

Complaint To London

Reputation Policy of Semin Government Making This Province Notorious.

United States Formally Protests Against Confiscation Under Allen Act.

Senate Expected to Guard Electors Against the Gerry-mander.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Ottawa, May 20.—The United States government has made formal representations to the Imperial government in reference to those American miners who recorded claims in the Atlin county under British Columbia mining licences before the passage of the Martin law. The fact of these men being deprived of their rights constitutes an element of unfairness about the measure.

The Electoral Job.

Further consideration of the Gerry-mander bill only serves to convince the Conservatives of its iniquitous character. The prospective action of the Senate is being greatly discussed. Sir Mackenzie Bowell declines to say what action the Conservatives of the upper house will take.

Mr. Nosse for Corea.

It is officially announced that T. Nosse, formerly Japanese consul at Vancouver, and now stationed at Chicago, has been transferred to Fusan, Corea. Mr. Nosse spent several weeks here recently, and the announcement of his transfer to Corea has been received with general regret, as it was hoped that Japan would create a consulate at Montreal and appoint Mr. Nosse thereto.

Trade Statistics.

Imports increased \$2,500,000 in April, and exports fell off \$300,000. W. E. Scoble, secretary of the Board of Trade, reports on June 15.

TO EXPLORE ALASKA.

New York Capitalist Equips Expedition Representing the Great States of Learning.

Portland, May 19.—A large party of eminent scientists of educational institutions of the country will leave Portland about June 1 on an exploring expedition in Alaska. This will be one of the largest scientific expeditions ever organized in America, every facility for thorough and practical investigation. It is said that this work will be of the highest value in showing the resources and natural capabilities of Alaska. The expedition is organized by William Harriman, the prominent New York capitalist, and is intended to explore the railroads and industries. Nearly every institution of learning of prominence in America will have one or more representatives in the party, which will be absent at least two months.

MANITOBA AND NORTHWEST.

Stable Falls on Young Farmer—Van Horne as a Farmer—For Safe Robbery.

Winnipeg, May 19.—(Special)—The Morden Liberals re-elected D. N. McMillan as candidate for the legislature at a convention held today.

The condemned prisoners, Czuby and Gusezinski, act abominably as usual. The latter has decided to accept the ministrations of a Galician priest, who consequently will be the only one admitted to his cell.

A young farmer living alone on a homestead near Gainsboro, N.W.T., was found dead yesterday in his stable, a portion of which had collapsed while he was working there.

J. H. Jenkins has been arrested charged with having robbed the Arlington House safe of \$152.

J. A. J. McKenna, secretary to Hon. Clifford Sifton, is to accompany the Indian commissioners to the Athabaska district.

KRUGER IN FRIENDLY MOOD.

Hopes That Arrest of Alleged Conspirators Will Not Disturb Friendly Relations.

London, May 19.—In the House of Commons today the secretary of state for the colonies, Mr. Chamberlain, gave the names and the identity of the men arrested at Johannesburg. All of them, excepting Themblett and Faies were former non-commissioned officers in the British army.

He added that President Kruger had informed the British agent at Pretoria that there was no proof that the prisoners were British officers and that in any case the incident would not be allowed to disturb the friendly relations existing.

ATBARA BRIDGE.

Cairo, May 19.—The last portions of the Atbara bridge, the contract for which was awarded to a Philadelphia firm, have left Alexandria and will arrive at Atbara in about three weeks. The bridge will be finished before the arrival of the usual floods.

SAILOR'S BRAVERY.

Southampton, May 19.—The mayor of this city has presented to Capt. Watkins and the other officers and crew of the American line steamer Paris medals and gifts in recognition of their rescue of the crew consisting of 22 men of the British steamer Vindobala on December 27 last in mid-ocean.

CAPTAIN CULPABLE.

Halifax, May 19.—The court of inquiry which investigated the loss of the Allan steamer Acadia at Loughsborough, C. B., rendered a decision today. The captain is declared responsible for the loss of his vessel, and his certificate is suspended for six months.

"Did she make you feel at home?" "No, but she made me wish I was."

A JEW BAITER MOBBED.

Disorderly Scene Following His Acquittal on Charge of Inciting to Murder.

Paris, May 19.—After the acquittal of the notorious Jew-baiter, Max Regis, on a charge of inciting to murder and inciting to riot, a mob of 2000 men, a hostile crowd followed him to the railway station, compelling the authorities to protect him with soldiers. A mob then marched to the Officers' Club, cheering for Dreyfus and Picquart, jeering and hooting the officers, who turned a hose with a shower of stones. Several officers were injured by the mob. The rioters were finally dispersed, after a number of policemen had been hurt.

On the news of the acquittal of Max Regis reaching Algiers, which city he was former mayor, a mob formed and marched on the Jewish quarter, and the police and military had to be summoned to quell the rioters from wrecking Jewish houses. Fifty arrests were made before the mob was dispersed.

MINING TRANSACTIONS.

An Investment in Pend d'Oreille—Work Resumed on White Bear at Ross-land.

Rossland, May 19.—Work was today resumed on the property of the White Bear. The workings are filled with water and will take about ten days to clear. The intention is to deepen the shaft to the foot level. Crosscuts and drifts will be made. The property was taken over by Senator Wark, who was suspended on February 1 the men work in the mine. The mine is in good financial condition and will be able to find large ore bodies in a short time. The mine is in good financial condition and will be able to find large ore bodies in a short time. The mine is in good financial condition and will be able to find large ore bodies in a short time.

TRIED TO BUY A JOB.

New York, May 19.—The Commissioner of the New York State Fire Commissioner's Office, who is now called to court.

BRADLEY-MARTINS FLITTING.

Saved From New York Taxation on Two Hundred Thousand Dollars Personal Property.

New York, May 19.—President Feitner of the tax department today said that Mr. and Mrs. Bradley-Martin had appeared before him last month and sworn off their assessment of \$200,000. They simply made affidavits in the fire department. It is alleged that Scannell secured this money upon the strength of representations he made regarding his relationship with the commissioner.

CATHOLIC POLITICIANS.

Movement to Retire Mr. Hartly Halted Until Next Fall.

Toronto, May 19.—The Executive of the Catholic Liberal convention, in view of the opposition which will be met by parts of the province, due they say to misapprehension of their motives, have decided to postpone their convention, which was to have been held next week, until the second week of September, when the Toronto industrial exhibition will be in progress.

THE PACIFIC CABLE.

New South Wales Also Protests Against Imperial Change of Front.

Sydney, May 19.—The New South Wales cabinet after considering the Pacific cable propositions, have disagreed with the Imperial proposals and agreed with the Canadian idea, that the cable should be jointly owned and not subsidized. This decision has been telegraphed to other Colonial Governments.

BUILDING TRADES' STRIKE.

One Thousand Men Quit Work in Winnipeg to Help the Carpenters' Demand.

Winnipeg, May 20.—(Special)—The building work in the city, of which there is so much to be done, is practically at a standstill. Fully one thousand men have quit work, including 340 carpenters, 230 bricklayers, stonemasons and masons, 200 teamsters, 120 team owners, 10 laborers and 40 plumbers.

With the exception of the plumbers, all have come out in sympathy with the carpenters, who struck work three weeks ago with the moderate demand of men, but they worked so energetically that soon they had almost every man who worked properly called a carpenter on the striking roll. A compromise was continually expected, but the employing contractors held out against the demands for a minimum rate of 30 cents per hour, until the present crisis has been reached. The bricklayers went out today.

QUEBEC'S SWELL HOTEL.

Quebec, May 19.—The basement of the Chateau Frontenac was damaged by fire late last night to the extent of several thousand dollars.

FRASER UP A FOOT.

Lillooet, B.C., May 19.—The river has risen about a foot today. The weather is mild.

LIKE LESLIE MAJESTE.

Elmira, Ont., May 19.—Speaking here last night with Mr. Whitney, opposition leader, Dr. Lachner, Conservative candidate for North Waterloo, said the judges who had unseated him in the courts for treating did not know their business.

TAXATION OF FRANCHISES.

New York's Governor Would Give Power to State Instead of to Municipalities.

Albany, May 22.—The New York state legislature was called together today in extra session by Governor Roosevelt in order that some amendments to the Ford franchise tax bill may be passed. The bill at present allows municipalities to tax franchisees bestowed upon gas companies, street railways and the like, as real estate. The governor is desirous of transferring the power of taxation to the state authorities so that it shall be uniform throughout the state.

RACE IN AUTOMOBILE.

Cleveland, May 20.—An automobile started from Cleveland for New York today in an attempt to break the horseless carriage time record between the two cities. The route selected is about 300 miles in length.

Boer Police Faked It.

Plot for a Rising in the Transvaal Was of Their Creation.

Commissioner Who Was the Prime Mover Now Forced to Resign.

But Appeals to Raad for Reinstatement—Kruger's Son Involved.

By Associated Press.

London, May 22.—The Johannesburg correspondent of the Morning Post in a despatch dealing with the recent arrest of former British officers on a charge of conspiracy to promote a rising, says he is now convinced that the conspiracy was primarily one of Boer officials of which Police Commissioner Schutte was the prime mover.

Schutte, who evidently used President Kruger's son as a tool, has been forced to resign, but will appeal to the volksraad for reinstatement.

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CARPETS, RUGS, ART SQUARES

WELER BROS., Victoria, B. C.

Three Killed in War Eagle Shaft

Loosened Bolt Allows Lift to Drop Over Three Hundred Feet.

Two of Five Passengers Miraculously Survive—An Inquest in Progress.

By Associated Press.

Rossland, May 20.—At 12:30 this morning a terrible accident occurred in the main shaft of the War Eagle mine, whereby four men lost their lives.

At the hour started Mike Crook, W. F. Schofield, H. A. Honeyford, James O. Palmer and Thomas A. Neville entered the shaft at the 250-foot level. The engine in charge, Robert Hall, started the machinery, but the nut holding the main bolt on the starter lever worked off and the bolt fell off, throwing Hall on his back. Control was lost of the hoist, and it dashed down to the foot of the shaft, 350 feet.

When the rescuing party climbed down they found Honeyford, Palmer and Neville quite dead and smashed almost beyond recognition. Crook and Schofield, the latter very badly and the former only slightly hurt, were taken out of the mine by the Iron Mask tunnel and conveyed to the Sisters' hospital. Schofield died at 1 o'clock from his injuries.

Mike Crook, however, has almost recovered. He was able to give an account of the accident. He said that he was able to leave the hospital in a day or so.

Superintendent Hastings said today that the five men were among the best of the mine, and were all fine fellows and good workers. Schofield was an Oakville man and a member of the Canada College boys. Crook was an International Scotland-England football player. Honeyford was an active member of the Salvation Army in Rossland. Palmer and Neville came here from New Brunswick. All the men were unmarried. Schofield was married to a girl from the States. The provincial government wired Corporal Bowers to hold an inquest and inquest jury sent here to watch the case for them.

The inquest was opened at 3:30 p. m. Monday, but after viewing the bodies and inspecting the machinery at the mine the jury adjourned until 2 o'clock on Monday.

Inspector McGregor is now on his way here, and a thorough investigation will be held. Seven men have lost their lives as a result of this accident.

It is proposed to give the unfortunate men a public funeral to-morrow. The disaster has upset business and created a gloom in the town. The War Eagle closed down, but will start up again on Monday.

NO SENTIMENT IN THIS.

Americans Will Receive Filipino Peace Proposals but Keep Ready to Strike Aftersh.

Manila, May 20.—The Filipino commissioners called on Major-General Otis this afternoon and arranged to meet the members of the American commission on Monday when they expect their colleagues will be arrived. The chairman and secretary of their commission have been chosen. Major-General Otis has declined to recognize the rebels to the extent of agreeing to an armistice, but he has notified the American commanders to refrain temporarily from aggressive action. This he is in a position to resume hostilities at any time. This will defeat any subterfuge to gain time, which would not be the case of the General agreed to an armistice.

The Filipinos are so deceptive that people hesitate to credit with good faith their latest overtures. More attention is now paid to them than was paid to their previous advances, however. The Filipino commission is acting under instructions from Aguinaldo and the congress but it is possible that if peace is arranged, Generals Luna and Pio del Pilar and their followers will continue guerrilla warfare.

At Iloilo an attack on the Americans was recently expected. The Filipino leader boasted that he had two thousand men and 10,000 botomen and sent an ultimatum to the American commander ordering him to leave the island. An armistice was left the over during several days after.

The outposts were doubled and in addition the Yorks and the Iris announced in positions commanding the mouth of Jara river, where the attack was expected to take place, but it failed to materialize.

FRASER STILL RISING

A Foot Higher in Twenty-Four Hours and Warm Weather Coming.

Quesselle, May 20.—The river has risen ten inches during the last twenty-four hours. The weather is a little warmer.

Lillooet, May 20.—The river has risen about a foot since morning. The weather is warmer.

GEORGIAN BAY CANAL IN FUNDS.

British Capital Backing All Canadian Outlet From the Great Lakes.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Ottawa, May 22.—The Georgian Bay canal people meet business. McLeod Stewart, the promoter of the enterprise, has returned from England with strong backing and \$200,000 has been deposited in the Bank of Commerce here as evidence of bona fides.

It has been decided that Canadians who served in the Fenian troubles or the first Red rebellion, and also in the last Northwest troubles, will get two medals instead of one medal with an extra clasp as originally proposed.

Mr. Hadrill, secretary of the Canadian fire underwriters association, has written the city clerk setting forth that the proposed manufacture of calcium carbide in Ottawa constituting an element of danger which may affect fire risks. He urges the city council to look into the matter and take action thereon.

The Senate sat a couple of hours today and disposed of many private bills. Senator Wark, a nonagenarian member, raised an interesting discussion about a division of labor with the Commons.

Mr. Mills said he would endeavor to see if the Senate could secure a large share of business in the early days of the session.

PEACE DELEGATES ORGANIZING

An American Member Sanguine of Agreement Respecting Mediation.

The Hague, May 22.—The disarmament committee of the conference meets at 10 o'clock to-morrow morning, the committee on laws of warfare meets during the afternoon of the same day, and the committee on arbitration meets on Wednesday. The chiefs of the delegates have had frequent conferences with a view of arriving at an agreement in regard to the choice of officers of the committees, but apparently many difficulties have arisen, as nothing has been finally settled. Many false and exaggerated reports have been circulated regarding these matters.

Mr. Andrew D. White, head of the American delegation, interviewed here by a representative of the Associated Press, said he regarded the situation as promising and that the first work of organization would be to get the delegates to reach practical conclusions. The skepticism of the first few days must yield to serious hopes, without at the same time indulging in exaggerated expectations. The words of Emperor Wilhelms will have contributed to improve the situation. I think we will arrive at some result on the subject of mediation and arbitration. Although it is undoubtedly impossible to make such action obligatory, it can be rendered optional, and I believe that after the delegates have recognized that they have a common interest in regulating their differences otherwise than by war. That will be an immense advantage. I am also convinced that important improvements are achievable in the laws and usages of war, to nullify the effects of the various treaties and naval battles the Geneva conference of 1864, and in increasing the protection of private property in naval war. Relative to the reduction of armaments, I am not in a position to speak on the subject.

Other ambassadors, who are delegates to the conference, were also interviewed, and expressed similar views. They said they were most hopeful that the deliberations of the conference would result in the adoption of practical recommendations tending toward peace and rendering more humane the laws of war. All were dominated by a sense of immense responsibility to achieve something, especially in the direction of arbitration. The delegates believed it would be relegated to the rear of the other two features, especially since the special object of the conference is now acknowledged to be an endeavor to establish a basis for the solving of international difficulties without recourse to war, and as a natural consequence leading to the reduction of armaments. They seemed convinced, however, that numerous difficulties of detail would arise in the various sub-committees, and that the conference would be protracted. After an active exchange of views during the last twenty-four hours, the chiefs of the various delegations arrived this evening at an agreement regarding the selection of presidents of the various committees. This agreement will be communicated to the delegates who have been summoned to meet in the Huis ten Bosch at noon to-morrow for the sole purpose of formally confirming the agreement. The meeting of the disarmament committee has been postponed to 4 o'clock to-morrow afternoon.

WASHINGTON'S JUBILEE.

The Return of Peace Except in Philippines Made the Occasion of a Festival.

Washington, May 22.—The national peace jubilee, which Washington will celebrate the return of peace will begin to-morrow and continue for three days. Decorators have been busy for the past week and buildings on Pennsylvania avenue and the down town streets are covered with bunting, a notable feature being the re-appearance of the red and yellow Spanish flag alongside the stars and stripes of the victors. Portraits of the latest heroes of the nation are conspicuously displayed. The bringing of salutes at seven o'clock to-morrow morning from all over the world and church bells, and the lighting of steam whistles will start the three days' celebration. The chief feature of the day will be the army parade, which will be reviewed at two o'clock by the President and his cabinet.

In the evening there will be a display of fireworks at the monument grounds.

BARBAROSSA OFF AGAIN.

New York, May 22.—The North German Lloyd's steamer Barbarossa, which put back to her dock Thursday with a serious fire in her cargo, left Hoboken at 4 p. m. and passed out for South Hampton and Bremen.

TO DIE FOR A THREAT.

Toulon, May 20.—A French sailor named Le Bly, who has been sentenced to death for menacing a lieutenant with a bayonet.

BY WAY OF VARIETY.

Little Elmer—Pa. we had to learn about Miller in school today.

Little Elmer—Why don't you know? He is a great French playwright.

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Masked Man Robs a Till

Waitress and Guest of Rossland Restaurant Are Badly Scared.

The Cool Villian's Reward Small—Vote to Buy Waterworks.

Inquest on War Eagle Accident—College Men's Tribute to Victim.

By Associated Press.

Rossland, May 22.—At four o'clock this morning a masked man entered the Allan restaurant and captured the contents of the till, some \$18. A waitress and a guest were present but both were too frightened to make any resistance. The robbery was a daring one and the police have no clue at present.

Frank Moberly who was the original proprietor of the Toronto & Collingwood air line, and who still possesses all the data in connection with this line which was presented before the board of trade of Ontario and the Dominion government in 1898, and in an interview yesterday stated that he was now able to furnish all the information which the Toronto board of trade is seeking and which a special committee, appointed at a public meeting of representatives of the city and the board of trade, is instructed to obtain.

The inquest over the victims of the War Eagle disaster was held today. Mr. H. W. H. the engineer in charge, testified that a loose nut caused the accident, causing the hoist on the level to fall out, throwing him down. E. J. Balfour, master mechanic at the mine, corroborated Hall's statement by explaining the nut in question at five o'clock in the evening before the accident. Other witnesses were examined and Dr. Bowers adjourned the inquest until to-morrow when the provincial inspector of mines will be present. The body of W. O. Schofield was not recovered.

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Programme Is Co

The Final Arrangements for the Celebration of the Queen's Birthday.

List of Subscribers for the Fund to Meet

The Colonist.

THURSDAY, MAY 25, 1899.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.

The cases have been very rare where a people have been called upon to celebrate the eightieth birthday of their sovereign. The king's office does not seem to be confined to long life, but Her Majesty's Majesty comes of a long-lived stock. The average age of her five predecessors of the House of Brunswick was 71 years. She is two years younger than her grandfather was at the time of his death. This an exceptional record for any reigning family, and may in part be attributed to the strong inherited constitutions, and in part to the generally quiet condition of the kingdom during the last two centuries. It is noteworthy that her life spans over the closing years of George III's reign, and he was born in 1738. Thus the lives of these two reach back for a period of 161 years, covering a period in human progress for which there is no historical precedent. We get a more impressive idea of the longevity of this house when we reflect that four lives, that of Her Majesty, that of George III, that of George II and that of George I take us back to 1689.

The Victorian Era may be said to have begun at the time of the birth of Her Majesty, instead of at her accession of the throne. Four years before she was born, "the roar of Hougoumont left England mightiest of all nations under Heaven," and opened a new era in the history of the world. What Conan Doyle calls "the Great Shadow" had passed away from Europe. Napoleon's career was ended. Europe was weary of war, and men began to turn their minds to the pursuit of the arts of peace. Thus a new impetus was given to research, invention and discovery, and what we have in mind usually when we speak of modern civilization was made possible. To catalogue the changes which have taken place in national and social life during the last eighty years would be wearisome. They have been marked by advances in every line of human action, and especially in the sciences of government. The early years of her life witnessed the culmination of the agitation for the abolition of slavery under the British flag. She has seen enacted almost all the laws for the extension of the franchise. She has witnessed the complete development of the system of responsible government, which is the boast of our institutions.

In her eighty years Her Majesty has had a full share of sorrow. Death has been very busy in the family circle, of which she is the head. In the larger life of the nation she has suffered many bereavements, for the roll of her ministers, her captains, the leaders of human thought, the strong men in human action, who have passed over to the great majority during her life is as remarkable for its numbers as for the character of those whose names it contains. In this respect her life has been like those of all who live to an advanced age, and proves that there is no condition, no matter how one may be surrounded with all that loyal love can offer, that is free from the deepest sorrow. Her eighty years are full of lessons. Her whole life has, in fact, been one great object lesson.

When the history of Her Majesty's reign comes to be written in days to come, the greatness and strength of her character will be better understood than is possible now. She has filled what is, perhaps, the most influential position in the world, and has done so in a manner that has been above reproach. As a constitutional sovereign, her career has been ideal. As the head of a great nation her conduct towards other nations has been singularly wise, and always inspired with a desire to promote the welfare of mankind. As a wife and mother, her dignity, virtue and high conscientiousness have been above criticism. She affords a conspicuous example of a great queen and a noble woman, qualities that have not always been combined.

And so once again we write "God Save the Queen." The sceptre must seem heavy to her hands; the weight of the crown upon her brow must at times tax her strength; but there is no one in all her wide dominions, in all that Empire which stands without a peer in the records of the world, who does not pray that years of usefulness may yet be hers.

THE COMING STRUGGLE.

The cartoon in the last New York Herald to be received here is entitled "The Coming Struggle," which is depicted as between Trusts and the Public. The idea seems to be that the trusts having killed competition are prepared to dictate terms to society. Whatever may be its nature, we are clearly on the eve of a serious social conflict, and he is a rash man who pretends to be able to see the end of it. As yet Canada is free from the direct influence of those combinations of capital known as trusts, probably for the reason that so far the volume of business in any one line is not sufficient to be an incentive to the necessary organization. We fear, however, that the Dominion will not be free from its own troubles and that we may find at any time a conflict precipitated, which will be erroneously described as one between labor and capital, but which in reality only be a carefully worked-up scheme of agitators. Conditions in Kootenay are ripe for something of this kind and only the best of generalship will prevent serious trouble. The fault lies at the door of the present provincial government, which permitted the eight-hour bill to go through the house. This bill was not asked for by the working miners. They were quite satisfied with things as they are. Being sensible men

they knew that much of the mining in Kootenay was in an experimental stage and that, in many other cases, the margin of profit would not permit of the payment of a higher wage, or the shortening of hours for the same wages. Agitators took the matter up and the consequence was the passage of a law, which no one, having any real interest in the country, wanted. We do not know how the issues raised by the new law will be adjusted, but it is possible that before they are, hundreds of men may be thrown out of employment and the mining industry of the province may receive a set-back from which it cannot recover in a long time.

The case of the workers in the metalliferous mines is a characteristic one. It is a case where a needless issue has been raised, and all because demagogic agitators interfered with workmen who were quite content with things as they were. This is the trouble all over the country. The average worker for day's wages is reasonable. He does not want more than he is entitled to, that is when he is left to himself. He has wisdom to see that a demand for excessive wages destroy his chances for getting employment. But when the agitator comes along with his specious talk, with his assertions as to what can be accomplished by organization, the worker finds himself coerced into taking a line of action which he would otherwise never think of. The labor agitators have raised a new duty to which they insist that all workmen shall bow down and render fealty. The rights of the individual are subordinated to the demands of the organization; the welfare of the family is given a second place to that of the order. The skilled and industrious worker finds himself forced to the same level as the incapable drone. Merit ceases to command the recognition of better pay. The right to think for himself is surrendered for the control of men, whose sole strength lies in their ability to make the worse appear the better reason. Such a condition of things cannot long continue. The laboring classes are not benefited by their organizations to anything like the degree that is claimed. Everywhere the conditions of workmen are better than they used to be, but this is not because the agitators have secured them new advantages, but because the circumstances of life are changing for the better with the progress of invention, discovery and education.

A struggle will surely be precipitated unless the progress of events is arrested before it is too late. There may have been a time when labor had something to fear from capital, but during the last quarter of a century new ideas have come to prevail, and there is not the same need of labor organization as there once appeared to be. It is the same in this department of life as in the political world. A century ago the rights of the people were not well understood and the ruling classes felt able to disregard them with impunity. It is thus that the country feel the necessity of organizing to prevent oppression. No such need is felt in the British Empire, because both the governing class and the governed recognize each other's rights and the limitations of authority. It is preposterous to suppose that the same sort of enlightenment is not making itself felt in the world of capital, that capitalists do not recognize more fully than ever before their obligations towards their employees. It is safe to assume that the laboring classes understand better than they ever did the identity of their interests with those of their employers. The threatening conflict will be averted when the freedom of individual action is restored. It may be found necessary to legislate against trusts. The people of the United States are beginning to think so. But it may also be found necessary to legislate against labor agitators, so as to restore fully to workmen the right of individual action and to relieve them from the tyranny of needless organization.

Perhaps in view of the telegrams received it is not well for Mr. Sorby to visit Ottawa until further advised, but the messages do not convey the impression that any great deal of activity has been exhibited by the senators.

OLAIMS OF AMERICANS.

We are not at all surprised that President McKinley has preferred a claim at Ottawa on behalf of those United States citizens, who took out mining licenses in good faith, only to have their rights under them swept away by the action of the British Columbia legislature last winter. When the Colonist first mooted the exclusion of aliens from our placer mines, it was careful to specify that, in its opinion, such rights as aliens had already acquired under the licenses should be conserved to them. It pointed out that the reputation of the province for fair dealing was of far greater importance than any little advantage that might accrue from curtailing the rights of aliens already acquired. When the act was before the house, it urged that a section should be included in it to preserve those rights, and it made the same contention later on in the session, when the Placer Mining act was amended. But all this proved to be of no avail, and the act was put through without any such provision.

It is of course too late now to remedy matters. The government cannot give any rights to the alien holders of free miners' certificates, which the legislature has taken away. Judge Irving, when he goes north as commissioner to adjust disputes in Atlin, will have wide powers, but he will be bound by the law as he finds it on the statute book. We greatly fear that the province will have to remain under the stigma of unfair dealing towards those persons, who came

amongst us in good faith, believing that they were safe in acting upon the laws as they found them, without any danger of being put to useless trouble and expense, and in many cases to great financial loss, by reason of the hasty and ill-considered action of the legislature, under the guidance of the present provincial government.

THE OLD POST OFFICE.

Now that the old post office has been converted into a mercantile building and occupied by tenants, it is timely to raise the question of ownership. We are not informed as to the manner in which the province became invested with a title to the land upon which the building stands, but assume that it passed to the old colony of Vancouver Island when the Hudson's Bay Company's right was extinguished. The lot was occupied as a post office site before confederation, and when the Dominion took charge of postal matters, it entered into possession of the premises. As we understand the matter there was no transfer of title from the Province to the Dominion.

If this is a correct statement of the case, we suggest that as soon as the Dominion government ceased to occupy the lot for postal purposes, the title reverted in the province. The language of Sir John Macdonald's letter, already printed in the Colonist in connection with the Deadman's Island correspondence, corroborates the view that the Dominion government has no right in fee to any portion of the province.

We submit for the consideration of the provincial government the importance of at once examining into the rights of the province in this regard and of asserting them, if they shall be found to be as above stated.

Another point may be mentioned in this connection. It was brought up by the Colonist some time ago. The Dominion is not taxed upon this property which comes into competition with other property highly taxed. When we mentioned the matter before, it was stated that an arrangement had been made, or was to be made, whereby the city would receive through the tenants what would be a fair share of taxes. Nothing has been made public on this point, and we are not very clear how such an arrangement can very well be enforced as between the city and the government, or as between the city and the tenants. A mistake was made when the Dominion government went into the matter of leasing the building to tenants. The proper course would have been to offer the building at auction to the highest bidder. It is no part of the business of a government to act as a landlord in competition with private owners of real estate.

THE CHILDREN'S PARADE.

We think it will be generally conceded that the success attending the school children's demonstration more than justified the action of the general committee in giving it a place upon the programme for the Twenty-fourth, and will ensure it a permanent place there henceafter. It was certainly a splendid turnout of young people. In numbers it exceeded the expectation of every one, and the appearance, behavior and enthusiasm of the young people was all that could be desired.

Special mention ought to be made of the excellent work done by the representative companies of the several schools. It was inevitable that some one school would get the prize, but the others have shown that the laboring classes understand better than they ever did the identity of their interests with those of their employers. The threatening conflict will be averted when the freedom of individual action is restored. It may be found necessary to legislate against trusts. The people of the United States are beginning to think so. But it may also be found necessary to legislate against labor agitators, so as to restore fully to workmen the right of individual action and to relieve them from the tyranny of needless organization.

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THE KING OF DENMARK IS IN VERY POOR HEALTH. He was 81 years of age on April 8, and though a robust man for his years, there is naturally much anxiety as to the outcome of his present illness. The death of his wife not very long ago undoubtedly contributed towards breaking him down.

Some very noticeable improvements are being made in the city sidewalks. There is also a good deal of cleaning up in progress around Chinatown. This paragraph is to remind citizens that in the course of a short time we will have a lot of press visitors from the East, and that the sooner the general smartening-up now being carried out the better manner they will look to strangers. Everyone knows what the value of first impressions is.

The Sorby scheme is no good; the E. & N. proposition is not to be entertained for a minute; the Port Angeles ferry is a monstrosity; The De Cosmos scheme is a crazy thing. These seem to be the conclusions to which most of the people who are doing any talking in Victoria just now, have arrived. Dr. Helmecken suggests a road to the West Coast. In a letter which we print to-day, we are quite satisfied that a very considerable number of people will arise and declare that the Doctor does not know what he is talking about. The very delightful condition of the popular mind in this city, which leads to such conclusions as the above, is worthy of fuller analysis than we feel able to give to-day.

It is perfectly idle for the Province to hope to divert public attention from the official misconduct of Attorney-General Martin. We can tell the Province that Mr. Martin is being very leniently treated by the opposition press, and he

knows it. We are not sure how long a sense of public duty will permit us to keep silent upon some matters which are a frequent topic of indignant comment in connection with that gentleman. We can further tell the Province that if it desires to know to what we now refer, it cannot do better than ask some of Mr. Martin's political supporters in this city. Perhaps when it has done so, it will appreciate the forbearance of this paper more than it seems to now.

An impression prevails in Conservative circles in Toronto that the redistribution bill is to be understood as indicative of an early appeal to the people. The promise of railway subsidies is another straw showing which way the wind is blowing.

The New Brunswick Liberal papers are unanimously discovering that Mr. John Costigan is a remarkably fine fellow. This is not to say that he is not, but only to express surprise that these papers have only found it out since he has joined the Liberal ranks.

The condition of the Fraser river gives cause for some anxiety. There is much snow in the mountains, and the danger of a June flood has not by any means passed away.

The Filipinos do not seem at all willing to accept President McKinley's offer of peace. Yet the offer is a very fair one. Probably they hardly realize just what they do want. They must surely be convinced of the futility of further opposition to the forces of the United States.

It is now thought that it will be possible to present some of the long service and other medals to the Canadian volunteers on July 1st. The Minister of Militia explained the delay in the house the other day. The Royal Mint has had serious trouble with the machinery that Canada's order has been delayed.

A report comes from Nicaragua to the effect that there has been a fight between the Nicaraguan gunboat San Jacinto and the United States gunboat Detroit in which the latter was sunk. No explanation of the occurrence is offered, and the authorities at Washington have some doubts as to the truth of the story.

Victoria had many visitors yesterday, and they all seem to have enjoyed themselves very thoroughly, although many regrets were expressed because Admiral Palliser interfered to prevent the naval parade and sham fight. If there is anything in the saying about a man's ears burning when unpleasant things are said about him, the admiral's auricular appendages must have been hot enough yesterday to singe his hair.

The release of the last of the Phoenix Park murder prisoners in the closing act of a drama which nearly eighteen years ago shocked the whole civilized world. There never was a more brutal murder than that of Lord Frederick Cavendish, chief secretary for Ireland, and T. M. Burke, the permanent under secretary. Many persons can recall, as it happened yesterday, the thrill of horror with which news of the crime was received all over the world.

Recent difficulties on the Newfoundland coast demonstrate the necessity for extinguishing the French claims there at the earliest possible day. As yet no serious difficulties have arisen, but it is impossible to tell how long they can be avoided. The French claims are in defiance of the law, and are held on to chiefly as a means of extorting some concession from Great Britain.

A committee of the United States house of representatives is grappling with currency reform. The chief feature of the proposed measure is the prohibition of the re-issuing of greenbacks, once redeemed, except in exchange for gold. The national banks are to be permitted to issue to the par value of government bonds held by them instead of 90 per cent. as at present.

There is a Canadian Independence Club in Montreal which has just had its annual meeting. We do not know anything about the numerical strength of this organization, but it is not sufficient to make its presence in the country felt. Any one has a right to advocate Canadian independence, if he wants to. The surprise is that any one should want to. Canada is independent now. What the so-called Independents want is that she shall become isolated.

Every one present enjoyed "The Wrong Mr. Wright" at the Victoria Theatre on Monday night. We make special reference to it because the play was so absolutely free from vulgarity, and because its underlying sentiment was wholesome. We do not pretend to judge other places, but we are certain that the citizens of Victoria like good, wholesome plays much better than the other class. The comments on the street yesterday were in marked contrast to those evoked by a very excellent piece of acting done in the same theatre by Stuart Robson's company. The difference lay in the sentiment of the two dramas.

THE LAURIER TESTIMONIAL.

From the Winnipeg Telegram.

The hat is now being passed around by Liberals with the object of collecting a cash present of \$100,000 to be given to Sir Wilfrid Laurier. It is stated by those who are canvassing for the fund that Sir Wilfrid Laurier has been a living consideration beyond his income, and is now in debt. That is, of course, unfortunately, and many of us can sincerely sympathize with the Premier. But it is surprising that only who used, when in opposition, to preach so insistently upon the virtues of economy, should come to the same pass as other ordinary mortals who do not pretend to be enamored of the principles of the Sir Wilfrid. It is to be feared, has been regulating his personal expenditure since he has been in office upon the same liberal scale that he has increased the national expenditure. He has added over \$5,000,000 to the national debt, and he has sent the annual expenditure up by leaps and bounds until it far exceeds in amount anything the Dominion has witnessed in its history. Sir Wilfrid's personal expenditure of Mr. Tarte's "wait-till-you-see-us-next-year" methods of financing, should convince him how eventually disastrous are those methods. His fiscal mismanagement and extravagance inevitably ends in debt and embarrassment, and passing round the hat to his friends, and so far as the national expenditure is concerned, to whom can the hat be passed round for a subscription to rescue the country from debt and embarrassment? The country is not so fortunate as Sir Wilfrid Laurier in this respect, and Sir Wilfrid would be impudent to enquire into the details of Sir Wilfrid's personal expenditure. We can only assume that the financial condition of the Dominion is one of the consequences of Her Majesty's forcing a knight-hood upon him at the Jubilee. Now he is completely broke, and he is in a splendid, the \$9,000 a year which would doubtless have sufficed for the domestic simplicity of his former state, is simply nowhere. He must feel deeply thankful that his good friend Mr. McMillen does not now feel called upon to reverse the demands he used so clamorously to make in opposition for a reduction of the "extravagant" salaries paid to ministers of the crown. He must, likewise, be thoroughly grateful for the frugal comfort attending the efforts of his domestic colleagues. He has seen Mr. Sifton, who does not own a "tin-top-tile," go to Ottawa so hard up that he could not pay his debt to the city of Winnipeg, and in a very short space of time become the owner of a sumptuous mansion, with still sufficient ready cash to enjoy the modest luxury of dancing lessons. It is to be remembered, however, that Mr. Sifton has been exempt from certain obligations which Sir Wilfrid is bound to observe. It was stated in parliament this session, and Sir Wilfrid did not deny it, that in order to keep the Roman Catholics of Manitoba quiet for the present, Sir Wilfrid Laurier had privately sent a considerable sum up to Manitoba for the maintenance of separate schools in the districts where Mr. Greenway dare not permit the public schools to be used as separate schools, as he does in the French parishes. If Sir Wilfrid had to finance this personally, until Mr. Tarte could arrange the matter with the Quebec government, that, of course, might have the effect of making him a little short. But even this temporary pressure might have been lightened by a little friendly interference with Mr. Sifton, whose experience in "kiting" was so useful and successfully employed in connection with the overdraw on the appropriation for the Manitoba election preparations. Whatever, though, may have been the cause of the Premier's financial embarrassment, it should be sufficient to put him on his feet again. The sum seems rather large; but the Premier's godmother appeared in the president of the Drummond county railway and, out of pure affection, gave \$20,000 to Mr. Tarte's sons to buy a paper. We know also, how Vice-President Shaugnessy of the C. P. R. ministered to Mr. Tarte's temporal necessities on a number of occasions, and for past favors, as well as that gratitude which is a lively sense of favor to come, he had stipulated for contributions to equal generosity towards Sir Wilfrid Laurier. Then the Crow's Nest Pass combination may be expected to show their appreciation of the Premier who has certainly been good to them. Messrs. Mackenzie and Mann, likewise, who got such a large subsidy for the Yukon railway, and who are looking for a subsidy for the Rainy River road, ought not to neglect to contribute to Mr. Tarte's collection plan. Drop a small coin into the collection plan, and you will be doing their way. Those Standard Oil magnates, who entertained Sir Wilfrid Laurier so lavishly when he was in Washington, and who have secured from this recipient of the Cobden Club medal a return of 50 per cent. protection on the Canadian coal industry which he has sworn off of monopolies, should also do the decent thing in this matter. The agricultural implement manufacturers to whom Sir Wilfrid Laurier has given increased protection, in violation of his pledge to the farmers, should certainly be given free implements, ought certainly not to forget that one good turn deserves another. Those numerous other threatened protectionists in whom Mr. Fielding has now relieved from anxiety by informing them that the maintenance of a tariff is a matter of hand-to-hand donations to the Laurier memorial. And there are many other interested parties who have already pledged to the farmers, and who have received, freely given, a substantial response. When the \$100,000 is duly raised and safely deposited in Sir Wilfrid's credit in the bank, it will be a matter of great relief to the toilers of Canada to know that the Premier is at last able to live in dignity and luxury suitable to that exalted state of life to which it has pleased Providence to call him.

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He must feel deeply thankful that his good friend Mr. McMillen does not now feel called upon to reverse the demands he used so clamorously to make in opposition for a reduction of the "extravagant" salaries paid to ministers of the crown. He must, likewise, be thoroughly grateful for the frugal comfort attending the efforts of his domestic colleagues. He has seen Mr. Sifton, who does not own a "tin-top-tile," go to Ottawa so hard up that he could not pay his debt to the city of Winnipeg, and in a very short space of time become the owner of a sumptuous mansion, with still sufficient ready cash to enjoy the modest luxury of dancing lessons. It is to be remembered, however, that Mr. Sifton has been exempt from certain obligations which Sir Wilfrid is bound to observe. It was stated in parliament this session, and Sir Wilfrid did not deny it, that in order to keep the Roman Catholics of Manitoba quiet for the present, Sir Wilfrid Laurier had privately sent a considerable sum up to Manitoba for the maintenance of separate schools in the districts where Mr. Greenway dare not permit the public schools to be used as separate schools, as he does in the French parishes. If Sir Wilfrid had to finance this personally, until Mr. Tarte could arrange the matter with the Quebec government, that, of course, might have the effect of making him a little short. But even this temporary pressure might have been lightened by a little friendly interference with Mr. Sifton, whose experience in "kiting" was so useful and successfully employed in connection with the overdraw on the appropriation for the Manitoba election preparations. Whatever, though, may have been the cause of the Premier's financial embarrassment, it should be sufficient to put him on his feet again. The sum seems rather large; but the Premier's godmother appeared in the president of the Drummond county railway and, out of pure affection, gave \$20,000 to Mr. Tarte's sons to buy a paper. We know also, how Vice-President Shaugnessy of the C. P. R. ministered to Mr. Tarte's temporal necessities on a number of occasions, and for past favors, as well as that gratitude which is a lively sense of favor to come, he had stipulated for contributions to equal generosity towards Sir Wilfrid Laurier. Then the Crow's Nest Pass combination may be expected to show their appreciation of the Premier who has certainly been good to them. Messrs. Mackenzie and Mann, likewise, who got such a large subsidy for the Yukon railway, and who are looking for a subsidy for the Rainy River road, ought not to neglect to contribute to Mr. Tarte's collection plan. Drop a small coin into the collection plan, and you will be doing their way. Those Standard Oil magnates, who entertained Sir Wilfrid Laurier so lavishly when he was in Washington, and who have secured from this recipient of the Cobden Club medal a return of 50 per cent. protection on the Canadian coal industry which he has sworn off of monopolies, should also do the decent thing in this matter. The agricultural implement manufacturers to whom Sir Wilfrid Laurier has given increased protection, in violation of his pledge to the farmers, should certainly be given free implements, ought certainly not to forget that one good turn deserves another. Those numerous other threatened protectionists in whom Mr. Fielding has now relieved from anxiety by informing them that the maintenance of a tariff is a matter of hand-to-hand donations to the Laurier memorial. And there are many other interested parties who have already pledged to the farmers, and who have received, freely given, a substantial response. When the \$100,000 is duly raised and safely deposited in Sir Wilfrid's credit in the bank, it will be a matter of great relief to the toilers of Canada to know that the Premier is at last able to live in dignity and luxury suitable to that exalted state of life to which it has pleased Providence to call him.

THE SAVOY OPENED.

Although the finishing touches have not yet been put on, Messrs. Jackson & McNeill's theatre, "The Savoy," that new amusement resort, was thrown open to the public last evening, and Victorians showed their appreciation of the establishment of their city by the opening of the doors. The Savoy is a large, in fact, was the first of its kind in the city, and far exceeded the expectations of those who had been told that it was a "standing room only" affair. The Savoy has certainly made a good beginning, last evening's performance being one of the best lower-priced ones that have been given in the city, and many of those given by travelling companies that keep up the prices. If it continues to startle the people of Victoria, it will not be able to complain of the competition it will meet in the evening. From those that could be collected to, and the proprietors received many congratulations on the matter. 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