

The Colonist.

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THE SEMI-WEEKLY COLONIST

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THE SESSION.

The session of the Legislature, which opened yesterday is likely to be one of the most important in the history of the province. It will mark the beginning of a new era of provincial development. The Canadian Northern contract of itself is a step of prime importance, and we are confident that, when it has been made public, the people of the province will be fully satisfied with the manner in which their interests have been safeguarded; but that arrangement is only the first step in a policy of development and it must be followed in due course by other measures, which will supplement what is therein provided for. The people of this province may rest assured that Mr. McBride is as fully alive as any man can be to the necessity of taking the steps required to place this province in a position to turn its vast resources and the advantages of its position to good account. He is not likely to be precipitate in the inauguration of new undertakings. There are lines of action in which "the more haste, the less speed," and railway development is one of them. While every encouragement ought to be given to those persons, if there are any such, who desire to build railways without government assistance, it seems to us to be the duty of the Premier and his colleagues to hesitate about lending the public credit to any company until they have become convinced that the undertakings, for which it is to be pledged, exhibit the best use that can be made of it. Therefore while we expect to see other railways than the Canadian Northern assisted at some subsequent time, we feel that before aid is given to them, the government ought to see that the assistance is to be devoted to the best possible purposes from the public point of view. But with this qualification, we feel safe in assuming that the legislation of this session will authorize what will only be a beginning of a prolonged period of active railway construction in this province.

But there are other matters than those involved in transportation to which the attention of the government cannot fail to be given and for which legislative sanction will have to be asked. We shall not specify them, and shall only say that those who suppose that because a railway extension has been made with the Canadian Northern and another with the Kettle River Valley people, Mr. McBride and his colleagues contemplate resting on their laurels, will find themselves mistaken. On the contrary, we anticipate the adoption of a policy in all lines that will be framed on a broader basis than any policy ever formulated by a provincial administration in British Columbia.

The scope for such a policy is practically unlimited. We are learning more and more every year of the capabilities of British Columbia. We are getting to know something of its agricultural resources, and as the provincial surveys have gone into new districts and reported on them, the evidence of the existence of a vast area adapted for settlement is multiplied. This of itself is sufficient to call forth the best efforts of a government, that is alive to its responsibilities and desirous of seeing the province take its proper place before the world. When we consider what is involved in the settlement of the great areas shown to be fit for colonization, we think we see a factor that would force the hands of an administration less desirous of devising a progressive policy than the present one is. We have spoken of the advisability of hastening slowly; but it may well be that events will so shape themselves that more rapid progress than now seems justifiable may be forced upon the government and the legislature. When once the march of progress has begun, it is surprising how rapidly unexpected things follow in its train. We have a specific in mind when saying this; all we wish to convey is the thought that, when once a government and legislature have committed themselves to an active and aggressive policy, opportunities for further action present themselves rapidly and the onward movement gains force with every step taken.

The government has a large sum of money at its disposal as the result of its admirable financial policy, and it will be the duty of the legislature at this session to vote it for those purposes which seem to be the most useful. Speaking without any intimation as to what will be proposed in the way of public works, we feel safe in assuming that the grants that will be asked for these during the present session will exceed by a very large amount any previous appropriations of the same kind. The undertakings that will be carried on in consequence of this cannot fail to have an exceedingly important bearing upon the opening up of the province. It is just as well for the public to begin to understand the magnitude of the proposition involved in the mere routine work of administering the affairs of British Columbia. The area over which expenditures must be spread is broadening with unprecedented rapidity, and

we believe it will be found that in this respect the present session will be what will appeal to the public and this is in the highest degree satisfactory. The net expenditure for the nine months was \$3,746,170.95, which is a little over \$40,000 more than that of the preceding twelve months. Of course the largest single item was for roads, streets, bridges and wharves, no less a sum than \$1,115,598.88 having been expended on these services during the nine months. In the previous twelve months these expenditures called for \$886,188.59. Here, however, as in the case of the receipts, it is impossible to make many useful comparisons. There is a gratifying increase in the sums available for public improvements, and no corresponding increase with the expenditures for mere administrative purposes. In other words, while the public have been enjoying a much enlarged expenditure on their behalf, the expense of carrying on the governmental machinery does not show any very marked advance.

The total liabilities of the province are \$11,863,324.41, of which \$10,322,246 is on account of provincial loans. Against this the province holds a sinking fund amounting to \$1,629,055.49, making the net debt on account of provincial loans \$8,734,091.51. The provincial loans all bear 5 per cent, except \$281,210 which bears 4 1/2 per cent, and is the balance of a loan contracted in 1887. The provincial liabilities over and above the provincial loans are on account of Dyking Debentures, the Nacup & Slocan railway bonds, deposits on account of intestate and other estates, and other minor items. It may be added that the outstanding balance of the 4 1/2 per cent loans is subject to conversion. It will mature in seven years.

One feature of the receipts is worthy of mention specially, namely, the amount of money received from the Chinese head tax. This during the nine months was \$301,560. In the preceding twelve months the receipts from this source were \$245,000, and in the next preceding year only \$18,800. This shows that the influx of Chitamen is increasing notwithstanding the head tax of \$500.

It is Mr. John Jarlaine, Leader of His Majesty's Loyal Opposition. His following is not large but it is eminently respectable.

The latest idea is to use electricity as an anesthetic. A sharp blow on the solar plexus is also said to be an efficient producer of insensibility.

A contemporary discusses why Mr. Oliver was not elected. The question is somewhat belated, but we think the answer is that he did not get enough votes.

The Vancouver World thinks the absence of an aggressive Opposition may make the position of the members of the government more onerous. There is something in that.

Either some one has been perpetrating a horrible joke or else Texas has redeemed her reputation for originality. It is said that Miss Maud Cue Cumberland has a date. But after all, what of it? Do not Mr. Cue-Cumbers make people double up quite often?

Unusual interest was taken in the opening of the House, yesterday. A new Lieutenant-Governor and a new Legislature had something to say about it. Our compliments to all and sundry. They looked and acted their several parts as if to the manner born.

The Legislature is not to lose any time in getting to work. In the days of auld lang syne, the late Mr. Speechup the Address in Reply to the Speech on the second day of the session would have been regarded as iconoclastic, and if you happen to be in doubt as to what that means, just think of the most dreadful thing imaginable and you will not be far wrong.

There is a movement on foot in some parts of the United States to lower, if possible, the cost of articles of food. One of the worst offenders against the welfare of the state is the meek and lowly hen. The crying need of the hour is a poultryman of Burbankian propensities, who can cross a hen with a herring so as to secure a reasonable output of eggs.

The question is not whether the Smith's Hill reservoir is serving any useful purpose; but whether it is the sort of reservoir that the ratepayers thought they were going to get when they voted the money to pay for it. That is the first question. The second is as to what can be done to make the reservoir what it ought to be. A third question is as to where the responsibility for the partial failure rests.

Hail That Hack!

Do not let it get away from you—stop it.

If you don't stop it, it may get away with you.

It's one of the after effects of "La Grippe." It may develop into a cough and become chronic. Then you'll be sorry you didn't take Bowes' Ferrated Emulsion of Cod Liver Oil. \$1 bottle here only.

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THE great question which ought to interest you is whether or not you get furniture and furnishings values for your money. Matters not whether you buy for a palatial home or for a modest flat, it pays to give attention to this question. You don't want furniture and furnishings that begin to break and fade with first use—you don't want furniture that goes to pieces after little use. You don't want a poor imitation of GOOD furniture. It's easy to cover up defects and deceptions, and it is to protect you in the buying that we offer the suggestion that you give the matter careful thought before purchasing. It pays to buy guaranteed goods. We stand back of every article that leaves this establishment—back of it, ready to make good if it doesn't. Customers are fully protected by a guarantee that comes from a house that has been doing business here for 47 years. When you want anything in these lines come here first.

Investigate Our Offerings—Compare the Values

We court inspection and comparison of values. On the home's complete equipment we claim to be able to save you money on the initial outlay—to say nothing of money saved through superior wearing qualities of our offerings. We list here a few suggestions for four rooms—come and see the offerings.

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|-------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| The Parlor | The Bedroom | The Diningroom | The Kitchen |
| Parlor Suites | Iron Beds | Extension Tables | Refrigerators |
| Odd Chairs | Chiffonieres | Dainty Buffets | Enamelware |
| Reed Chairs | Bedroom Suites | China Cabinets | Tinware |
| Parlor Cabinets | Ladies' Dressers | Dining Chairs | Kitchen Tables |
| Parlor Tables | Carpet Squares | Beautiful Linen | Bin Tables |
| Rich Carpets | Fiber Matings | Rich Carpets | Kitchen Cupboards |
| Beautiful Squares | Bedding | Finest Silverware | Kitchen Chairs |
| Handsome Curtains | Curtains | Charming Curtains | Linoleums |
| Drapery Materials | Brass Beds | Beautiful China | And the "kitchen things." |

A Trio of New Buffets Worthy of Inspection

A trio of pleasing new buffets just added to our stock of dining-room furniture. These are those dainty, small style pieces appreciated these days. Not necessary to remind you of Weiler quality and superiority. Come in and see the pleasing designs, then you'll better appreciate the values these pieces represent.

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| BUFFET —In Golden Oak Finish. Quarter cut effect. Has 1 long drawer and 2 small drawers, 2 cupboards and a large bevel plate mirror with top shelf. A splendid low-priced buffet \$25.00 | BUFFET —This is a very neat style in selected oak, finished a pleasing golden. Has bevel plate mirror, 1 large and 3 small drawers, 2 cupboards with leaded glass doors. Priced at \$40.00 | BUFFET —This is a neat little buffet of selected oak—finished in golden. Has 1 large drawer, 3 small drawers, 2 cupboards and a large bevel plate mirror of best quality. Priced at \$50.00 |
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Just a Few Linoleum Remnants Remain

Just a few linoleum short-lengths remain—remnants of remnants, as it were. If you haven't already profited by the big savings offered in linoleum and oilcloth remnants you should bring along the size of your bathroom, hall, pantry or kitchen, and choose a piece at once. You'll save half or more. Come in today—they may be all gone tomorrow.

This Is the Season for Chocolate Sets

The card season—the time of small parties—is the season for Chocolate Sets. Serve the chocolate in these dainty chocolate cups and it'll taste better. There's something about dainty china that makes tasty morsels even more tasty if served from it. We offer a wonderfully complete assortment of sets from which you'll find it easy to choose one to fit into your artistic ideas and one that'll work no financial inconvenience. We show chocolate sets in HAVILAND, LIMOGES, WEDGWOOD AND RUSSIAN CHINA and chocolate pot. Also in Royal Saxe, Prussian and less renowned makes. A big choice of decorations. Sets consist of 6 cups and saucers.

SETS with china tray at, per set \$7.50

See This Special Show of Teapots and Jugs

WE offer a special exhibit of new teapots and jugs on our first floor today—an exhibit you should see. These include the best productions of one of the largest of the many British makers—in Jet, Rockingham, Stone, Mosaic bodies, and floral decorations. A magnificent range of banded patterns. Tea made in these sort of teapots is always better than if made in metal pots, and the prices are easy enough to permit every home getting one. There's always room for one more jug. Here's an excellent opportunity to secure the pick TEAPOTS, priced from, each **15c** JUGS, priced from, each **15c**

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SOVEREIGNS OF

Richard I. is possibly the figure among the sovereigns who was nevertheless the least liked. He was born at Oxford country seems to have seen it all, as a foreign land. He ruled it, if he can be said to have ruled it. He ruled it after his accession to the crown that he might be crowned, a might be recrowned after his German prison. When quite invested with the government domains in the southern part of France. After some serious talk, Henry, Richard took prepared for a crusade, but he delayed until after his father's coronation was a gorgeous affair, as has served as the model for all accidents of the same nature in the past, and for this purpose sold king freedom from fealty to the church and conferred great concessions. He then sailed for the five years was not again on English soil. He was the theme of many a story, and his return journey by the Archduke who handed him over to the Emperor VI, his recognition by the Emperor, his ransom and his return to his familiar tobery one. A generally known is that he did not Emperor for the English crown, rendered into the Emperor's hands, he received it back as his vassal. This than his English subjects would the vassalage was ended by a action. Richard spent a few months restoring order, for the somewhat disturbed through the his brother John, and then, gathered funds he could, he set sail for conclusions with King Philip of He never returned to the kingdom years he and Philip strove for superiority, exhausted, agreed on a truce. Richard was slain by an besieging the castle of a rebellion died in 1199, after a reign of ten years.

Richard has gone down into Coeur de Leon, and the title has centered around his name a halo. The title was bestowed upon him, suppose, because of his intrepid page. He would, indeed, have been a descendant of the family of the Count of Anjou if this had not been highly developed in him. valor was too common an attribute of those days to be singled out because he possessed it. Richard of the Lion Heart of his relentless disposition, his war and, of course, for his absolutelessness as well. Like the rest of a family, he was by nature ferocious, vicious, a bad son and a bad husband. He was generous and possessed little or no faculty for guile and seemed incapable of formulating plans. No one knew his mind in this respect better than himself, and this knowledge he made possible development during his reign of institutions, which we are accustomed to call.

Hubert, Archbishop of Canterbury, virtual ruler of England during the reign of Richard. He had only one commission, and that was to raise as much as was possible for the purpose, in place, of carrying on the Crusade, and place, of ransoming him from the Emperor, and in the third carrying on the war against Philip. Englishmen took only a minor part in the operations of their king, and his fighting was done by mercenaries who pay the English people a freely, though not always as willingly desired. Hubert, with rare sagacity, was hopeless to enforce contribution, and with the desire of prevention as far as possible invited the participation in the government of the common representative assembly was constituted. It is certain that some of the contribution towards the person of the king were appointed by some of the members were chosen by the people, but in whatever way it was brought about, Hubert, with splendid sagacity upon it the responsibility of deciding everything of a public nature, including levying of taxes. Thus was laid the foundation of British representative government, the right of the common people to the of the tax-imposing power. It is true that the right was not very clearly defined, but it was there, and it was true, also true that the right was declared keeping with the ancient rights of the of England. It is true, indeed, that the sovereigns paid little attention to this control of the right of taxation. Nevertheless the foundations of the system were laid, and it is interesting to note that in 1910, more than seven centuries after the recognized the existence of this right, the of taxation by the Commons is an issue. Later in Richard's reign, the tentative body, under the guidance of the bishops, refused to sanction any levies for the maintenance of the army of France.

While, personally, Richard did nothing for the advancement of his country and his only legacy to it is his name and an ord of valiant, though profitless, achiev