

The Colonist.

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THE SEMI-WEEKLY COLONIST

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Six months75
Three months50
Sent postpaid to Canada and the United Kingdom.

RAILWAY CONSTRUCTION

The fruits of the provincial railway policy will soon be apparent. Some people are disposed to be a little impatient; they think events have not moved as rapidly as they should; but the building of nearly a thousand miles of railway through a province like British Columbia is no light matter. Probably all of us look for an earlier beginning, including the companies, the government and the public; but the delay has not been serious, for it has only amounted to a few weeks, and this is a small matter in such great undertakings as have been secured for the province by the wise policy of Mr. McBride and his colleagues.

We are frequently asked if we believe the Canadian Northern really contemplates construction on Vancouver Island. It ought not to be necessary to give any assurance on that point; but we can do so without any hesitation or qualification. We may add that we are also confident that the provisions in the contract of last session by no means embrace all that this company has in mind in respect to this island, the vastness of whose resources is only now being appreciated by the financial world.

MR. ELLISON'S EXPEDITION

Mr. Price Ellison, Chief Commissioner of Lands, is off for a trip that will be envied by a good many people. It is an admirable combination of business and pleasure. The establishment of a great reserve in the heart of Vancouver Island, which can be created into a great public playground and game sanctuary forever, is an act of policy of very far-reaching effect. It is not easy to estimate the benefit that will accrue to Victoria and the island because of it. Within a very few years a railway ride of four or five hours will carry a person from this city to a region of Alpine grandeur. We do not think many people appreciate what this means. There are higher mountains elsewhere than those around Butte's Lake, but it is to be borne in mind that the base of these mountains usually is not much above the sea-level. When we reach a mountain twelve thousand feet high at a distance from the ocean, we are apt to think it something very much more imposing than one several thousand feet lower elsewhere, but the grandeur depends upon the elevation of the region out of which the peak springs. Hence our Vancouver Island mountains really look higher to the observer than higher summits on the mainland. There is perhaps no other city on the sea-coast that is a tourist resort, of which it can be said that within what will be a short ride by rail after a few years there are grand mountain peaks covered with eternal snow and holding in their bosoms noble glaciers. The value of this fact as an asset in the future of Victoria cannot be overestimated.

Mr. Ellison is determined that this fine policy shall be better under the most favorable circumstances. He is going to see what the country is like so that he may be in a position to report to his colleagues what ought to be done. He is an experienced explorer. He asks no one to go to places where he is unwilling to go himself, and, barring accident, he will bring home with him a fund of information concerning the heart of Vancouver Island that will be of very great value. That it will be a splendid outing for him makes it all the better; but it will be an outing of very hard work. We congratulate him upon his decision to make this interesting and important exploratory trip.

CANADIAN CITIZENSHIP.

Yesterday everywhere throughout the United States there were the customary expressions of patriotism. These have lost a good deal of their effervescent character, and possibly the nation has been the gainer thereby. There are those who think they see in the decline of spread-eagleism proof that the people are less devoted to their country, but we do not think this is the case. Of late years our neighbors have risen to a higher appreciation of their duties as citizens of a great nation having world-wide interests, and this has had a sobering effect upon them. The only danger ahead is that which may arise from a loss of confidence in the sufficiency of the institutions of the country to preserve intact the priceless heritage of freedom and equality. It is not our intention to deal with the problems of our neighbors, but to point out to Canadians the duty resting upon them to avoid the danger which comes about from a depreciation of the moral tone of the state in respect to its public affairs. As individuals, Canadians will compare in point of morality with any people in the world; but there is some danger that they may fall short of their obligation to preserve the administration of the country free from corruption. Theoretically it has been claimed that the party system was a safeguard in this respect, that a watch-

ful opposition could prevent wrongdoing in high places. We do not say that our parliamentary oppositions do not serve this purpose to some extent; but the political history of the Dominion does not disclose evidence that this safeguard has proved as efficient as patriotism could desire. We are inclined to think that charges of wrongdoing are too freely made, that in the heat of party controversy suspicions are made to do the work of facts and that disputants in Parliament, on the public platform and in the press are too apt to assail their opponents on insufficient testimony. The consequence is that, hardened by the repeated assertion of corrupt dealing, the public ear grows deaf to things that ought to be listened to. Those who took an interest in the affairs of Canada previous to 1896 will remember that the burden of the complaint of the Liberals was the corruption of the Conservatives, and the result was that they remained in opposition for eighteen years. The public look upon their outcries simply as a case of "Wolf," and grew tired of paying any attention to the oft-repeated complaints. It was bad politics, it was unbecomingly partisan, for it accustomed the people to look upon corruption in politics as a thing to be expected. Conditions have not improved much in this respect. Now we have a constant repetition of the Conservatives of charges that the Liberals are corrupt, and if there is any response on the part of the electorate, the evidence of it is not apparent. We do not say that there are not abundant reasons for charging the Liberal party in power with unjustifiable extravagance, and the prosecution of lines of policy that have given the people small return for the money spent; but the repetition of charges to that effect render the public callous, and it is calculated to destroy faith in the government of the country. If we are to believe their opponents, every administration that has ever carried on affairs in Canada either provincially or locally, has been in the last degree dishonest, and we do not think such a position can be sustained.

But if a duty rests upon the Opposition in each political arena not to dwell too much upon unsupported charges of malfeasance, a much greater duty rests upon those charged with the administration of affairs to so conduct themselves that there shall never be just cause for such charges. In these days of strong partisanship, it is an easy thing to secure a verdict of acquittal from a parliamentary or legislative committee. Indeed the public have come to regard such a verdict as a foregone conclusion in the case of every inquiry. Governments do not aid in furthering wrongdoing, but on the contrary almost invariably bend their efforts to cover up all traces by which it might be brought home, if it really exists. We have especially in mind the investigations made in recent years by committees of the House of Commons. These have been very little else than farcical. The Opposition has done its best, but the government has always seen its place itself in the position of a defendant, instead of assisting in the inquiries and being determined to show either that no wrong existed or that those guilty would be brought to punishment. No one has ever yet suspected that ministers themselves have been personally guilty of wrongful administration, and we submit that if they did not always make the case of accused parties their own in a political sense, but had assisted in every instance in seeing that every vital fact was laid before the public, great good would have resulted. We think one of the strongest criticisms that can be directed against the Laurier administration is that it has been satisfied with what have after all been not much more than verdicts of "not proven" in parliamentary inquiries. Then this nothing can be more abusive of a healthy public opinion. If ever a political party arises in Canada that will relentlessly purge itself of every element that is tainted with intentional wrong or is found guilty of acts of administration calculated to weaken public confidence, it will hold power indefinitely, and what is far better, it will do more than can otherwise be done to elevate the standard of Canadian citizenship.

The obligation to preserve the respect of the people in the institutions of the country rests upon all, but necessarily infinitely more upon those who are in power than upon those who are not, for the opportunities of the former are greater. We are receiving thousands upon thousands of new settlers. It seems to us to be infinitely important to impress upon them that Canadian citizenship really stands for something; that it stands for honesty of administration as well

as for a pure judiciary. Candor compels us to say that the conduct of the Ottawa administration has not been calculated to develop such an opinion among those who are examining our public life for the first time. We say this not because we wish to be understood as making a general assertion that the administration has been dishonest or criminally extravagant; but because the ministry has allowed session after session to pass without taking the opportunity to demonstrate that no charges could be laid against it with any foundation in justice.

THE BOY SCOUTS

The Boy Scouts to the number of some two hundred are in camp along the old Esquimalt road a short distance from the junction of Head and Lamson streets. They present a very interesting spectacle, and they are unquestionably a fine-looking lot of young fellows. We feel that very much credit is due to the gentlemen who have interested themselves in organizing the several troops, and who are taking charge of them in camp. The impression produced upon a visitor is that the "organization" is a school wherein "a" being imparted lessons of the most valuable character. First there is the lesson of discipline. The boys are learning that obedience is not a badge of inferiority; but on the contrary is the best evidence of equality. The boy who obeys the young fellow whom he has selected as his officer honours himself by his obedience. The officer learns that obedience must be exacted not as his wish, but as a duty. Thus the obligation to give only such commands as are right and to learn to command is very first lesson to obey is one of the cardinal teachings of the Boy Scouts.

Then the boys are also being instructed in the duties of citizenship, one of the most important of which is to be prepared to defend our common country. They are learning that they can only fit themselves for this duty by careful attention to drill. They are learning the value of concentrated action. They are getting new light upon the efficiency of men to perform certain tasks. Accidentally they are being taught practical lessons of value. It is told that on Sunday, one of the lads tripped on a rope and fell upon a tent-peg, inflicting quite a severe cut upon his face. At once another lad put to use the rules of "first-aid," in which they have been instructed, and when the doctor reached the ground, he found the wound had been so well treated that it did not require his attention. The lads are being taught to prepare their own meals, and they are buying their provisions with money that they have earned themselves as a corps in different ways. They have not asked for public contributions, and do not want any. They are a thoroughly self-reliant organization. This is a fine thing. We can think of nothing that this community needs more than that its growing boys shall be taught lessons of self-reliance, for self-reliant boys are very likely to make self-reliant men.

We believe the Boy Scouts will be better citizens for the training they are receiving. They will have had before them high ideals. They will be encouraged to look upon themselves as owing something to their country. They will also receive lessons in patriotism of the right kind, not simply the patriotism that is blatant of the countries greatness, but that which springs from a sense of what is due to the land of one's birth or that wherein one's life has been cast. We have only good words for the Boy Scouts and for those who have aided in the formation and training of the several corps.

The references of our evening contemporary to the Attorney-General are of a character that will excite only a feeling of contempt for the paper that indulges in them. Surely the time ought to have passed in this province when it is considered good politics to load an opponent with abuse.

We venture the guess that priest-fighting has reached the summit of its popularity. Never again are the people of any country likely to become as enthused as the population of the United States and a very considerable element of the population of Canada were over the fight between Johnson and Jeffries. It is true that this enthusiasm was carefully and systematically "worked up," but that was a trick that cannot be played twice.

Mr. R. P. Purfoot, representing Collier & Sons, left yesterday via the Northern Pacific on a trip to Selma, Ala.

GLADDEN YOUR FEET

There's a whole lot of comfort for your feet for "Two Bits" if you procure

BOWE'S FOOT POWDER

Dust a little in your shoes, sprinkle some on the stockings. The comfort is worth ten times what it costs. This powder prevents formation of corns and blisters.

25¢ Here Only

Take Some on Vacation

CYRUS H. BOWES

Chemist

1228 Government Street

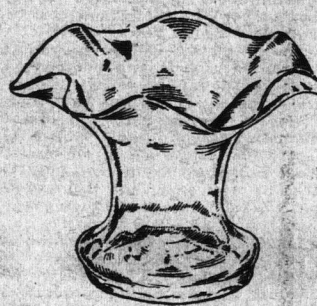
CAMP FURNISHINGS
AND EVERYTHING
FOR THE SUMMER
COTTAGE

WEILER BROS

HEADQUARTERS
FOR SUMMER
FURNITURE AND
FURNISHINGS

Webb's Superior Glass Vases

A Big Shipment of These Splendid Vases Just Received



A big shipment of Webb's English Glass Vases just received and now ready for you in the china store.

To many the mere mention of the name "Webb" when speaking of glassware, is sufficient, but to those as yet not acquainted with this name, we would say that it is superior to any of the productions of any other maker.

Take one of these little-priced vases in your hand, look through it and see what a lovely, clear glass it is. And the price is the same—sometimes less—than is asked for the ordinary quality.

Why not have the best quality when the price is the same?

We now have a very complete range of Webb's Glass Vases, and we'll be pleased to show you some ranging in price from \$1.50 to 15¢.

What About a Refrigerator? We Have Them Priced From Each \$12

Big Carload of Iron Beds Today

We Promise You Some of the Greatest Values Ever

One of the largest carloads of beds we have ever received has just arrived and is now being unpacked and the beds being placed on display.

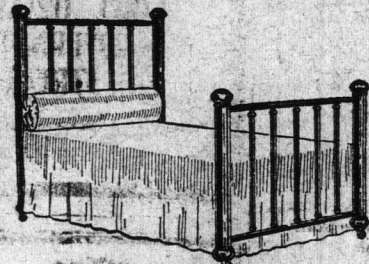
This is a carload of iron beds direct from the largest metal bed factory in the world, and we promise you not only the very newest designs, but also some remarkably interesting values. We are doing our utmost to have samples of these beds placed on display in our showrooms at the very earliest possible moment, and we suggest that you come in tomorrow—we shall have some ready for you then.

Buying beds direct in such large quantities enables us to quote best prices—to give better quality for the same money.

See the Handsome New Brass Beds

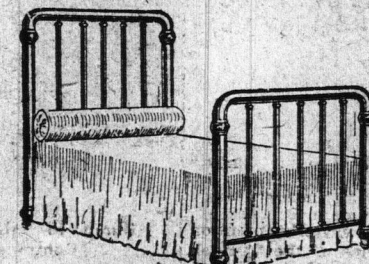
The Brass Beds just recently added to our fourth floor showrooms are certainly the handsomest styles yet shown there. Now that's saying a great deal, but the beds will fully bear out our statements.

If you wish to see something genuinely "classy" in the bed line, just come up and see these newest arrivals in brass. These beds represent, in actual weight in brass and in the quality of materials and workmanship that enter into their construction, THE BEST VALUES OBTAINABLE. Come and see them.



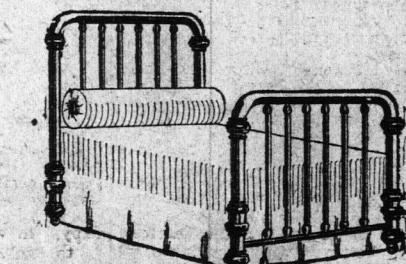
Brass Bed, \$24

Exactly as illustrated above
Brass Bed—Here is a great value in all brass beds. A neat, stylish design that is popular. Two-inch posts with five fillers in head and foot.
3 ft. 6 in. Priced at \$24.00
4 ft. 6 in., full size \$25.00



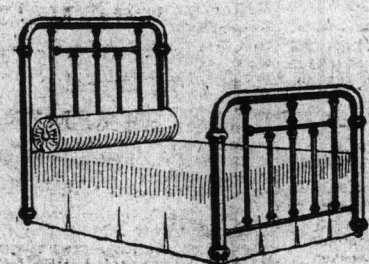
Brass Bed, \$30

Exactly as illustrated above
Brass Bed—A continuous pillar style. Two-inch posts with heavy fillers. Combination satin and brass finish. A stylish, strong bed, lightly priced.
3 ft. 6 in. Priced \$30.00
4 ft. 6 in., full size \$32.50



Brass Bed, \$40

Exactly as illustrated above
Brass Bed—Another continuous pillar style that is very attractive in design. The combination finish makes it a very pleasing bed style, and one you'll like at the price.
4 ft. 6 in., full size \$40.00



Brass Bed, \$50

Exactly as illustrated above
Brass Bed—This one has continuous 2-inch pillars with heavy fillers. Combination polished and satin finish—the hanks being polished and the balance satin. Makes a very effective combination on this bed. A strong, stylish bed \$50.00

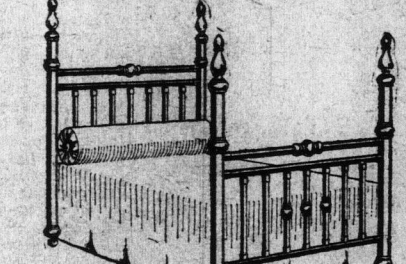
Brass Costumer

Brass costumers just received are particularly attractive in appearance, and are bound to be as eagerly sought as the last shipment we received.

These are very popular at the present time, and when in so see the new brass beds, don't fail to see these.

Choice of either satin or combination finish. Priced at—
\$20.00

See Our Stock of
CAMP BEDS
A Great Variety Shown



Brass Bed, \$65

Exactly as illustrated above
Brass Bed—A "four poster" style, and a style that is rapidly coming into favor. This is a genuinely "smart" design and a bed style you are sure to like. Combination satin and polished finish. Two-inch post with lots of heavy pillars \$65.00

Splendid Values in Mattresses and Bedding

We carry an excellent range of mattresses and bedding of all descriptions. In blankets, sheets, comforters, bedspreads, pillows, pillow cases, and all kindred lines, we offer broad assortments and values that are unsurpassed.

In mattresses the choice is also varied, for we have a range running from the common excelsior filled mattress to the most expensive hair mattress. You'll surely find your ideal in the lot.

Try An Ostermoor Mattress at \$15

Ever Seen Our Display of Reed Chairs—Splendid for Summer Service

Special Values in Camp Crockery

Here's an Opportunity to Get a Supply at Little Cost

On a special table in the crockery store we have gathered a lot of crockery suitable for camp service, and have marked these pieces at prices that'll surprise you in their "littleness."

These are the best quality ware, but are odd lines and remnants left from the year's selling, and we wish to clean out all such remnants, so offer them to you campers at most interesting prices.

Come in and see the variety and get a better idea of the bargains offered. You'll never get a better opportunity to secure camp crockery.

Soup Plates at, each 5¢
Plates at, per dozen, 50¢, or each 5¢
Cups, per dozen, 50¢, or each 5¢
Tumblers at, each 25¢
Bowls from, each 5¢

Soup Casseroles at, each 75¢
Platters, octagon shape, at each 5¢
Large Platters, blue willow patterns, at 60¢
Teapots, large size, at 25¢
Syrup Jugs at, each 25¢

Careful
Attention
Given to
Mail
Orders

WEILER BROS

Send for
Our Big
Catalogue
FREE

HON. M. GIFFORD
DIES IN LONDON

Was Director of British Columbia Electric Railway and Paid Several Visits to T. Province

FOR YEARS LED LIFE FULL OF ADVENTURE

Drove Team on C.P.R. Construction and Was Scout Riel Rebellion—Services South Africa

VANCOUVER, July 4.—The death of Maurice E. Gifford, a director of the B. C. Electric Railway company, was announced here today. Gifford was 61 years of age, and his health was not very good. Colonel Gifford, who was the son of the second Baron Gifford, an adventurous life until a few years ago. In an interview published in the New York paper while he was in America in April last he said: "I have done everything almost a man could do to make a living. You see, there were 12 or 13 children, and my poor mother was badly off, so some of us had to go and dig. I have been a cowboy on Wyoming ranch, I have done the painting and I have done hauling fact, when I came over here a year ago to make my fortune in Canadian woods I did almost any of the jobs I could get to turn a penny over."

Receiving his education on a training ship Worcester, he spent some seven years in the merchant marine, making voyages to India. He was landed in Egypt, the campaign against Arabi Pasha being in progress. He was employed as a laborer by Mr. Blagden, the correspondent of the London Daily Telegraph, the close of the campaign he made way to Canada, where he invested a team and did freighting along line of the C. P. R. then under construction. He also served as French's scouts in the Riel rebellion. Next came his experience as a Wyoming ranch, where he stayed a few years.

In 1890 Colonel Gifford went South Africa in the service of a company which had obtained concessions in Matabeleland. The company sold out and Colonel Gifford joined as scout the force that went against the Matabeles. He was taken prisoner by some of the natives. When the natives in 1890 he was commissioned as an officer by the British South Africa company, being mainly instrumental in raising the force that won the battle of Mafeking. He was then promoted to the rank of Major. On one occasion he and men were surrounded by Matabeles in the course of the fighting received a bullet in the shoulder which led to the loss of his right arm. For his services in this war he made C.M.G. In the public proceedings following the war he was made command of the Rhodesian Horse. The Boer war again drew Colonel Gifford to South Africa. He served as a staff officer in the Kimberley mounted corps, as intelligence officer to Lord Methuen, and as member of the force sent to the relief of Mafeking. This was the last of his military ventures.

Subsequently Colonel Gifford came interested in the B. C. Electric Railway company, serving as director of the company. In his capacity paid visits to British Columbia year after year. He was fifty years old at the time of his death.

AVIATOR KILLED

French Aeroplanist at Rhine. Five Hundred Feet With His Machine.

REIMS, France, July 4.—Chas. Wachter, a French aviator, was killed by the fall of his aeroplane yesterday. It was the opening day of the aviation week here. The weather was rainy, and the aviator was forced to land on a plain on which the course was located.

Nobody ventured out except Wachter. He was circling at a height of about 500 feet when the wings of his machine suddenly gave way. They folded up above the body of the machine, which dropped straight earth like a stone. Wachter's machine was driven into the earth, his arm broken and he was otherwise mangled. Death was instantaneous. His wife, mother and sister saw him fall.

Overdue Steamer Arrives.

BOMBAY, July 4.—The steamer Trieste, 10 days overdue, arrived under sail and with a broken propeller. The Trieste carried a cargo of 55 and 34 passengers. Fears the vessel had foundered in a storm had been expressed.

Lynching of Negroes

CHARLESTON, Mo., July 4.—It is believed no arrests will be made today following the lynching of two negroes late yesterday by a mob of infuriated farmers. The negroes were accused of murdering William Fox, a planter. Attempts of the sheriff and his deputy to protect the prisoners failed, and mob after breaking down the doors the jail, took the negroes into the courtyard and hanged them.

Decrease in Tuberculosis.

DUBLIN, July 4.—A substantial reduction in the mortality from consumption in this country was reported Lady Aberdeen at the special meeting of the Dublin city and county branch of the Women's National Health Association. In 1908 the decrease was recorded as 0.1, and though the figure represented 358 deaths less than that of the preceding year, it was not a great hope. But the downward movement has been continuous, and there is now the considerable and satisfactory decrease of nearly 1,000 in years to be placed to the credit of the crusade. This must give hearty encouragement to all engaged in the work.