The Colonist

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THE DAILY COLONIST.

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GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCEMENT.

Elsewhere, the Colonist publishes an open letter from Hon. James Dunsmuir to the people of British Columbia. It is not often that a Premier or Minister of the Crown takes such a course in order to lay his views or those of his government before the public. In Great Britain, important announcements are usually made at some public or semi-public gathering; and to a certain extent a similar method has come to be in vogue in Canada.

In this instance, Mr. Dunsmuir, who believes in making short-cuts, has chosen the newspaper direct as a medium for explaining his position and stating the policy of the government. On our own part, we recommend the decision as a wise one, and we believe it will be duly appreciated by those whom it is intended to reach.

The political events of the past year are sufficient justification for the course in question. The position of the government has been the subject of deliberate and persistent misrepresentation, and every effort has been made to create unjust prejudice in the minds of the electors. The impression has been assiduously conveyed on every hand that the government was without a policy, was inactive and existed only to draw salaries and advance personal interests. No credit whatsoever has been given for the work that has been done by any department, whereas we believe no government of British Columbia has accomplished so much in so short a time and has more fully redeemed its pledges upon taking office.

Under such circumstances many persons, including even friends of the Administration, regarded the continued silence of the government as a sign of weakness. Those who read the statements of Mr. Dunsmuir as leader of the government this morning—and we feel certain every citizen of Victoria and of the Province will feel it his duty to do so soon as he has an opportunity—will be in a position to judge whether such criticisms are merited. It was, of course, expected that sooner or later a statement would be made by the government, but we fancy few expected that it would be of so decided, important, and comprehensive a character as it is. Mr. Dunsmuir has taken the public fully into his confidence and freely and frankly expressed himself. He has outlined clearly and vigorously the political events which have transpired since the government took office, and has enunciated a platform broad enough and solid enough for every member of the Legislature to stand upon.

As might have been anticipated, there is no special pleading, and no demagogic appeal to any class of electors. The Premier firmly adheres to his own convictions, and submits a straightforward policy with which the people may compare all other policies. There is not an uncertain note in the entire statement. At the same time, no personal or political animadversions are indulged in, and there is the plain intimation that he holds himself ready to act in concert with all present or past supporters who can honestly accept the policy of the government on its merits, and who are anxious to remove political unrest or avoid further disturbing complications. In this and in other respects no more important political announcement has ever been made in British Columbia.

Apart, however, from the interest attaching to the explanation of the personal position of the Premier, the extremest interest will be felt in the announcement of two main facts:

That for the purpose of securing communication to the Similkameen and Boundary districts by way of Hope Mountain, on terms that will ensure the benefits of competition and prevent the possibility of the trade of those districts being monopolized by any one railway company, the Government has made a proposal to the Dominion Authorities at Ottawa to join hands in building, as a joint Government enterprise, the proposed line over which all railways may have full and equal running powers on terms to be mutually agreed upon; and

That the British Columbia Government has asked the Government at Ottawa for a convention to discuss fully, fairly and impartially the whole question of "better terms" for the Province. Mr. Dunsmuir, in this connection, points out what has never been advanced or taken into consideration before, that the cost of administration to the Government of British Columbia, owing to peculiar physical conditions, is about three times what it is in other Provinces; while the sources of revenue provided under the Constitution are practically the same. This alone would constitute a good and sufficient reason, even if we did not contribute any more revenue per capita than the Eastern Provinces, why the Terms of Union should be readjusted. To ask, therefore, for a convention is a plain and reasonable request that cannot in simple justice be denied us.

In addition to these matters of paramount importance, the Government announce through the Premier that they are prepared to deal fairly and comprehensively in respect to redistribution, and in a practical way with the questions of taxation and finance, the building of the Canadian Northern, shipbuilding, fishery development, cold storage and other matters; and to submit at the opening of the session a definite scheme of immigration and settlement on practical lines.

The announcement of such a programme at the present time cannot help but make a profound impression on the public mind and fully justifies the closing remarks of the Premier, as follows:

"Many other matters have had our attention and consideration, but I believe that in the foregoing I have outlined a sufficiently comprehensive and practical programme for any Government to undertake; and whether I remain in office or not, I trust it will be fully carried into effect. I believe it will have the thorough endorsation of the people of British Columbia, and to them I am willing to leave the decision as to whether this Government has been neglectful of their interests and has no policy except personal interest and office upon which to appeal for their support."

MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS.

There is no reason to complain of lack of interest in municipal matters, and even the school election has brought forth a good crop of candidates. This revival of interest in these matters is undoubtedly due, in a large measure, to the fact that the city newspapers have paid more attention to municipal affairs recently than has been their custom, and also to the discussions which have arisen in connection with the construction of the Point Ellice bridge and the school expenditures. An excellent feature of city politics is the series of meetings that is being held, and much credit is due to the people of Spring Ridge who, some time ago, set an example of assembling for a discussion of matters bearing upon the government of Victoria. In all the wards the voters will have a variety of candidates to choose from, and if out of so many excellent people a good council is not secured, it will be very strange indeed. In the South Ward the present Aldermen Cameron, Hall and Cooley are in the field again for re-election, and three other candidates have announced themselves, namely, Mr. G. H. Barnard, Mr. F. W. Vincent and Mr. Thornton Fell. We think none of these gentlemen have been actively identified with municipal work, and they are all well-known citizens of progressive views. In the Central Ward Aldermen Yates and Williams have announced themselves for re-election; Mr. Edward Bragg, Mr. Thomas T. Worthington, Mr. A. P. Luxton and Mr. William Humphrey are also in the field. Of these four, Messrs. Bragg and Humphrey have already been at the Council Board, and the electors need only be reminded of the fact to enable them to judge of their fitness for the position to which they aspire. Messrs. Worthington and Luxton are new men in this field, and each of them has a deserved reputation for progressive views. In the North Ward, Aldermen Beckwith and Kinsman are candidates for re-election. The new men in the field here are Mr. H. M. Grahame, Mr. Watson Clark, Mr. George Jeeves and Mr. A. J. McCandless. Mr. McCandless and Mr. Jeeves have been Aldermen and their record in that capacity is before the ratepayers. Mr. Grahame and Mr. Clarke are untried, but have an excellent standing in the community. Taking the candidates as a whole, they may be divided as follows: Present Aldermen, Messrs. Hall, Cooley, Cameron, Williams, Yates, Kinsman and Beckwith; ex-Aldermen Messrs. McCandless, Humphrey, Bragg and Jeeves; new men, Messrs. Vincent, Clark, Barnard, Fell, Luxton, Worthington and Grahame. It is hardly necessary to add that this list gives the electors ample scope for a choice, and the result of the elections ought to be a city council for the ensuing year equal in every respect to the best in the history of the city.

The candidates for school trustees, as far as announced, are Messrs. B. S. Oddy, Edward Arman Lewis, B. J. Perry, S. H. Matson, Beaumont Boggs, A. W. More, James Townsley and Mrs. Jenkins. There is yet time for others to come forward. The voters will have to choose four trustees, and it is important for them to bear in mind that, in view of the very large powers invested in the school board, the selection is scarcely less important than that of Aldermen. The general indisposition to seek election on the school board was more marked this year than ever, and was probably due as much to the recognized difficulty of the work devolving upon the Board as to anything else. The position of a school trustee is a thankless one, and the man or woman who voluntarily accepts it is entitled to the thanks of the community. The office calls for special qualifications, and we would urge upon the electors generally, in marking their ballots, to select those persons who are, in their opinion, and independently of all other considerations, best fitted to grapple with the very serious problem presented at the Victoria schools.

Other candidates than those mentioned above may yet be in the field, both for the position of Aldermen and School trustees, but, if there are none, the citizens ought to be able to make a very satisfactory choice from those already named.

DR. A. W. CHASE'S CATARRH CURE ... 25c.

is sent direct to the diseased parts by the improved Blower. Heals the ulcers, clears the air passages, stops droppings in the throat and permanently cures Catarrh and Hay Fever. Blower free. All dealers, or Dr. A. W. Chase Medicine Co., Toronto and Buffalo.

CURIOSITIES OF LOGIC.

Reference has been made in this paper to the proposition, attributed to no less a person than the Grand Lama of Tibet, that there is no such thing as time. According to this idea the history of the Universe from the beginning is simply like a picture seen by a flash-light. This is not different from the orthodox suggestion that to the Creator the Past, Present and Future are only an eternal present. Of course the idea is not wholly conceivable by a limited intelligence, but the attempt has been made to demonstrate the truth of it by taking the case of two men arriving at the North Pole from opposite points in the same instant of time. To one of these it would be tomorrow where the others was, and to the other yesterday where the other was, while to each of them it would be today where he was himself. Starting from this basis it is argued out most ingeniously that it is only a question of motion whether the actual moment is now or ten thousand years hence or ten thousand years ago. We have not space for the demonstration, and must content ourselves with saying that the locical process is without a flaw. An accepted proposition is that an infinite number of anything is equal to infinity, but it is evident that an infinite number of fractions decreasing in the following proportion: One-half, one-quarter, one-eighth, and so on, added together will be less than one. Another conclusion that is logically demonstrable is that no two absolutely straight lines can be drawn on the surface of the earth, which if prolonged far enough will not meet. This being the case, there can be no lines that are strictly parallel. This, we say, is demonstrable by the application of the strictest principles of logic. But perhaps the most extraordinary of all the curious demonstrations is the following: If the earth were to be enlarged in all directions simultaneously and indefinitely, it would follow that ultimately every part of the earth's surface would occupy every part of space, from which it follows that an infinite number of solid bodies can exist in the same space. As the proposer of this curious statement says, if such an enlargement could take place, there would come a time when we would see the Antipodes coming down upon us out of the sky. Such are some of the seemingly absurd conclusions reached by the application of the principles of logic to what is said to be the most exact branch of science. As the writer last referred to says, if there is such a thing as a "fourth dimension," that is, if bodies are something else than long, broad and thick, it may afford the explanation of these apparent absurdities.

THE POINT OF VIEW.

In the last issue of Harper's is an article discussing some mathematical anomalies, and the writer asks his readers to consider the case of a people who had no idea of any other dimensions of space than length and breadth. To such people the conception of the simple fact, that if a line is drawn far enough upon the earth its ends would meet, would be impossible. They could not grasp the idea of curvature upwards or downwards, although they could understand the idea of curvature horizontally. Therefore a line, which to such people would appear to be perfectly straight in every direction, and would be straight for all practical purposes, would to us be really a circle. The moral of this is that, perhaps in other things besides mathematics, things which appear to us to be straight may to others with a different point of view appear exceedingly crooked. "Judge not, that ye be not judged," is old advice and cannot be much improved upon.

We suppose that few men are so constituted that they can take an absolutely unbiassed view of anything, in which they have the slightest interest. We recall a certain prominent public man, who, after serving his province in almost every capacity open to a citizen, including the lieutenant-governorship, died full of years and honor. No one questioned his integrity under any circumstances that could arise, but he was so imbued with a sense of his own desire to do what was right that he could justify to himself acts, which in any other person he would have thought most reprehensible. His political opponents used to say of him that, like the heathen, of whom Paul speaks, he was a law unto himself. He was perhaps an extreme case, but probably there are many people in private life, who are as extraordinary as he was in public life.

Men's views are quite as often warped by their honest desires to do right as they are by their prejudices, and perhaps more often than they are by wrong motives. A man, who is scheming for a dishonest purpose, is likely to balance probabilities, to regard the acts and motives of others with discrimination, to apply the touchstone of reason to what others say or do. He knows he is wrong himself, and he is careful to study out the real motives of those with whom he is acting. Carker, in Dombey & Son, is a type of this class. He was scrupulously correct, because he feared the detection of minor irregularities might lead to the discovery of his plots. We often read of a trusted employee who turns out very badly. In some cases this may be the result of temptation, but possibly in many the qualities which inspired trust were only the precautions of the schemer to disarm suspicion. But a man who is really honest goes on his way, not troubling himself about the manner in which his actions may be interpreted, and such a person is very apt to allow his own convictions that he intends what is perfectly justifiable to mislead him as to the justifiableness of the means which he employs to accomplish his object.

So much for a person's views of his own conduct. When it comes to dealing with the conduct of others, he is apt to be governed by the manner in which it squares with his own plans. This may be entirely unconscious on his part; probably in the great majority of cases it is unconscious. Charles Reade has written a novel entitled, "Put Yourself in His Place," but not many people can perform the feat. Burns sighed for the power to "see oorsels as ithers see us," but the ability to see others as they see themselves would be an equally valuable quality. If we could do so countless misunderstandings would be avoided.

So we say that before we condemn the conduct of others, we ought, if possible, to place ourselves as nearly as possible in the same point of view as they occupy. Most people wish to do right; probably the great majority of them think they are doing right. If we would all learn so to regard the actions of those around us and to realize that in many cases the motives which we attribute to others they attribute to us, we would save ourselves a great deal of bitterness, make stronger friendships and promote that unity of action that is essential to social progress.

The Financier and Bullionist of London has a column special article devoted to British Columbia, and based upon the last report of the Victoria Board of Trade. The article is an appreciative one. We understand that the attention of the London paper was directed to the report by Mr. Hedley Chapman, of this city. What Mr. Chapman has done in this instance others might do, if they would take a little trouble. The report of the Victoria Board is really a very valuable compilation of facts for use outside of the province as well as a handy book of reference at home. Those of our citizens, who are in touch with British newspaper people could do a great deal of good by bringing it under their notice, as Mr. Chapman has done in the case of the Financier and Bullionist.

The Times has managed to get far enough out of the rut to concede that when the United States ship subsidy bill becomes law, it will be time to consider what Canada ought to do for the development of her commerce on the Pacific. This is where we ought to join issue with our contemporary. The action which the United States congress may take may be a reason why Canada should not delay action, but it is absurd to say that we should wait to see what is done in that country before doing anything ourselves. We thought the day of "looking to Washington" had passed.

The death of Mr. Richard R. Dobell deprives Canada of the services of an able and public-spirited man. It is very sad that so valuable a citizen should be cut off at the very height of his usefulness.

PILLSBURY'S GREAT MEMORY.

Chess Player's Wonderful Exhibition in Montreal in Blindfold Games.

H. A. Pillsbury, the chess expert, gave some remarkable exhibitions of his skill last week at the Montreal Chess Club.

Before dinner he played simultaneously 16 of the best local players and beat them all, and after dinner he had another series of simultaneous games without seeing the boards. Of these he won seven, lost four, and drew five. He may at other times have made better scores, but his performance was still marvelous, both as a feat of memory and as an exhibition of skill.

The evening began with the "blindfold" games. Sixteen tables were arranged in horseshoe shape, within which Pillsbury sat with his back to the room, gazing out of a window, smoking a cigar and sipping glass of water. The moves of each player were called out in turn by the officials, and Pillsbury called his own back again.

Of the sixteen matches he won seven, drew five, and lost four.

Though he had been playing all the afternoon and since 8 o'clock in the evening, after 1:30 o'clock, when the tournament was over, Pillsbury was asked some questions by one of the players about their games, which had been drawn. He at once sat down in his adversary's place, set up the men, and played the game out from beginning to the crisis from memory as quickly as he could move the pieces. He went faster than the record could be made out, and every move was remembered accurately and readily without a vestige of hesitation.

READ THE SIGNAL.

Her Answer Made Lord Kelvin Happy.

There is a romantic and pretty little story about Lord Kelvin's second marriage. In the early seventies he, then Sir Walter Thomson, was in West Indian waters on board his schooner-yacht, the Lalla Rookh. His first wife, the daughter of Mr. Walter Crum, of Thornlie Bank, had been dead about two or three years, and he had been absorbed in electrical engineering in connection with the Atlantic cable, the Brazilian and River Platte cables, and, lastly, with the West Indian cables. As a light recreation he took up the question of simplifying signalling at sea. To Lord Kelvin it might have been light work, but it was pretty puzzling to the minds of ordinary landsmen. He had been talking of it at the dinner table of a friend in Madeira, and the only apprehension that seemed able to grasp it was that of his host's daughter, a lady he greatly but silently admired.

"I quite understand it, Sir William," she said.

"Are you sure?" he questioned, half doubtfully. "If I sent you a signal from my yacht, do you think you could read it, and could answer me?"

"Well, I would try," she responded. "I believe I should succeed in making it out."

The signal was sent, and she did succeed in making it out and in transmitting the reply. The question was, "Will you marry me?" and the answer was, "Yes."

More cases of sick headache, billiousness, constipation, can be cured in less time, with less medicine, and for less money, by using Carter's Little Liver Pills, than by any other means.

THE OVERDRAFT.

The Times has concluded that there is not nearly so much of a financial crisis at hand as it thought there was, but it thinks the existence of a large overdraft is a good reason why the vacancies at the Executive Council should be filled, the Victoria election should be brought on and the House be called together in session. The connection between the overdraft and these things may be obvious to the Times, but it is not clear, we fancy, to any one else. The House has already considered the expectation of a large overdraft, provided that one might legally be made and voted Supply with the full knowledge of the fact. This cannot be undone, and we do not suppose any one wishes to undo it. Doubtless the overdraft must be met, but there is no very great hurry about that. It would probably be found by any one in possession of the data bearing on the point that the overdraft, which is a temporary loan, is under the existing condition of the financial market a much better shape in which to have the provincial outstanding indebtedness than any other. This is a matter of detail, which cannot be intelligently discussed without fuller information than either the Colonist or the Times can possibly have at its disposal, but is certain that, in the opinion of the government, it is wiser to carry along a temporary loan from the Bank than to place debentures or inscribed stock upon the market at the present time. For the exercise of its discretion in this particular the government is responsible to the House, and we have no doubt whatever that the discretion exercised will be found on examination to be sound.

As to the ways of meeting the overdraft, it may be mentioned that the government has already at its disposal sufficient authority to convert the temporary loan into a permanent charge. The borrowing powers conferred by Acts passed previous to the last session are not by any means exhausted. The Legislature recognized this, and in giving authority for making the overdraft provided as follows:

"Upon the receipt of moneys derivable from the proceeds of any loan authorized to be disposed of under the Loan Acts of the Province, not otherwise set forth in said Acts for specific purposes, the Minister of Finance shall apply the same towards the repayment of the overdraft, and no money thus received shall be appropriated or used for other purposes until the amount obtained by the authority of this Act has been wholly paid."

There is therefore ample authority for the government to go into the money market whenever it thinks the time opportune and make a permanent loan with which to cover the overdraft, but, as we have said, the time has not been opportune and so the step has not been taken. We are confident that the public will fully endorse the course of the government in this particular. We do not believe that even the Times will venture to say that a new issue of inscribed stock should be placed at present.

The Times asks why the credit of the Province is not as good as it was. The answer cannot be given in a sentence, and perhaps it could not be fully explained in a column. The reason is not all local, and local influences have had only a very minor effect. The political uncertainty, which the action of Lieutenant-Governor McInnes precipitated, probably had some effect in those circles in London in which British Columbia securities are dealt with, but our contemporary knows as well as we do that there has been a general decline in all government securities during the last two years, Consols sharing in it almost as much as any others. No sane man will claim that the delay in the Victoria election or the existence of vacancies in the cabinet have anything to do with the low price of securities generally in the London market, nor will he claim that if the demands of our contemporary in this connection were met, the money market would become more buoyant.

AT THEIR OWN GAME.

Russia Postponing Payment of United States Claims as Long as Possible.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 11.—The State department has received a copy of the sur-rejoinder of the Russian government to its last brief in the arbitration of the claims of American sealers growing out of the seizure of vessels owned by them, amounting in value to about half a million dollars, in the waters of Asiatic Russia. The Russian brief though extremely ingenius in the view of officials, is based entirely upon a plea already contravened by the United States, namely that the seizures by Russia were justified. The United States will make no response to the Russian briefs.

He says he's writing for a living now. I believe he is.
Why, he can't write.
Oh, yes. He can write: "Dear Father—Please send me another fifty." He does that about once or twice a month.—Philadelphia Record.

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PROCLAMATIONS.

(L.S.) HENRI G. JOLY de LOTBINIERE.
CANADA.

PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA.

EDWARD VII., by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and of the British Dominions beyond the Seas, King, Defender of the Faith, etc., etc., etc.

Our faithful the Members elected to serve in the Legislative Assembly of Our Province of British Columbia, at our City of Victoria,—Greeting.

A PROCLAMATION.

D. M. EBERTS, Attorney-General.

Whereas We are desirous and resolved, as soon as may be, to meet Our people of Our Province of British Columbia, and to have their advice in Our Legislature:

NOY KNOW YE, that for divers causes and considerations, and taking into consideration the ease and convenience of our loving subjects, we have thought fit, by and with the advice of our Executive Council, to hereby convoke, and by these presents enjoin you, and each of you, that on Thursday, the twentieth day of February, one thousand nine hundred and two, you meet us in our said Legislature or Parliament of our said province, at our City of Victoria, FOR THE DISPATCH OF BUSINESS, to treat, do, act and conclude upon those things which in our Legislature of the Province of British Columbia, by the Common Council of our said province may, by the favor of God, be ordained.

In testimony Whereof, We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent and the Great Seal of our said province to be hereunto affixed:

Witness, the Honorable Sir Henri Gustave Joly de Lotbiniere, K.C.M.G., Lieutenant-Governor of our said province of British Columbia, at our Government House, in our City of Victoria, in our said province, this 9th day of January, in the year of Our Lord one thousand nine hundred and two, and in the first year of our reign.

By Command.

J. D. PRENTICE,
Acting Provincial Secretary.

NATIONAL CELEBRITIES

Declare Pe-ru-na to Be the Greatest Catarrh Remedy of The Age.

Hon. William Youngblood, Auditor of the Interior, writes from Washington, D. C., to Dr. Hartman, Columbus, O., as follows: "I've often heard of your great medicine and have persuaded my wife, who has been much of a sufferer from catarrh, to try Peruna, and after using one bottle she has wonderfully improved. It has proved all you have claimed for it."

Hon. Rufus B. Merchant, Superintendent and Disbursing Officer, U. S. Post-office, Washington, D. C., says: "I take pleasure in commending your tonic, having taken a bottle of Peruna with very beneficial results. It is recommended to me as a very excellent catarrh cure."

Congressman David F. Wilber, of Oneonta, N. Y., writes: I am fully convinced that Peruna is all you claim for it after the use of a few bottles."

Congressman Irvine Dungan, of Jackson, O., writes: "I desire to join with my many friends in recommending your invaluable remedy Peruna to anyone in need of an invigorating spring tonic, or whose system is run down by catarrhal troubles."

We have letters from thirty-eight members of Congress attesting to the virtues of Peruna. Thousands of people in the common walks of life use it as a family medicine.

For book of testimonials address The Peruna Medicine Co., Columbus, O.

Senator John M. Thurston, of Omaha, Neb., writes: "Peruna entirely relieved me of a very irritating cough. I am a firm believer in its efficacy for any such trouble."

Peruna can be obtained for $1.00 a bottle at all first-class drug stores in Canada. "The Ills of Life," which can be secured at all up-to-date drug stores, and upon request is sent free to all, gives a short description of all catarrhal diseases. Address Dr. Hartman, Columbus, Ohio, U. S. A.

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Because we sell the very best Groceries cheap, don't think they are "cheap groceries." For the verification of this we refer you to any person that has dealt with us.

We have just received another shipment of (Ship Brand) Indian Curry and Chutney. Cashmere, Sweet Mango, Green Wenjo, Bengal Hot, Bengal Club, Col. Skinner, Major Grey.

Dixi Ceylon Tea, 35c. lb., is unsurpassed for flavor and liquor.

GRANULATED SUGAR, 19 lbs.	$1.00
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DAIRY BUTTER, lb	20c.
NAVAL ORANGES, dozen	25c.

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Buggies, Carts, Sulkies.

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NOTICE.

Tenders for Timber Limits.

Sealed tenders will be received by the undersigned up to noon of Saturday, 1st February next, from any person who may desire to obtain a lease, under the provisions of section 42 of the "Land Act," for the purpose of cutting timber therefrom, of a timber limit situated north of the Strait of Georgia and west of Howe Sound, and described as follows: Commencing at the northeast corner of Lot 919, Group 1, New Westminster District; thence west one mile; thence north two miles; thence west one mile; thence north four miles; thence east three miles; thence south four miles; thence west one mile; thence south two miles to the place of commencement; containing fourteen (14) square miles.

The competitor offering the highest cash bonus will be entitled to a lease of the limits for a term of 21 years after he has caused the same to be surveyed and marked on the ground in a legal manner.

Each tender must be accompanied by a certified cheque, made payable to the undersigned, to cover the amount of the first year's rental ($1,344.00), and the amount of bonus tendered. The cheques will be at once returned to unsuccessful competitors.

W. S. GORE,
Deputy Commissioner of Lands and Works.
Lands and Works Department, Victoria, B. C., 9th January, 1902.

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Busy Week.—Much time will have to be devoted during the coming week to matters political. On Monday evening the Liberals hold their convention to nominate a candidate to contest the bye-election. It will not from all reports be a love feast. There are three warring factions, and although two of them may be brought together and combine on a candidate, the other wing is not at all likely to be conciliatory. The following evening the Liberal-Conservatives meet for the same purpose and besides these conventions there are the elections for aldermen and school trustees, both of which are exciting some interest.