing in his newspaper that a conspiracy of millionaires exists to drive white labor out of British Columbia, and later declaring that the social policy of the government so far put in force is only a beginning of what is intended. It is this sort of thing that makes such speeches as that of Mr. McInnes dangerous. Mr. Cotton's only hope to keep in power is by inflaming the minds of a sufficient number of voters by pretending to be the champion of labor. He cannot afford to permit himself to be outbid by Mr. McInnes. He will be more adroit about it than the Nansimo agitator. His ways are too slick to allow him to counsel a resort to violence. He will out-Kearney our new Kearney to keep office, but he will do it in a way that will not be so palpably anarchistic as that which Mr. McInnes has seen fit to adopt. If it were not for the socialistic attitude of the government under the leadership of Mr. Cotton, people would regard Mr. McInnes' outbreak with amusement, coupled with regret that a young man, who is not without ability and some elements that secure popularity, should have been in such haste to ostracize himself from public life.

CURRENCY PROBLEMS IN THE UNITED STATES.

At the present time the people of the United States are deeply concerned with the currency problem. It presents itself in two phases. One is the free coinage question, which is still advocated by the majority of Democratic politicians. The other is the question of paper money, which gives bankers, financial men and the business community a very great deal of anxiety. Mr. W. C. Cornwell, president of the City National Bank, of Buffalo, in a speech delivered before the American Bankers' Association yesterday, dealt with the latter phase of the subject at great length. He dwelt with emphasis on the danger of the existence of greenbacks to the national credit. At present the United States treasury is full of gold, but this is not its normal condition. In 1893, 1895 and 1897 the treasury was almost depleted. In 1895 the Secretary of the treasury said that he could not stand the demand for gold two days longer, but by good luck, as Mr. Cornwell puts it, the danger was averted. He very forcibly points out that the hazard may be the other way the next time a financial crisis comes, and the effect produced by the inability of the United States government to redeem in gold its promises to pay would be disastrous to business the world over.

Mr. Cornwell proposes that the treasury shall have a new department added to it for the redemption of greenbacks and other government promises to pay, and that these, when redeemed, shall not be paid out again. He also wants the law changed so as to deprive the treasury of its present power to redeem greenbacks with silver. These are very radical changes, and before they can be brought about public opinion will have to be educated to a much higher degree than it is now.

Mr. Cornwell does not think much of national bank notes, which he says are, from the business man's point of view, "the worst money in the world." The reason for this opinion is that as they are issued on government bonds as a security, it only pays to issue them when the bonds are low; that is, when business is dull, and then no one wants the notes, or more correctly speaking, the banks cannot afford to lend them. When times are prosperous and money is needed for use in business, it does not pay to issue the national bank notes, because then the bonds to secure them cost too much. He pitifully states the case thus: "Bond-secured notes money expand when not needed, and contract when needed." During the existing business expansion the national bank circulation has been contracting. Under these circumstances it is not surprising that Mr. Cornwell pleads for the establishment of a credit currency, which is what we have in Canada.

AN EDUCATIONAL TEST.

Hugh John Macdonald promises the people of Manitoba that if he is given control of that province he will introduce legislation requiring an educational test before people are allowed to vote. His idea is to prevent the Anglo-Saxon population of the prairie province from being swamped by immigration from continental Europe. There is very much to be said in favor of this. It might be advisable to extend the test so as to exclude from the franchise all illiterate persons, but this, of course, is not Mr. Macdonald's idea. What he proposes is that such people as Galicians, Donkchors and the like shall not be come enfranchised until they have become sufficiently familiar with the institutions of the country as to be able to read the English language. It is not suggested that ability to read English is proof of an intelligent comprehension of our institutions, but it is almost the only test that can be insisted upon. It is not proposed to disfranchise any person who was born in this country, no matter what his lack of educational advantages may have been. A very interesting question will shortly arise in British Columbia. There are in this province a number of "Native Sons" who wear the queue. Some of them are very nearly old enough to vote. Will they be allowed to register as voters? They will all probably be able to pass any educational test that can reasonably be prescribed.

B. C. Year Book 1897. By R. E. GOSNELL. Cloth \$1 50 per copy. Paper Cover... 1 00 per copy. WEB GRADES SUPPLIED. This book contains very complete historical, political, statistical, agricultural, mining and general information of British Columbia. Profusely illustrated. THE COLONIST P. & P. O., LTD. VICTORIA, B.C.

Hotel Badminton VANCOUVER. This Hotel is NOT closed, but running on EXACTLY the same lines as hitherto. The Orchestra plays as usual. W. H. Mawdsley, Manager.

MINERAL ACT, 1898. (Form F.) Certificate of Improvements.

NOTICE. Princes, Dechess, Counties. Yankes Blad, America Wonder, B. C. Wonder and Hope mineral claims, siting in the West Coast, Vancouver Island Mining Division of Clayoquot District. Where located—On east side "Tranquil Creek," Toino Inlet. Take notice that I, A. S. Going, agent for J. M. Ashton, free miner's certificate No. B. 19010, and M. P. Ashton, free miner's certificate No. B. 19012, intend, sixty days from the date hereof, to apply to the Mining Recorder for a certificate of improvements on the above claims, and further take notice that action, under section 97, must be commenced before the issuance of such certificates of improvements. Dated this 10th day of August, 1899. A. S. GOING.

NOTICE—Thirty days from date I, W. J. Harris, agent for the English Canadian Company, intend to apply to the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for permission to purchase 100 acres of land, situate on the South Fork of Granite Creek, Barclay District, commencing from the date hereof, to apply to the Mining Recorder for the purpose of obtaining a Crown grant of the above claim. And further take notice that action, under section 97, must be commenced before the issuance of such certificates of improvements. Dated this 10th day of August, 1899. W. J. Harris, English-Canadian Agency, Ltd. Aug 12th, 1899.

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PROVINCIAL

Grand Forks, Sept. 10. Superintendent of Twin, North Fork of current from the Perry Kootenay, where he properties at the request of the Perry creek St. Mary's river. It stream twelve miles from Grand Forks, B. C. The Antelope, Roy, St. Ger, Centre Star, As Cat fraction. He looking free milling, small ledges. Further he considers will probing properties.

"We were greatly improved of the twelve months," said present work in position. Number four drift is now being run within two months. Cut on the Surprise averages 85c per ton. Lone Pine has crossed drift is now being run running north and 80 Lone Pine has crossed soon be a reality, and we heard that the con for the Mountains down ad. In the early days work for the W. George Lisbury, of 8 paying his first visit to considers a great can employ of Marcus Dal Claas, Robbins and G Jane, are here for a public mine with the Phillips Cressor, who them. They stated it was not until a late Clark acquired the land Ryan, as well as treasury stock. Since paid \$70,000 in dividends and Robbins still retain the Republic mine. The are returning from a year's absence.

Alex. Dick, M.P., the land mining operator, has been looking over Rep "way," he says. Recently came under my increased the number pushing development six feet wide and found just been discovered gives average assay 4c. As a result of my of the opinion that there ment in the camp will months. To an outside there has not been as been expected considerable time that has elapsed discovered. The R. B. in which I am interested by a force of 15 men, 75 feet, and the drifting The ore at the surface cent. copper, 30 to 40 and small gold values, ing prosecuted is and Olan Jeldness, I an the Greenwood Mines, Pinhook, World's Fair No. 3, adjoining the V camp. We are doing ing work, including s the properties. On my I visited the Zee M. is looking well. The a compressor, will be ten days. A tunnel is feet to intersect the 300 feet. It has already one-third the amount Mr. Dick said that the way at Grand Forks, a public facility, and G. R. White, a well has purchased the Tig side of the north fork mountain, north fork of miles from Grand Fo has several fine and situated northeast of and, it is claimed, posse The bottom of an eight ore. The ledge has surface in five different owner was G. W. Wall possession of the mine then short-cutting. He Phil Sheridan, Chicago Chance, Earthquake, well known north fork The Local Canadian side of the north fork prizes five claims. Four on the ledge of the tunnel, which now run 65 feet further to depth of 35 feet.

John McAlman, who convict guard at the again in charge of prov frequency with whom escape from the chain McAlman led the ward the men over to him. has been arrested at prisoners in the gang six. Another amendment he made in prison rule prohibiting prison hocco while passing streets. There were three the firms doing business the East coast, the ownership of A. H. G. Neelands to the latter Angus who retired business, having sold his G. & Co., of Revelstoke an continue the business, was the purchase of business by J. A. McT of the business at and Ward streets—M.

THE END I. Probable Resumption Sloan—A Me Owns. A New Denver speed Spokesman-Review r "At last the end of is in view. A caucus owners was held in and, while no definite the question has not it only waits the com mine managers of the difficulty to arrive at a in mining circles for The general meeting of don Tuesday evening mine managers pass Denver to-day, and a semi-official meeti night. "The decision arriv Saturday was to res once, with the mine miners and \$3 for an hour shift. This is the union, and non- given the preference. This action is tak weakening the union all understood that the union is broken