The Colonist.

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WINNING RESULTS

A telegram from Mr. Burrell, Minister of Agriculture, conveys the very gratifying information that the Veitch property in Saanich is to be the site of the Dominion government experimental farm. This is the property selected by the late government for the same purpose, but the transaction had not been completed up to the time of the late election. Mr. Barnard took the matter up vigorously on their arrival at Ottawa and found a responsive friend in the person of Mr. Burrell. The consequence is that a question, which has been kept in abeyance for a long time, has been promtply closed in a highly satisfactory manner.

It is a pleasure to be able to say that Mr. A. T. Goward, of the B. C. Electric Railway company, was instrumental in securing an offer of the land by the company at its cost price to the company. Mr. Sperling, the general manager, acceded to Mr. Goward's request, when the nature of the matter was explained to him. Doubtless the location of the farm along the line of the railway will be advantageous to the company, but it will be far more so to the public.

This is the third result which has been accomplished during the brief period that Mr. Barnard has been at Ottawa since the election. First was the assignment of Mr. Coste to the breakwater survey; the second was the mounting of the guns on Signal hill, and the third is that above referred to. This is a very satisfactory showing indeed.

CLINTON HOTEL LICENSES

The cancellation of the licenses of the two hotels at Clinton was an act for which Mr. Bowser will receive the praise of all British Columbians. We believe we are right in saying there is no incident in the history of British Columbia analogous to that which resulted in the death of Mrs. Barlow. It is almost inconceivable that in a province where the inhabitants are noted for their open-handed hospitality and their generous sympathies that a woman, in the throes of a deadly disease, should have been refused the shelter of a roof on the grounds that every room was taken up and that the other guests objected to have a consumptive in their midst. The action of the proprietor of the hotel was inhuman. It is altogether probable that had Mrs. Barlow obtained shelter her life would have been prolonged. The weather was bitterly cold and to subject her to exposure under the circumstances was about the most callous treatment of which we have ever heard. Mr. Bowser, immediately upon learning of the circumstances ordered an investigation the result of which supported the findings of the coroner's jury. His action was to cancel the license of the Clinton hotel. It subsequently came to his knowledge that the Dominion hotel in Clinton was controlled by the same man as owned the hostelry which had refused accommodation to Mrs. Barlow and the license of this was also cancelled. This was all the attorney general's department could do under the circumstances but it is interesting to note that action was prompt. We trust that it may never again be our duty to record a parallel instance of "man's inhumanity."

NAVAL PREPARATIONS

A London cablegram says: "The probability of a big naval loan in the near future is revived by the Pall Mall Gazette, which anticipates that $150,000,000 and possibly more will be raised supplemental to the usual naval estimates. It is urged that in view of the campaign in Germany in favor of an increased navy for that country it is necessary for Great Britain to show that she is determined to preserve the "2 to 1" standard. The provision of adequate docks for the Dreadnought battleships also necessitates heavy expenditure."

The Gazette is not a quarter to which we would look for any authoritative statement of the plans of the Asquith government, but it may very well be that there is substantial foundation for this report. Another telegram gave a rumor that the plans of the new First Lord of the Admiralty, Mr. Winston Churchill, contemplate joint action by the Mother Country and the overseas Dominions in providing for a programme of naval construction on a scale that would make Germany pause in her activity. The suggestion is that instead of a battle between ships, we are to see a war between purses. Whether or not there is any connection between this alleged programme and the somewhat sudden proposed departure of Mr. Hazen, Minister of Marine, to London we can only surmise. The atmosphere is full of possibilities.

A GREAT CANADIAN

It is proposed to erect a monument in Montreal to Sir George Cartier. The proposal is an excellent one, and we hope it will be carried into effect. The younger generation of Canadians knows very little of George Etienne Cartier, and yet he played a role in Canada scarcely second to that of Sir John Macdonald. The Montreal Herald says of him:

Cartier was before all a manager of events, a leader among his fellows. His task was not Lafontaine's task, and his strength, for he had strength, was of a different order. He was a master of the business of the hour. Without him Sir John Macdonald very likely would have had a great career, but it would have tended differently. Quebec had confidence in him, and at times he had to make heavy drafts upon the credit this gave him. Not once, but twice and thrice, and most of all at the time of Confederation, Quebec had to rely almost wholly upon his word in running what seemed to be some new risk. Men of his character and of his courage are rare. Men who serve so well and so long the political organization of their own fashioning are still more rare. It is from this the inspiration for a monument comes.

Those who remember that distinguished Canadian will endorse all that the Herald says. There was a time when his name was an inspiration and a strength to those who felt some doubt as to the success of the Confederation in the days when it was an experiment. Sir George died in 1873, and he was then only 59 years of age. He was a lawyer of great ability, a statesman of far-seeing judgment, a public man of rare adroitness, a scholar of no mean attainments, a poet with a fine fancy, and, above all, a courtly and honorable gentleman. Canada suffered a great loss when he was cut off in the very prime of his life.

CHEAPER CABLEGRAMS

The promised reduction on cable tolls has been received with great approval by the British press. We give the following extracts from leading newspapers:

The Times says it is hard to think of any other reform to more effectively unite our scattered Empire.

The Chronicle says it is a valuable addition to the pieces of sane, practical imperialism the present government has effected. Many will consider that cable rates might reasonably before long be reduced further. The alternative is the laying of a state-owned cable across the Atlantic, by which the United Kingdom and overseas Dominions would reap full advantage of the present Pacific cable. The postmaster-general further announces that he has made a condition of the transfer of landing licenses for cables that there shall be government control of cable rates.

The Daily Mail says that even now rates are none too low and Mr. Samuel must not rest on his oars. The News says the reductions do not of course end the matter, but are a long way towards the ideal penny a word spoken of by Mr. Lemieux.

For the purposes of newspapers on the Pacific Coast the reduction will be of no very great value, because the transcontinental rate added to the cable rate from the Mother Country brings the cost of special telegrams to so high a figure that they are practically out of the question as a daily feature of the news. Population is yet unequal to the support of newspapers in British Columbia that can afford to print special London telegrams. When Sir Edward Tennant was here not long ago, he expressed himself very strongly to the Colonist because the paper did not contain more London telegrams; but when he was told what they would cost, he withdrew what he had said. We mention this matter lest any one should suppose that a reduction in cable rates will enable the British Columbia papers to print more London telegrams. The cost is yet too great to permit such a service to be considered.

The comic papers in the United States have visions of Mr. Roosevelt getting ready for a campaign for a presidential nomination.

Standard Oil and the Tobacco Trust have been dissolved; but let no man lay the flattering unction to his soul that oil will be cheaper or tobacco less expensive.

Mr. Horne-Payne has said that London is just now inundated with wild Canadian proposals, especially in land and town property. This may be so, but experience shows it to be pretty difficult to say in advance that any Canadian land proposal is "wild."

United Labor is endeavoring to shake itself free of the McNamaras and all their works. In taking this course the officials are undoubtedly voicing the sentiments of practically all the members of unions; but it is idle for anyone to pretend that only one man was responsible for the Los Angeles outrage, as the McNamara ways, and means committee affirms. United Labor owes a duty to itself that will not be fully discharged until it has done everything in its power to have everyone responsible for that crime brought to justice.

It is reported in financial circles in the East that the Grand Trunk Pacific wants to borrow $15,000,000 from the government. A previous loan of $10,000,000 was made with very little opposition in the house.

MOTOR CAR STATISTICS

Motor car statistics unlike census returns belong to the category of those which do not pervert the truth. Hence it is that we feel safe in offering a few remarks on the figures dealing with these vehicles in British Columbia as printed in our news columns today. Victoria, that is Greater Victoria, which includes Oak Bay, Esquimalt and Saanich, has 604 motor cars. In Greater Vancouver the number is 1180. Estimating the population of the city and the immediately surrounding districts as 45,000 this gives us a motor car for every seventy-five persons. We have no means of guaging, but believe that this is an exceptionally high average, and furnishes a striking tribute to the wealth, and prosperity of this city. Indeed it would seem that speaking proportionately the people of Victoria are much more wealthy than the inhabitants of Vancouver. The average at the mainland centre of population works out at a motor car to every 110 persons. All told in the province there are 2,365 motor cars in use, and Victoria is responsible for more than a quarter of the total. During the past month we are given to understand that some hundred new licenses have been issued throughout British Columbia, and of these Victorians were responsible for seventy.

It is interesting to have the recommendations, which the Tax Commission will make, claimed in advance for the Liberals. As no one outside of the commission knows anything about what the report when completed will be, the claimant is taking long chances.

A suggestion to the Canadian Pacific: Buy a good corner on Government street and build a fine office building. You will not be sorry. You may remember how you hesitated about the hotel. Take a tip from The Colonist and buy and build now.

It is proposed in California to open all state offices to women. A measure for that purpose has passed the lower branch of the legislature without a dissenting voice. Well, everyone always knew that when a California lady makes up her mind to get anything she gets it.

Toronto seems to have "done herself proud" on the occasion of the ball in honor of the Duke and Duchess of Connaught. A Victoria young lady, who was present, writes: "I had never been in the Armories before and was surprised at the vastness of the place. It was thronged with beautifully dressed women and men in evening dress, kilts and uniforms. It was a very brilliant sight. When we first slipped out on the balcony overlooking the ball room, we simply stood still in amazement. So many lovely women I never saw and such sweet, pretty girls." She adds: "The Duchess looked lovely—so dignified and graceful."

The few dismissals of offensive partizans, which have been made since the new government came in, are of course being adversely commented upon by our Liberal friends. We think it will be found, when the whole story is told, that no official who has confined himself to his public duties and left politics alone, will be interfered with. On the other hand, if any one chose to take his office in his hand and participate in an election, he has no reason to complain if he loses when his friends lose. Politicians ought never to permit members of the civil service to engage in campaigns. It is unfair to them, and a candidate should give them to understand that they are to keep out of the fight.

There is not the slightest need for any one to remind the Colonist of the promised ferry connection between the Island and Mainland divisions of the Canadian Northern. That will be very valuable. We have spoken of its importance over and over again and expect to do so on future occasions. We are glad to be assured that "The Colonist should have no difficulty in securing the construction of a bridge across Seymour Narrows." We are told that "with governments at both Ottawa and Victoria in accord with its views," the task of this paper should be easy. We hope it will prove so, but we may say in passing that it is not rendered any easier by the indifferent and ever cynical attitude taken by the mouthpiece of the Victoria Liberals.

As everything relating to National ports is of direct interest to Victoria, we quote the Montreal Herald's report of what Mr. Monk, Minister of Public Works, said in the House of Commons: "The most generous and progressive treatment of ports was furnished by Hon. Mr. Monk, who replied. The work should have been begun long ago, and following out the Transportation Commission's recommendation that the ports of Halifax, St. John, Quebec, Montreal, the lake ports and those on the Pacific coast should be acquired by the government, nationalized and made free. If it cost twenty-five or thirty millions, or even twice the amount, it should have been done before this. A single port should not be selected, but all should be treated in a big general scheme and the thing undertaken at once if American competition was to be met."

Why Not Make Your Gifts Useful Gifts

Isn't it true that there are a thousand and one gifts given each year—that are just trifle gifts—that are of no use to those receiving them?

Why waste this way? Why not invest the gift giving money in lasting, satisfactory, useful things?

Such are the sort this big store offers and suggests to you—and the selection is so unlimited that the choosing is easy

Little things, big things, things for everybody. Prices most reasonable, and if the Christmas allowance be a trifle limited, we have pieces priced so small that it will enable you to do all that you may wish to.

Reasons enough why you should make this store your buying headquarters.

Chocolate Sets

Many Designs to Select From—Make Useful Presents

Priced from $3.00 Per Set

A Coffee Percolator or a Hot Water Kettle Will Make a Nice Gift

Surely you are not puzzling your brain wondering what to get for Mother this Christmas. Have you ever asked us to help you? Now, if you can't make up your mind what to get for Mother, or a lady friend, let us tell you that we have hundreds of different things that will be appreciated.

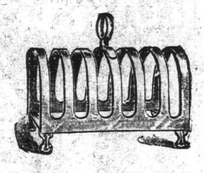
A Coffee Percolator would be a nice gift at a very reasonable price. Choose your style, from **$9.00.**

Another useful gift at a very reasonable price is one of our Hot Water Kettles with stand, in silverplate, nickle, brass or copper. A big variety to select from. Prices start at **$3.50.**

SHAVING MUGS 25¢

Shaving Mugs from **25¢** settles the gift question for some dainty decorated China.

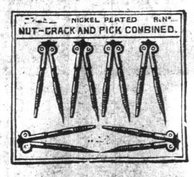
Moustache Cups, excellent line at **25¢.**



TOAST RACKS $1.00

Silver Plated Toast Racks in a great variety of designs. Prices range from **$1.00.**

Hundreds of gifts in silver here. Great values offered.



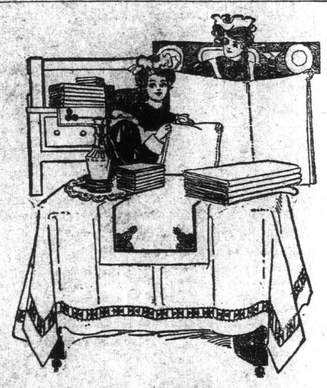
NUT CRACKERS 35¢

Nut Crackers are needed for Christmas, — several styles here priced at **65¢** and **35¢.**

Silver plated styles at **$1.00** and **75¢.**

Lots of China Nut Bowls.

Don't miss the 10c, 25c, 35c and 50c Counters



Linens, Cushions, Rugs, Down Quilts, Curtains, Carpet Sweepers

THESE ARE A FEW OF THE HUNDREDS OF GIFTS TO BE FOUND ON OUR SECOND FLOOR

Gifts for ladies in generous abundance on the Second Floor. Here you will find a host of articles dear to every woman's heart, and specially desirable as gift things to send the homekeeper. This department's offerings in Dainty Linens, Linen Drawn Work, Sofa Pillows, Cushion Tops, Cosy Corner Fitments, Hearth Rugs, Curtains, Down Quilts, etc., are bound to please.

It is impossible to adequately describe these many choice items and therefore useless to quote prices. The best and only satisfactory plan is to make a visit of inspection. You are welcome, and we promise that you won't be disappointed. A comfortable, convenient Rest Room for ladies on this floor. Make use of it during the holiday season. Welcome, whether a shopper at this store or not.

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WEILER BROS

The Right Store Because It Is Correct