

SPAIN'S SHIPS GO HOME

Not Seeking any Immediate Trouble They Have Returned to Cadix.

The United States Fleet Must Cross the Atlantic to Have a Battle.

New Turn of Affairs Hastens Preparations for Taking Possession of Cuba.

Washington, May 10.—It is hard to tell whether the naval officers were relieved or disappointed by the news that came late this afternoon to both the navy and state departments to the effect that the Spanish squadron had arrived at Cadix, Spain.

On the other hand it is believed that no enduring peace can be secured until the Spanish navy has been destroyed and it now appears that to do this the United States sailors must make up their minds to go after the Spaniards, a task very much more difficult than that of meeting them near the American shore.

It was suggested by some of the members of the war board that there was a possibility that the Spanish squadron might make a quick passage into the Pacific through the Suez canal and attack Manila.

The common understanding, the Suez canal is open to ships of belligerents, so that if the Spanish choose to take this course, they would have a large start of any pursuing fleet from this side of the Atlantic.

Nothing was heard from Admiral Sampson to-day but there is a confident expectation that interesting news will be coming from his squadron within the next twenty-four hours.

One effect of the retreat of the Spanish squadron has been to hasten even more the preparations already under way for dispatching military expeditions to Cuba.

It has also caused a complete change in concentration. Whether this is now believed to be the great factor, and there is no longer opportunity to indulge in extensive drilling and practice of maneuvering.

The regulars, and the department indicated its purpose of sending them to Chienmanga. This disposition was shown by changes in the orders issued to the troops, although there may yet be a return to the original programme of concentration if the plans shown signs of weakness as they develop.

The quartermaster-general has already under charter 27 merchant steamers for the transport of troops, all of which are speaking these should carry about 70,000 men.

Others are being procured as rapidly as possible. The plan is to assemble at the different Gulf ports, Tampa, Mobile, New Orleans and Galveston, to take on troops which will be expected to furnish convoys for these which would be absolutely useless against Spanish convoys.

The senate has passed a bill providing for carrying on the additional work in the adjutant-general's office, and another authorizing the enlistment of a volunteer signal corps, two-hundred members of which must be expert electricians or telegraphers.

CUBAN BLOCKADE. Madrid, May 10.—A despatch received from Havana to-day says the Spanish steamer Montezarrat which, with a valuable cargo of troops and a large sum of money intended for Havana, escaped the blockade of the American squadron and entered the port of Havana safely.

It is claimed that this proves that the blockade of the Cuban ports is ineffective.

THE GROWING ARMY. Washington, May 10.—Reports received at the adjutant-general's office this morning show that 39,255 men have been mustered into the volunteer army of the United States. It is probable, however, that by this time the actual number mustered is about 40,000 in sound numbers.

HAWAIIAN ANNEXATION. Washington, May 10.—The house committee on foreign affairs met to-day to consider the Hawaiian annexation resolution, but finally deferred the vote until next Thursday.

SPAIN'S HOME TROUBLES. Madrid, May 10.—In the chamber of deputies to-day the Cataline deputies strongly protested against the proclamation of martial law in Barcelona as there have been no disorders there. The minister of the interior replied that the authorities of Barcelona undoubtedly had good reason for their action.

The Cataline deputies declared they would postpone their intended questions of the minister of war "until a proper government has been formed."

A Valencian deputy declared that the captain-general of Valencia had threatened the newspapers, saying he would break up their forces if they printed matter attacking the government.

THE FOURTH OF MARCH. Proposal That It Shall Lose Its Importance in the American Political Calendar.

Washington, May 10.—After an extended and interesting debate the resolutions submitting to the legislatures of the various states an amendment to the constitution of the United States changing the date of the beginning of the terms of the president and vice-president and members of congress from the fourth day of March to the fourth day of May, was adopted.

The following is the text of the proposed amendment: "The term of office of the president and vice-president and the present congress shall continue until the fourth day of May in the year nineteen hundred and one, at noon, and the fourth day of May at noon shall thereafter be substituted for the fourth of March as the commencement and termination of the official term of the president, vice-president and senators and representatives in congress."

THE RED MAN'S ORIGIN. American Scientists Continuing Their Investigations Among the Coast Natives.

Mr. Powke and Dr. Lauffer (in the City on Their Way to the Far East.

The investigations carried on in this province, Oregon, Washington and Alaska, during the last few years by Dr. Franz Boas and his associates in an endeavor to discover the origin of the Indians of the Northwest Coast, are to be continued this year, and will be extended to Siberia.

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Foreign Crooks Run Out by Police.—Damage Suit for Poor Fare on Shipboard.

District Nursing Scheme in Some Disfavor.—A Great Field of Candidates.

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Curran thought Parker was going to draw a gun and pulled one himself, whereupon Parker asked that Curran be arrested for carrying concealed weapons. The police complied with the request but were not able to arrest Parker on the flimsy evidence of Curran, who, when released, posted off to Seattle to secure proof and power to act in running down the supposed embezzler.

A dozen members of Soapy Smith's gang have been bunco-steering in Vancouver for the past week, having rented offices as a blind. They were to-day run out of town by the police with the exception of two, thought to be those who secured \$425 in a successful bunco game yesterday. These two have been lost track of.

Prince Albert of Belgium passed through here to-day. President Hill, of the Great Northern railway, is in the city.

Several young Englishmen, who came here on the steamer Manuensis, say that they will sue the owners of the vessel for damages. They claim that when they each paid \$150 for passage money they were assured of good meals and accommodation on board, but that the accommodation was not like that which they were fed almost like dogs.

Mr. R. A. Humphrey, late of the Life Guards, has challenged Ivan De Machlin to a sword contest for the championship of the world. De Machlin, who is in Vancouver at present, says that he will accept the challenge and as he has been given choice of grounds he will choose the drill shed at Vancouver for the contest.

An elderly lady, died suddenly as it would seem from heart disease in her apartments in the Debruck block, Hastings street, last evening. Her death was entirely unexpected. An inquest will be held.

The Ven. Archdeacon Pentreath is making successful efforts on behalf of the most bankrupt home mission society of the diocese of New Westminster, which stands in urgent need of new home subscriptions, amounting to at least \$1,500 a year, in addition to aid received from Eastern Canada and from England.

Already towards this, the efforts of the Archdeacon are bearing good fruit, as although the work of obtaining subscriptions has only just begun, the two churches of Holy Trinity cathedral, New Westminster, and St. James, who had with great acceptance conducted the work of the association, have promised to contribute \$500 and probably largely exceed that amount. The other rural churches of the diocese will also, it is believed, respond well to the Archdeacon's stirring appeal.

The city council has read a first and second time the Van And smelter subsidy by-law.

It transpired at last night's council meeting that the question of the improvement of the present sewerage system of Vancouver is not shelved, as was thought last week, the city engineer having now asked further time to report on the present system and the changes proposed by himself and others.

THE NURSING SCHEME. The Klondike lady nurses leave for the North on Saturday. They are being while being feted almost daily at a series of homes given by prominent lady members of the Vancouver Women's Council.

The proposal to establish a district nursing home in Vancouver in connection with the Victorian Order is unlikely to mature for three months at least, at yesterday's meeting of the Women's Council. It is an open secret that the movement, which the Women's Council will nevertheless in all probability pilot to a success after some further delay and much discussion of ways and means, is regarded with cordial approval by several already established local institutions which train and send out nurses. It is thought by the managers of these that the women are ready in Vancouver to a large extent covered by existing nursing institutions.

A CROP OF CANDIDATES. The "woods are full" of opposition candidates, several of whom are eager to be elected to the present members of the opposition party in Vancouver should be held. The gentlemen in question, Messrs. Cotton and Williams, will probably avoid binding themselves to the decision of any such assembly, fearing that it will be caucused by strictly Liberal ward heeled, and if as is likely, they should seek re-election, with a party of their own as opposition candidates. In addition to the above named gentlemen, Mr. McPherson, M.P.P., will doubtless seek re-election and Messrs. T. S. Baxter, a young Mount Pleasant school teacher and understudy of Mr. Maxwell, M.P., would like to be put up

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NEWS OF THE CAPITAL.

Twenty Millions From Klondike This Season According to the Government Inspector.

Dominion Likely to Supplement Provincial Aid for the Yukon Railway Construction.

Government's Rejection of Allan Tender Seriously Delayed Fast Atlantic Project.

(From Our Own Correspondent.) Ottawa, May 10.—The amended contract for the fast Atlantic mail line passed the house to-day. Sir Charles Tupper twitted the government with their failure to secure the service and pointed out that if his advice had been taken in 1896 a contract with Allan entered into as recommended by him, the service would be in operation to-day.

A lengthy discussion took place over the delay in issuing the writ for Bagot, the opposition charging the government with breaking their pledges, as when the Liberals were in opposition they advocated prompt action in bye-elections.

The Dawson City & Victoria Telegraph Company bill passed committee to-day. The chief incorporators are J. M. Cotton, of London, and C. T. Dupont, of Victoria.

Mr. McGregor, government inspector of mines in the Yukon district, reports that "washing out" began on March 22, and that prospects indicate a far larger output of gold than anticipated. He is inclined to think that at least twenty million dollars worth of gold will be sent from the district this summer as the result of the winter's work.

Toronto messages at midnight say that Dalton McCarthy's condition is critical. Profound regret is felt in parliamentary circles at the accident. Sir Gilbert Pupper made a feeling reference to the matter to-day.

The committee stage on the franchise bill was disposed of to-day. The lists will be printed every year at the government bureau.

The Senate to-day knocked out the union label bill legalizing the union label on a vote of 32 to 15.

In political circles it is confidently believed that the government will bring down a Yukon railway proposition which will be supplementary to a cash bonus from the provincial government. It is reported that this arrangement will take the form of a land grant of probably 10,000 acres per mile and a cash stipend of \$150,000 per annum for twenty years for the carriage of troops, mail, supplies, etc.

Mr. Mackenzie left for Winnipeg last night, but Mr. Mann is still here.

If you once try Carter's Little Liver Pills for sick headache, biliousness or constipation you will never be without them. They are purely vegetable, small and easy to take. Don't forget this.

PLYTHIAN GRAND LODGE. Opening Proceedings of the Session at Kamloops—Congratulatory Message.

Kamloops, May 10.—The Grand Lodge K. of P. opened here this morning with a large attendance of representatives from all parts of the province. The day's business consisted in the receipt of reports from committees and grand officers.

The following telegram was forwarded to the Supreme Chancellor Colgrove, of the Grand Lodge in session at Victoria: "The Grand Lodge of British Columbia in annual session assembled sends warmest Pythian greetings and best wishes for a pleasant and profitable close of your official term as our honored leader. (Signed) J. E. Evans, G.O."

The Grand Chancellor's report shows an increase in membership over last year. Four new lodges have been instituted during his term and the order is in a very prosperous condition. The Grand Lodge will be in session to-morrow and proceedings will close with a banquet by Primrose Lodge at the Grand Pacific hotel.

JUST IN TIME. Heart Disease Had Him at Death's Door—Dr. Agnew's Cure for the Heart Worked Almost a Miracle.

C. A. Campbell, Montfort, Minn., writes: "I had just at the point of death from acute heart disease, and with hardly a hope that any remedy could reach my case I procured a bottle of Dr. Agnew's Cure for the Heart. I believe this great remedy got to me just in time. The first dose gave me great relief inside of thirty minutes, and before I had taken a bottle I was up from what I thought my death bed. I was cured, and I consider my cure almost miraculous." Sold by Dean & Hiscocks and Hall & Co.

Shortly before 12 o'clock last night a man, barefooted and without a vest or hat, knocked at the door of Mr. G. Stretton's residence on upper Pandora street and after waking all hands exclaimed that he had been stricken with a telephone dispatch was at once sent to the police station and Sgt. Hawton and Officer Clavard responding to the summons found the man lying prostrate on the sidewalk outside the gate. They took him to Dr. Fraser's office where it was found that he had been stabbed once in the back and twice in the breast, not seriously. How these wounds were inflicted the man refuses to state and it was with considerable effort that it was learned that his name was Hawkins. He is middle aged.

YELLOW ISLAND LIGHT. It is intended to replace the present revolving light on Yellow Island, southern entrance to Baynes' sound, by range lights arranged to clear Maple spit, and the present light will be permanently discontinued on or about the 17th instant. Pending the construction of range light towers a fixed white light will be shown from the present lighthouse tower that will be visible for seven miles from all points seaward. Further notice will be given of the establishment of the proposed range lights.

MARINE NOTES. The department of marine is inviting tenders for the construction of a wooden lighthouse on Egg Island, Queen Charlotte sound.

The R. M. S. Empress of China sailed for the Orient last evening, being tendered off the outer wharf by the steamer W'lipa.

The Steamer City of Seattle left for the North yesterday morning with 90 passengers, all from the American side.

The steamer Islander leaves on Friday, May 13, for Wrangell, Juneau, Skagway and Dyea.

The C. P. R. steamer Tantar sails on her second trip North on the 12th inst.

The Northern Pacific liner Columbia will leave Victoria for the Orient on Saturday.

Rev. Alexander Sutherland, D.D., of Toronto, general secretary of the Methodist church in Canada, is in the city attending the conference.

Be. J. Woodworth, superintendent of the Methodist missions in Manitoba and the Territories, is in the city accompanied by Mrs. Woodworth.

CASTORIA

For Infants and Children.

Castoria is a safe and reliable remedy for infants and children. It is a purely vegetable preparation and is easy to take. Don't forget this.

GREAT BATTLE AT HAND

Already the Fleets Gathering About Porto Rico May Have Become Engaged.

Insurgent Forces Being Armed to Make Vigorous Early Assault on Havana.

Spaniards in Manila Keep Up Their Courage and Prospect of Fighting There.

London, May 10.—A despatch to the Daily Mail from Hongkong says a communication from Manila asserts that the Spaniards are still arrogant and not likely to surrender until the city is blown to pieces.

Washington, May 9.—The President and the members of his cabinet are now expecting important news from Admiral Sampson's fleet, which was despatched against Porto Rico.

As to the plans for the campaign in Cuba it is expected that the admiral will have no material change from those announced some time ago.

Naval officials are expecting interesting news from Admiral Sampson within the next twenty-four hours.

From the expectation so plainly manifested at the navy department something is expected to happen very soon.

A BATTLE IMMINENT.

It is a curious fact that thus far the navy department does not know positively where the Spanish fleet is.

That such a thing can happen is plainly shown by the report from San Francisco that the Spanish cruiser Alfonso XIII. arrived at Porto Rico yesterday.

Word came to the navy department today that the cable has been cut between Montalvide and Rio Grande de Sul.

PHILIPPINE OCCUPATION.

It Will Be Undertaken Immediately Upon Arrival of the Reinforcements From San Francisco.

Washington, May 9.—At today's special cabinet meeting the leading subjects of discussion were the measures to be taken to reinforce Admiral Dewey at Manila, and the proposed movement on Cuba.

It is not probable that the squadron will bombard the city or engage in any active work against the fortifications there, except such as the Admiral may find necessary in order to retain control of points now in his possession.

YELLOW FEVER.

Sickness Resembling It Attacks Crew in a Captured Spanish Steamer.

Tampa, Fla., May 9.—Dr. J. Y. Porter, state health officer, today received the report of Dr. Sweeting, agent of the state board of health at Key West, concerning the alleged cases of yellow fever among the members of the prize crew of the Spanish ship Argonaut.

Dr. Porter doubts that they have yellow fever, nevertheless, the quarantine regulations will be enforced with the greatest rigor.

EQUIPPING INSURGENTS.

Arms, Ammunition and Supplies Which to Commence Land Invasion of Havana.

Washington, May 9.—General Nunez, of the Cuban army, arrived here last night on his return from landing a party in Cuba.

Tampa, Fla., May 9.—The steamer Gussie, one of the Mallory line boats chartered by the government for use in the transport of supplies to Cuba before morning loaded with arms, ammunition and supplies furnished by the United States government.

The utmost secrecy is maintained regarding the point of land, but the expedition will be in the hands of the insurgents.

HAVANA PREPARATIONS.

Many Carloads of War Material Arrive—French Residents Seeking Safety—The Congress.

Havana, May 8.—General Blanco has ordered that, on account of the state of war, flags should be hoisted on the forts and batteries at sunrise and be lowered at sunset.

The war material brought by the Spanish steamer Montserrat to Cienfuegos has arrived at Havana, having been brought by special train, consisting of 15 cars.

The lower house of the colonial parliament was today organized today. The ceremony was a solemn one. The senate will be organized on Monday.

MATANZAS DISCIPLINED.

A Little Bombardment Because of Persistent Activity of Shore Batteries.

Key West, Fla., May 8.—Matanzas was bombarded yesterday afternoon and this morning. The work was done by the torpedo boat Dupont, and auxiliary cruiser Hornet of the Mosquito fleet.

The bombardment was brought on by the temerity of the Matanzas Spaniards who apparently were not content with the fearful execution wrought last week by the greater ships of the fleet.

The torpedo boat men suspected that the guns were being mounted there, but Wood, commanding the Dupont, remarked: "If those are guns we'll have them and pretty quickly."

The troops continued firing, afterwards directing their missiles at the three blockhouses, which were quickly reduced. While this firing was in progress, an eight-inch mortar was fired from the Matanzas batteries.

DEWEY'S EASY VICTORY

The Spanish Fleet Surprised at Moorings Unprepared to Fight or Fly.

Batteries of Ships and Forts Alike Fired Wildly at Swiftly Moving Foe.

Harbor Mines and Torpedoes Also Harmless—Defenders' Great Loss of Life.

Hongkong, May 8.—Among naval men, military men and civilians, Europeans and natives here to-day there is only one subject of discussion, the annihilating victory of the American fleet, under the command of Admiral Dewey, over the Spanish fleet commanded by Admiral Montojo in Manila bay on Sunday last.

Owing to the fact that the cable between this port and the Philippines was not in working order, having been cut, it is said, some distance from the capital of the islands, there has been delay in obtaining a detailed account of the battle and facts in the case were only available when the United States gunboat Hugh was even then the tremendous pressure of business suddenly thrown upon the cable company necessarily made the earlier accounts of the engagement somewhat brief.

Commander Dewey's orders were to capture the Spanish fleet, and never were instructions executed in more complete fashion. At the end of seven hours there was absolutely nothing left of the Spanish fleet but a few relics. The American commander had most successfully arranged every detail of action and apparently even the most insignificant were carried out with perfect punctuality and rapidity.

The position occupied by the Spaniards, the support which their ships received from the land batteries and the great guns they had ashore, gave them an advantage.

Therefore when it is considered that the Spaniards lost over six hundred men in killed and wounded, that all their ships, amounting to about 14, were destroyed, and that their naval arsenal at Cavite also was destroyed with its defenses, it will become apparent that the victory of the American commanders is one of the most complete and wonderful achievements in the history of naval warfare.

U. S. FLEET APPROACH.

The order of battle taken up by the Spaniards was with all the small craft in the bay, and the great guns of Cavite harbor. The larger ships of Spain cruised off Cavite and Manila.

The American squadron, which had been ordered to enter the bay, did not reply, though the shots of the Spaniards began to strike the water around them, but they were not to be deterred.

When near the end of Baker bay, a sudden upheaval of water a short distance ahead of the Olympia showed that the Spaniards had exploded a mine or torpedoes. This was followed by a second and similar explosion. They were both unsuccessful.

The American fleet was then passed backward and forward six times across the front of the Spaniards, pouring upon the latter a perfect hail of shot and shell. Every American ship seemed to tell, while almost every Spanish shot missed the mark.

After having thus scattered the Spanish fleet and demoralized the Spanish fleet, the American fleet retired for breakfast, and incidentally a council of war was held on board the Olympia.

THE RUIN COMPLETE.

The battle which was started at about 5:30 a.m. and adjourned at 8:30 a.m. was resumed about noon, when Dewey started in to put the finishing touches to the work. The Spanish fleet was completely annihilated by the Spaniards by that time, and at 2 p.m. the Petrel and the Con-

cord had shot the Cavite batteries into silence, leaving them a heap of ruins and floating the white flag.

The Spanish gunboats were then scattered, the arsenal was totally destroyed, and the explosion of a Spanish magazine caused further mortality among the defenders of Spain.

SPANISH CASUALTIES.

On the other hand, about 150 men are said to have been killed on board the Spanish flagship, which was totally destroyed. Admiral Montojo, the Spanish commander, transferred his flag to the Isla de Cuba when his ship caught fire, but the latter also was destroyed in due course of the battle.

The Reina Christina lost her captain, her lieutenant, her chaplain and a midshipman, by one shot which struck her.

About one hundred men were killed and about sixty wounded on board the Olympia. Indeed, some estimates place the number of Spanish wounded during the engagement at over a thousand men.

Indeed, some estimates place the number of Spanish wounded during the engagement at over a thousand men. The Olympia fired nine times during the engagement, and the American fleet did not reply to them and the batteries afterwards hoisted a white flag in token of surrender.

SPAIN'S AWFUL BLUNDER.

Hongkong, May 8.—It is said that the Spanish ships did not get under steam until after the alarm was given. It is said also that the Spanish commander informed the governor-general that it was advisable to surrender in the interest of humanity, as it was impossible to resist successfully the attack, but that he and his men were willing enough to fight and die.

London, May 8.—Further particulars from the despatches from Hongkong show that the Spaniards failed to get up steam fought at a great disadvantage compared with the great mobility of the Dewey's squadron.

In the absence of a breeze when the battle began the ships were soon shrouded in smoke, making it momentarily difficult to judge exactly how the fight was going.

When the McCulloch left Manila the forts were maintaining a desultory but ineffective firing on the squadron.

The Hongkong correspondent of the Daily Mail gives the following additional details: There was an act of treachery on the part of the Spanish boat which lowered her flag and then fired at a boat's crew sent to take possession of her. She did not hit.

When the Spanish fleet entered the bay coming through the southern channel, the following was their order: The flagship Olympia, the Baltimore, the Raleigh, the Boston, the Petrel, and the McCulloch with the store ships the Nahanah and Zafiro, bringing up the rear.

All the Spanish vessels are destroyed, with two thousand men. The Spanish estimate gives their loss as one thousand killed and wounded.

THE RULERS OF SPAIN.

Government Invited to Take From Parliament the Unhappy Task of Naming Terms of Peace.

Madrid, May 7.—In the chamber today Senor Silvea, the Conservative leader, replying to the speech of General Weyler, said the government and not parliament ought to find a solution of the war. Otherwise the constitution would be violated.

London, May 8.—The Paris correspondent of the Sunday Times says: "It is true that every preparation has been made in Madrid for the safety of the Queen Regent and the King; but this was done by the Austrian ambassador, Count Dubsky on instructions from the Emperor, without the Queen Regent's knowledge."

OF INTEREST TO MEN.

The attention of the reader is called to an attractive little book lately published by the eminent physician, G. H. ROBERTS, M.D., 202 Woodward Ave., Detroit, Mich. It is a book of interest to every man and its pleasant and honest advice will certainly be of the greatest value to every man who desires to preserve perfect health and vigor.

ATLANTIC SKIRMISHING

Story of Pursuit of U. S. Cruiser Montgomery by a Larger Spanish Craft.

Cuban Blockade Successfully Run and American Pursuers Suffer From the Forts.

Rumor that the Spanish Cape Verde Squadron Has Already Been Engaged.

New York, N. Y., May 8.—The World has received the following copyrighted cablegram:

"Puerto Plata, San Domingo, May 8.—Dominican officials report heavy cannonading off the north of Monte Cristi, about fifty miles from here. It is believed here that Rear Admiral Sampson's squadron is engaging the Spanish Cape Verde fleet. The firing began about 9 o'clock this morning and was terrific.

The American fleet was due to arrive in Porto Rican waters yesterday afternoon. The Spanish fleet was expected at about the same time. Sampson came here with orders to find the fleet and reduce it. He will order destroying the Spanish ships begin a strict blockade, and if necessary, he will bombard and capture Porto Rico."

RUNNING THE BLOCKADE.

American Cruisers Damaged by Cuban Forts While in Pursuit of Spanish Schooner.

Havana, May 7.—At half-past 8 o'clock this morning two American cruisers, which were pursuing the Spanish schooner Santiago, bound from Yucatan with salted fish, approached the Vedado batteries, which fired at them when about five miles off shore. Six shots were discharged at the Americans.

A local paper says that one projectile carried off a smokestack and one of the masts of the American cruiser which was in the rear, another projectile fell upon the deck of the other cruiser. The Americans replied with twelve shots, but the projectiles fell two miles off the batteries and the cruiser then retreated under full head of steam.

At 11:30 the Santiago entered the harbor in tow of the Suste. One of the American shots carried off a boat from the schooner's stern.

It is reported that one of the cruisers was so damaged that she will be towed away to Key West. She will probably leave to-morrow.

A CRUISER CHASED.

French Officers Tell How the Spaniards Lay in Wait for an American Craft.

Port Au Prince, Hayti, May 8.—The United States cruiser Montgomery, Commander G. A. Converse, is supposed to have been engaged with a large Spanish cruiser last night, northwest of Cape Haytian, a seaport town of Hayti on its north coast ninety miles north of Port Au Prince.

While the French steamer Olinda Rodriguez from Havre for Haytian ports was at Cape Haytian, a Spanish warship is said to have been watching her, mistaking the steamer for an American vessel. When the Olinda Rodriguez left Cape Haytian, the Spanish cruiser approached her and allowed her to continue on to this port on recognizing the Frenchman's flag.

The United States cruiser Montgomery left Cape Haytian soon afterwards and the Spaniard, which is presumed to have been watching for her, is said to have been announcing that the Americans would kill every one in Cavite and when the United States forces landed a long procession of priests and sisters of mercy met the boats from the Petrel and begged them not to injure two hundred in the hospital.

The matter of fact the Americans rescued some two hundred Spaniards and sent them ashore. All the Spanish vessels are destroyed, with two thousand men. The Spanish estimate gives their loss as one thousand killed and wounded.

THE SURRENDER.

The Spaniards had fought to their last gasp and now surrendered. They had been announcing that the Americans would kill every one in Cavite and when the United States forces landed a long procession of priests and sisters of mercy met the boats from the Petrel and begged them not to injure two hundred in the hospital.

By nightfall, it is added, four discharges of cannon were heard, which were believed to be the result of the Spanish firing upon the American warship. Darkness, it is said, prevented any further observations being made, but the Spaniards were believed to have been so brave that the battle could have been continued, especially as the sea was beautifully calm, only a mild trade wind blowing from the land.

Strange to say, it appears that all the passengers of the Olinda Rodriguez were left below at supper while this exciting incident was occurring. But the officers of the steamer, which arrived here to-day, say they are confident that the Montgomery was overmatched and that her means of escape was to run close to shore during the darkness.

MANITOBA AND NORTHWEST.

Cut Rates Nearing an End—Railway Survey Commenced—Dan Godfrey's Band.

Winnipeg, May 9.—(Special.)—Dan Godfrey may come to Winnipeg with his famous band next month. Mr. Harris, who is managing his American tour, telegraphed this morning to have subscription lists opened in order to ascertain if sufficient support could be obtained for two nights and two afternoon performances.

HISTORY REPEATS ITSELF.

Opposition Party in Spanish Cortes Walk Out Because Chair Rules Against Disorderly Conduct.

Madrid, May 7.—The chamber to-day witnessed the most uproarious scenes in the annals of the Cortes.

Senor Mella, a Carlist deputy, in a speech made use of a scriptural quotation referring to "an unfortunate nation whose kings are boys," adding that women were always the cause of the fall of thrones. Senor Sagasta, the Premier, supported by the majority of the chamber, protested amid the greatest confusion against Senor Mella's language.

Ottawa, May 9.—Col. Prior's emphatic protest to his colleague, Mr. Earle, in regard to the shipment via Seattle of freight for the Yukon military contingent, led to the admission from Dr. Borden that such an arrangement had been permitted by the government.

Dr. Borden's telegram in the house, Dr. Borden, the minister of military, endeavored to make light of the concession to the Boston and Alaska Company, saying that the largest part of the supplies for the military would go from Vancouver, and only a small portion would go via Seattle. The company, he said, had three boats and they desired in order to get the supplies forward as quickly as they should be allowed to send a portion by way of Seattle.

Dr. Borden asked: "Where were these three boats purchased?" Dr. Borden—"They were purchased here. They were purchased from contractors who had shipped on board the boats and at the request of the company a portion was sent to Seattle. I did not see any great objection to that. By far the smallest quantity, less than one-half, will go that way. The major portion will go from our own ports."

Dr. Borden—"By different boats of the same line." Mr. Foster—"By the same boat?" Dr. Borden—"By different boats of the same line."

Sir Charles Tupper asked if it was the intention to introduce a bill for the organization of the Yukon territory this session. Sir Wilfrid Laurier replied in the affirmative. He said that it would be a full bill because we do not possess at present all the information and data to fully organize the territory, but we require in view of the special conditions prevailing there to have some general legislation passed."

Sir Wilfrid Laurier announced that instructions had been issued to appoint a man in Toronto to enforce the alien labor law there, as American boat makers are being imported to take the place of strikers.

Sir Charles Tupper complained of a despatch sent to the Halifax Chronicle regarding the resignation of County Wainwright and he wanted the offending newspaper man disciplined.

Messrs. McConnell and Tyrrell, prominent members of the committee to leave for the Pacific coast to-morrow. Mr. Tyrrell will enter the Yukon district by the Dalton trail, and spend the summer at the headwaters of the Copper and White rivers. Mr. McConnell will take the Chilcotin route and survey along by the headwaters of the Klondike, the Lewis and Hootalinqua.

(From Our Own Correspondent.) Vancouver, B. C., May 10.—Vancouver was bunched out of \$500 to-day by Seattle sharpers. Naden, who is an Oddfellow, was approached by a stranger who offered him a large sum of money to leave for the Pacific coast to-morrow. Mr. Tyrrell will enter the Yukon district by the Dalton trail, and spend the summer at the headwaters of the Copper and White rivers.

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Opposition to the Y tion—

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The Colonist.

THURSDAY, MAY 12, 1909.

THAT MILITIA CONTRACT.

The most ardent friend of the Dominion government can find no fault with the manner in which the people of Victoria, without distinction of party, have dealt with its policy in regard to the Yukon. The disposition has been to withhold even moderate criticism, because we have all recognized that the matters involved were surrounded with difficulty, and we were too anxious about getting all the commercial benefits possible out of the development of the Golden North to wish to score any political advantage by reason of official blundering. The opportunities for criticism have been many; but the frank manner in which the Hon. Clifford Sifton presented his views and asked the advice of the people interested created the impression that it would be to the interests of British Columbia and the whole of Canada if the utmost harmony should prevail, unbroken by political disagreements. When, however, word was sent out that mining licenses were hereafter to be sold at the summit of the passes and there was no compensating concession from the United States government, even the supporters of the government began to complain, and when this was followed up by the authoritative statement that the supplies for the Canadian militia are to be sent up the Yukon by a United States corporation and in part to be shipped from Seattle, there was a universal expression of condemnation.

The facts of the case seem to be as follows: A contingent of the militia is stationed on the Yukon. The men and the equipment needed for a few months are to be sent up the Stikine, but the balance of the freight, which is stated to be 200 tons, is to go via the Yukon. The following transportation companies were asked to quote figures for the Stikine: The C. P. R., the C. P. N., the K. M. T. & T. Co., the Maitland Kersey Co., and Davidge & Co. In addition Davidge & Co., the C. P. N., and we think the C. P. R., were asked to put in bids for the freight to be taken up the Yukon. The K. M. T. & T. Co. have no steamers on the Yukon; the Maitland Kersey Co. will have a steamer there, but were not asked to bid. The C. P. R. will not have any connection by way of the Yukon; but could of course make arrangements with some of the other companies. The C. P. N. of the contract for the Stikine, but declined that for the Yukon. Davidge & Co. tendered for both, but got neither, although they say the figure they quoted for the Yukon was more advantageous than that which the department is alleged to have accepted. The Maitland Kersey Co. tendered for the Stikine part of the business, but have heard nothing more about it. The K. M. T. & T. Co.'s offer was not accepted. There was one bid from a responsible house, namely Davidge & Co., to handle the Yukon part of the business. It is true that this firm would have had to handle the Stikine part of it upon an American bottom, which could not be done under the regulations as they now stand, while the C. P. N. steamers are Canadian bottoms; but there is no reason why the bid of Davidge & Co. for the Yukon service could not have been taken, even though their offer for the Stikine was rejected. The nationality of the vessel operating upon the Yukon is immaterial; and we submit that where a Victoria transportation house was in competition with a Seattle house, the Victoria house should have received the preference. We submit that some explanation of the rejection of Davidge & Co.'s bid is needed, as well as of the reason why the Maitland Kersey Co. were not given a chance to bid for this part of the business.

But this is not the whole story. The Minister of Militia stated in the House of Commons on Monday that he had purchased the goods in Ottawa, and that while a portion of them would be shipped from Vancouver, the remainder of them would be sent from Seattle. He said that the part to be shipped from Seattle was less than one-third, and that he did not suppose there was any harm in it; that there is a great deal of harm in it; not because of the little loss attending the handling of seventy-five or a hundred tons of freight at Vancouver, but because it will enable the chief rival of the British Columbia cities to advertise to the world that even the government of Canada gives a preference to it over Victoria and Vancouver. If the Minister does not see any harm in this, he confesses to a degree of ignorance of the situation which is surprising even in a Cabinet minister.

The whole matter has been wrongly managed. When it was decided to send a contingent of troops to the Yukon, a representative of the Militia Department should have been authorized to purchase supplies in British Columbia and arrange for transportation here. The merchants of our cities have been spending thousands of dollars to tell the world that British Columbia cities are the best places to sell from. Yet the government of Canada has checkmated all this good work by buying its goods elsewhere and shipping them from a foreign port. The delightful naïveté of the minister, when he said that the company asked to be allowed to ship the goods from Seattle and he did not see anything wrong in permitting them to take some of them, shows that he is too utterly unsuspecting for this wicked world. Of course the company wanted to ship some of the goods from Seattle. The company knows a good advertisement when it sees it and it has scored off the Dominion government a better advertisement than it could have got by the expenditure of all the money it will get as freight on

the goods shipped from Seattle. It is not so. Instead of supporting the bill, it declares that "the principle of the bill is rotten." It declared that the Yukon gold fields do not warrant the building of the railway. It published the monumental untruth that the province is asked to bear "the whole burden and responsibility of building a railway from which the people will only receive an indirect benefit." Comment is needless; but we may at least add that the Times has missed a golden opportunity. For once it was voicing the sentiments of the people. When it complained of delay, it only did what thousands of people who did not understand the situation, were doing. When it insisted that the railway is needed to head off American competition and that its construction meant great things for the merchants of the British Columbia cities, it took an unassailable ground, and what it called for a policy of immediate construction, it took the only defensible position that could be occupied. But it turned round and not only attacked the government for doing what it insisted should be done, but sought to belittle the Yukon as a wealth producer, and in so doing sacrificed every shred of prestige which attached to its former action. Not only this but it took a stand diametrically opposite to that taken by Senator Templeman at Ottawa. The Senator spoke on the Yukon bill in the senate, and he was very strong in his expression of opinion as to the importance of the Yukon as a gold producer and as a source of commercial prosperity. His paper goes back on all this. It goes back on everything which it has itself said on the subject. It has, if the thing is possible, taken a lower ground than ever in its treatment of a great public question and written itself down as even more untrustworthy than people thought it was.

The Columbian, which we repeat is the leading opposition organ, because it takes the lead in opposing everything for the benefit of the province, is good enough to say that the Colonist favors the Yukon railway only for the sake of helping out some imaginary people who have invested heavily upon the prospect of the road being built. There is a line of four letters which suits the case of the Columbian to a nicety; but instead of employing it to challenge the Columbian to name any such people and tell where they have invested their capital. In the interest of news the Colonist would like to know the facts.

The Denver Ledge is quite right. Victoria and Vancouver are not the whole of British Columbia; but they are a part of it, and as long as half the population of the province lives in those cities and the districts adjacent thereto, they will probably claim that they have some rights which the rest of the province ought to respect.

Which of its Saturday editorials are the public to understand as reflecting the opinions of the Province, that attacking the government for its railway policy or that endorsing it?

Will be found an excellent remedy for sick headache. Carter's Little Liver Pills. Thousands of letters from people who have used them prove this fact. Try them.

First Dead Mute—He wasn't so very angry, was he? Second Dead Mute—He was so mad that the words he used almost blinded his fingers.—Indianapolis Journal.

THE RETAIL MARKETS. Spanish-American War Causes an Enormous Advance in Wheat and Feed Stuffs. We then have football. It is followed by snowball. Then comes the dancing ball. When winter is over we have the month ball, and now we have baseball, which will be with us until football comes again.—Fittsburg Telegraph.

THE INCONSISTENT TIMES. The Times of this city wrote very earnestly in favor of aid being extended by the provincial government to the Coast-Teslin railway. As late as May 4th it condemned the government as severely as it knew how for its delay in bringing down a measure to secure the building of the railway. On the 9th, that is after the measure had been brought down, it condemned the government for doing the very thing which it wanted done. The first reference by the Times to this question we find in its issue of April 23. Then the situation was described as a crisis, and the government was charged with "standing idly by, letting this magnificent opportunity slip through their fingers," where by "hundreds of thousands of dollars were being lost to British Columbia." We were told that "the merchants of Victoria should wait upon the government in a body and demand to know the government's policy and insist that that policy be immediate construction." According to our contemporary party politics ought to be laid aside and the classes and men of all parties should get together and "save British Columbia the Yukon trade." For a newspaper not in the confidence of the government and therefore necessarily ignorant of its plans, such an article was by no means unreasonable. On May 4th the Times bitterly complained of the delay. "Are Americans to be allowed to beat us on our own ground?" is asked. And there was a good deal more to the same effect. One would have supposed that after all this, and especially as these articles were published by the Times, after it knew and every one else in the community knew perfectly well that the aid which the province would have to give would be what the loan bills propose to give—one might have supposed that it would have expressed its satisfaction that its

urgent demands had received attention. But not so. Instead of supporting the bill, it declares that "the principle of the bill is rotten." It declared that the Yukon gold fields do not warrant the building of the railway. It published the monumental untruth that the province is asked to bear "the whole burden and responsibility of building a railway from which the people will only receive an indirect benefit." Comment is needless; but we may at least add that the Times has missed a golden opportunity. For once it was voicing the sentiments of the people. When it complained of delay, it only did what thousands of people who did not understand the situation, were doing. When it insisted that the railway is needed to head off American competition and that its construction meant great things for the merchants of the British Columbia cities, it took an unassailable ground, and what it called for a policy of immediate construction, it took the only defensible position that could be occupied. But it turned round and not only attacked the government for doing what it insisted should be done, but sought to belittle the Yukon as a wealth producer, and in so doing sacrificed every shred of prestige which attached to its former action. Not only this but it took a stand diametrically opposite to that taken by Senator Templeman at Ottawa. The Senator spoke on the Yukon bill in the senate, and he was very strong in his expression of opinion as to the importance of the Yukon as a gold producer and as a source of commercial prosperity. His paper goes back on all this. It goes back on everything which it has itself said on the subject. It has, if the thing is possible, taken a lower ground than ever in its treatment of a great public question and written itself down as even more untrustworthy than people thought it was.

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THE RETAIL MARKETS. Spanish-American War Causes an Enormous Advance in Wheat and Feed Stuffs. We then have football. It is followed by snowball. Then comes the dancing ball. When winter is over we have the month ball, and now we have baseball, which will be with us until football comes again.—Fittsburg Telegraph.

THE INCONSISTENT TIMES. The Times of this city wrote very earnestly in favor of aid being extended by the provincial government to the Coast-Teslin railway. As late as May 4th it condemned the government as severely as it knew how for its delay in bringing down a measure to secure the building of the railway. On the 9th, that is after the measure had been brought down, it condemned the government for doing the very thing which it wanted done. The first reference by the Times to this question we find in its issue of April 23. Then the situation was described as a crisis, and the government was charged with "standing idly by, letting this magnificent opportunity slip through their fingers," where by "hundreds of thousands of dollars were being lost to British Columbia." We were told that "the merchants of Victoria should wait upon the government in a body and demand to know the government's policy and insist that that policy be immediate construction." According to our contemporary party politics ought to be laid aside and the classes and men of all parties should get together and "save British Columbia the Yukon trade." For a newspaper not in the confidence of the government and therefore necessarily ignorant of its plans, such an article was by no means unreasonable. On May 4th the Times bitterly complained of the delay. "Are Americans to be allowed to beat us on our own ground?" is asked. And there was a good deal more to the same effect. One would have supposed that after all this, and especially as these articles were published by the Times, after it knew and every one else in the community knew perfectly well that the aid which the province would have to give would be what the loan bills propose to give—one might have supposed that it would have expressed its satisfaction that its

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NOTICE is hereby given that 90 days after date I intend to apply to the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for permission to purchase 100 acres of land situated in the Mining Division of Victoria District, Const. district at the head of Alice Arm Observatory lake, near the junction of a post at the S.E. corner of H. P. Rithet's land, marked D, Pringle Wilson's S.W. corner, which runs to the S.E. corner of H. P. Rithet's land, thence West 40 chains to R. P. Rithet's N.E. post, thence South to the place of commencement.

NOTICE—"Herbert" mineral claim, situated in the Mining Division of Victoria District. Where located: On the west side of Mount Sicker, adjoining the "Herbert" mineral claim. Take notice that I, Clermont Livingston, acting as agent for C. H. Dickie free miner's certificate No. 8622 A, T. A. Wood free miner's certificate No. 8622 A, W. E. Blythe free miner's certificate No. 20,858 A, and myself free miner's certificate No. 20,858 A, intend, sixty days from the date hereof, to apply to the Mining Recorder for a Certificate of Improvements, for the purpose of obtaining a Crown Grant of the above claim.

NOTICE—"X L" mineral claim, situated in the Mining Division of Victoria District. Where located: On the west side of Mount Sicker, adjoining the "Herbert" mineral claim. Take notice that I, Clermont Livingston, acting as agent for C. H. Dickie free miner's certificate No. 8622 A, T. A. Wood free miner's certificate No. 8622 A, and W. E. Blythe free miner's certificate No. 8616 A, intend, sixty days from the date hereof, to apply to the Mining Recorder for a Certificate of Improvements, for the purpose of obtaining a Crown Grant of the above claim.

NOTICE—I hereby give notice that 60 days after date I intend to make application to the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for permission to purchase 100 acres more or less of land, situated at the head of Nasoga Gulf, commencing at a post on the shore marked "W. E. Collison" and running westerly for 25 chains, thence northerly for 40 chains, to the place of commencement, to Robson Lockerby and Todd's land, thence southerly along line of said land for Sixty chains, to the place of commencement, in a southeasterly direction to place of commencement. W. E. COLLISON. Nasoga Gulf, April 21, 1908.

FOUR SALE—Cheap—Leaving for Europe. One of the most beautiful homes in Vancouver Island. Dr. Dickson's place on the Quamichan Lake, two miles from railway. Sixty acres, with a large and eighteen acres, as preferred (nearly half cleared). Large double barn, and other buildings. Hot and cold water. Address to first class shipping, both trout and salmon. Shooting, etc., also to good tennis club. Apply, Frank Campbell's cigar store, next post office.

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PROVINCE. He proposed to of the Naku... the company road, the prov... er share of th... ed of the late... the bill had be... that the prov... position in th... ancial billity... minion accep... Mr. Forster, corresponden... on Monday, a... some of the l... the communica... the Dominion... government w... correspondence... Hon. Col. Ba... Mr. Forster... province shou... to assure the... was not... taining the... southern port... anced strong... of the Dominion... them to take... He did not th... farmers would... summer at the... account of the... farmers of the... ence to patron... He would be... line from the... but no more... The amendme... feated on the... For Messrs... Forster, Macph... Ham, Semlin, G... lie—12. Against Mess... Helmecken, Bak... ans, Hicins, G... ey, Braden and... Mr. Sword ros... for the second... saw six o'clock... cess. THE EVE... After recess... debate on the... reading of the... government for... measure before... way from Robso... the grant of \$4... enish any land... sion, the house... to enable railwa... the Yukon comm... case why had t... its negotiations... for, instead of... where the most... obtained from... He hoped the ho... the severest... Mr. Kidd devot... that the financ... not permit the... some as that se... like Mr. Sword... ing. Mr. Kennedy... house had no... mation of which... possessed on the... railway negotia... his mind that... from the house... president of the... coining had spok... "last" telegram... showed that the... other telegram—... Mr. Kennedy... true that the Dom... the communication... government, he kn... acted in the m... Hon. Col. Baker... have done? "W... "Ten them again." Hon. Col. Bak... what we did. (Re... Mr. Kennedy... very glad the gov... the system of giv... and claimed that... forced on the adm... position. Mr. Cotton agr... that there must... and he further t... this bill there m... fund to be used... He had not notic... on one of a portio... of late. Hon. Mr. Turner... Mr. Cotton proce... per men came do... and saw the minist... and immediately... before the expense... Mr. Turner: "Th... seen for themse... acted in the house... Mr. Cotton. Mr... visits many of the... they were getting... launching out on... that this was the... had with the minis... bill itself, Mr. Cott... country had had... to force the bill... country when it w... There was no... to force the bill... of the road from... kine. The opposit... with Mackenzie... interest of the cou... provided that wor... both sections on... been shown that... supplies would th... creased. Why no... commence on the... due the expense... Hon. Mr. Eberts... prevent their work... Mr. Cotton pro... part of the grou... would only cost... which as a broad g... used were first clas... engineer sent out... fall, estimated the... but \$19,000 a mile... spoken of includ... work that would... present propos... road would cost... currently the argu... costly road to t... not see why the... tax the road \$2,000... In a... the Premier cou... be he be h... move to make gro... per mile to pay... the contract as... across earnings. To... to earn \$111 a... C. P. R. itself. Hon. Mr. Turner... "Frank."

The Colonist.

THURSDAY, MAY 12, 1898.

CHEAP MONEY.

We understand that the Premier on Monday will move the second reading of the bill for the purpose of establishing Agricultural Credit Associations in British Columbia, which was discharged from the Orders some days ago, in order that it might be referred to the committee appointed to enquire into and report upon the methods adopted in various countries for affording credit to agricultural communities.

The bill is the culmination in this province of the agitation for what is popularly known as "cheap money." The committee referred to having reported on the several systems in vogue in New Zealand, India and on the Continent, the government will make good its intentions in this matter. Practically speaking the finding of the committee is in favor of the bill, although its recommendations are of a negative rather than a positive character. The body of the report contains a large amount of information to which the committee has had access regarding the money systems of other countries, yet it would be difficult to say what really it is specifically in favor of. Several amendments of a minor character are referred to as desirable. We think, however, the committee has somewhat misapprehended the object of the bill, when it recommends that in the formation of banks the payment of existing mortgages on farm property should be the primary consideration.

So far as our reading goes and as we understand the several systems of land banks, credit associations and government aid, in only one place has the recommendation of the committee had effect. In New Zealand the government borrowed a large sum of money which it lends directly to farmers for the purpose of paying off mortgages carrying a high rate of interest and substituting others at a low rate. The systems generally have in view a different object, namely, the development of the agricultural industry on the lines of co-operative action, in which the paying off of debts of the farmers is but a small factor, and one only incidentally considered, and we think that the government of British Columbia should carry out such a policy instead of lending its credit in the way indicated by the committee as desirable. We do not say that it is not a laudable object in itself to provide money at a cheaper rate for farmers who may wish to redeem their present mortgages, but we do contend that it is not one of the legitimate functions of government. The formation of banks as contemplated by the bill is for the purpose of bringing between the government and the people an independent association by which it will be only possible for the government to lend to communities as a whole. The association being made up of members whose personal liability is always at stake, the local board of directors will naturally exercise the greatest amount of care as to the loan effected, and will scrutinize very carefully the credit of every person making application, thus protecting the government credit fully.

It is not contemplated that the associations should lend large sums of money, at first at least, but that the ordinary wants of the farmer should be supplied as occasion demands at the lowest possible rate. It is contemplated, too, that the money borrowed shall be for purposes of development, and no form of borrowing should be encouraged which cannot be made reproductive. It is therefore a policy of development rather than one of state aid that has been entered upon by the government, a policy which places a premium upon honesty, industry and intelligence, and one which will stimulate farmers to join their forces and effect by co-operation what would not be possible by individual efforts. The government would not be justified in lending money to individuals, because any such system must lead to favoritism and abuse and would be liable to land the government in bankruptcy before many years. It is a system which cannot be defended and is contrary to sound political economy, but when a community approaches the government in a corporate capacity, and pledges the whole of its credit in a way which indicates in the most practical manner confidence in the honesty and integrity of each of its members the government can with good grace and very properly lend its credit to such a community. Under such a system of co-operation, one cannot readily imagine what can be accomplished in the development of our resources, in fact, by the successful operation of credit associations all the problems which affect the farmer, such as the clearing of land, underdraining, dairying, irrigation, cold storage, etc., etc., are solved at once. The only thing which the government must see to in inaugurating a policy, which is perhaps the most advanced that has been undertaken in any part of the British Empire, is that the associations are properly administered from the start. By the strict rules which it proposes to enforce and the rigorous supervision which is provided for in the act, there seems to be every reason to believe that this will be the case. However, it is a system in which farmers and others require careful education, as it is one from which at the outset they will naturally expect a great deal. The public must be led to understand, that as, the system is an experiment and on trial for the first time on the continent of America, it devolves upon every member of the community as well as upon the government to avoid abusing a great opportunity which exists for the general

benefit. A mistake at the outset would go very far towards jeopardizing the cause of cheap money, not only in this province, but in the whole of Canada. On the other hand, if the farmers are prepared to accept the system in the spirit in which it is framed and will go cautiously forward endeavoring to protect their own and the government's credit, the system may be developed into one of great magnitude and one possessing immense advantages. It is one which, if carried out successfully, will revolutionize the condition of affairs in this country.

Advertising to the recommendation of the committee as to the repayment of mortgages, while we think the government would be justified in considering favorably applications of such a character where the security was beyond question, at the same time, it would not be sound policy to make such an object the sole or main feature of the act; to perfect and carry out a policy of assistance to settlers and small farmers on the co-operative plan would place the agricultural community in a most advantageous position, and would constitute a policy worthy of all commendation. The object, it seems to us, should not be to place a premium on the use of such methods, or mismanagement, but to induce members of the associations to honest and industrious efforts and the intelligent application of scientific methods to the profession of agriculture.

MR. SEMLIN'S AMENDMENT.

The amendment moved by Mr. Semlin to the motion for second reading of the loan bill is an exceedingly illogical production. It admits the necessity of a railway to the Yukon and proposes to get such a road by offering \$4,000 a mile to a company to build a line from Glenora to Teslin Lake, without knowing whether any company is likely to accept such an offer, with, in fact, the certain knowledge that no company will do anything of the kind. It has been made clear to every one that the proposed subsidy will not more than pay the freight on the provisions and material necessary for the construction of the road. No man needs to be told that no company could hope to finance the proposition through without something more than that. The southern extension alone makes the project feasible. A bill framed upon the lines suggested in the amendment would be so much waste paper.

Another reason urged for delay is that the house has not in its possession certain alleged correspondence between the two governments on the subject. Mr. Semlin does not know of the existence of any such correspondence. He has been told by the Premier in his place in the house that there is no correspondence which casts any light upon the subject at all. Yet though he said in as many words that the opposition would vote to a man for the bill if they had the correspondence before them, he seeks to defeat it because the non-existent communications are not forthcoming.

The amendment is the poorest kind of a makeshift. It is the weakest attempt to run with the hare and hunt with the hounds that the British Columbia legislature has ever seen. It puts Mr. Semlin and his friends in the position of opposing something which they have to admit is necessary, and upon grounds that are frivolous in the extreme.

THE FUTURE OF THE PHILIPPINES.

The settlement of the Cuban question has given rise to one of much greater difficulty. What is to become of the Philippines? Admiral Dewey has created this new Eastern question. The odd part of the business is that no one seems to have foreseen it. The destruction of the Spanish fleet at Manila was regarded as the right thing, because while that fleet was not much of an affair except in numbers, it might, if allowed free scope in the Pacific, have played havoc with United States shipping and probably done some damage to the Pacific Coast cities. But with the destruction of the fleet, which was accomplished in a very workmanlike manner, there arises a problem of the greatest difficulty. Spain cannot hope to administer the Philippines without a fleet at her command, even if the United States should abandon the islands at once, which is not in the least probable. We have seen no reason to suppose that public opinion in the United States will countenance the retention of the territory to which Dewey's brilliant action has given new owners. Possibly the best solution of the matter would be the establishment of an independent government under the joint protection of the United States, Great Britain and Japan. This would mean the administration of the islands under a joint commission, and there is little doubt that the result would be excellent.

It is safe to say that neither Great Britain nor the United States wants the Philippines. It is equally certain that Japan does. In fact there is nothing in the way of territory or anything else that Japan does not want. But the people of that country have already got as much as the nations of Europe care about their having. Take a look at the map and see how the Japanese archipelago, Formosa and the Philippines form a chain down the whole eastern front of Asia, and then decide for yourself if you think it likely that any nation, the continent, would be willing that such having an interest on the mainland of a chain should be in the possession of any one power.

It is not likely that Russia would care to have the islands. Russia has not yet adopted the policy of occupying outlying territory. It extends after the manner of a glacier, by encroachment upon contiguous territory. Its machinery of government is not equal to the administration of lands beyond the sea. France

has not made such a success of Madagascar as to feel particularly anxious to try a new experiment right away in this province, but in the whole of Canada. There remains Germany, whose ruler would be willing to undertake the government of the moons of Jupiter, if the job was offered him. But neither Great Britain, France nor Russia nor Japan would consent to Germany's control of the islands. Neither would any of the group consent to their occupation by France. Moreover the United States will have something to say about it, and we may feel very sure that the islands have not been taken to be given up to an unfriendly power.

THE POLICY OF OBSTRUCTION.

The News-Advertiser wants the government to reserve its action in regard to the subsidizing of railways until the people have had an opportunity to pronounce upon the scheme. The point is not well taken, because it is based upon the claim that the loan bill contemplates a new addition of \$5,000,000 to the public debt. This is true only in a limited degree. Of the amount included in the Loan bill, \$2,500,000 have been already provided for by the act of 1897 and the measure in question is only an amendment of that act. The new bill contemplates only an addition of \$2,500,000, and for the greater part of this, that is for \$1,600,000 of the terms of the proposed contract with the railway company, which is to receive the subsidy, are such obligations of the government, and the point is one that will have to be determined, because if the Auditor-General has a right to sit in judgment upon anything to relieve the legal aspect of expenditures, it is difficult to see where the line can be drawn. It would be an extraordinary thing if a government should have to appeal to parliament to authorize by express enactment an expenditure authorized by law, but for which the Auditor-General might think no moral obligation existed.

Everyone speaks in the highest terms of Mr. Alexander Henderson, who has been nominated as the government standard bearer in New Westminster at the forthcoming election. He is a young man of ability and progressive ideas. His experience as secretary of the Liberal Association has familiarized him with campaign work and brought him prominently before the people. If he is elected, as seems altogether probable, he will be an ornament to the house and a credit to his constituency.

The Japanese have been paid the \$55,000,000 indemnity due by China, and Wei Hei Wai thus becomes released from pledge. By the terms of the late arrangement with China this important post now passes into the hands of Great Britain. It was remarkable how quickly the money was forthcoming when it suited John Bull's interest to have the deal closed.

The Seattle Times joins in the advice given by one of its city contemporaries that no one should carry more money about his person in that city than he actually needs for immediate expenses, the reason being that hold-ups are so numerous that it is best to have as little money in one's pocket as possible. This is a dreadful confession of municipal misgovernment.

The Rosslander says that unjust discrimination in favor of the coal mine owners has piled a burden of taxation upon Kootenay. If the Rosslander had said that unjust discrimination in favor of the inhabitants of Mars had led to the oppression of the people of Kamtschatka, the proposition would have been equally true and equally sensible.

The Minister of Militia admitted in the House of Commons yesterday that one third of the supplies for the troops in the Yukon will be sent by way of Seattle. We have space to-day only to say that this very extraordinary arrangement is universally condemned here. We shall deal with it in more detail to-morrow.

The Columbian says the resources of British Columbia are in the hands of monopolists. Will it tell the public what it means by this oft-repeated expression? The resources of the province must be in the hands of some one unless they are to remain dormant. What monopolists possess them?

Opposition papers continue to publish forecasts of changes in the British Columbia government. There is not the shadow of a shade of a ghost of a probable foundation for any of the changes talked about. The subject of cabinet changes has not even been mooted in cabinet circles.

The news that the Le Roi has passed into the hands of British capitalists seems this time to be true and it is good news. Nothing will place British Columbia upon a better footing in London than the regular monthly payment of the big Le Roi dividends.

The Kootenayan says that if six members from Kootenay after the next election will make Hon. Mr. Turner's way in the legislature any easier, he can count upon them with certainty.

In Admiral Dewey's case of Philippine it was not a game of give and take. It was all take.

The Kaslo Kootenayan is now a daily. Ladies, Take the Best. If you are troubled with Constipation, Sallow Skin, and a Tired Feeling, take Karl's Clover Tea, it is pleasant to take. Sold by Cyrus H. Bewick.

is perfectly idle for this province to contemplate any such an outlay. If a finance minister should go to London and ask for a loan of \$30,000,000 to expend in railways in this province, he would be set down as imbecille. The men who talk about government construction and ownership of railways in British Columbia either have not stopped to think what it means in money, and how the interest would be met while the roads were under construction, or they are opposed to railway construction under any circumstances or they are taking buncombe. We are inclined to think they are influenced by a combination of buncombe and ignorance.

An interesting question has arisen between the Auditor-General of Canada and the government over the payment of the sum of \$8,000 for expenses in connection with an attempt to colonize a portion of Quebec. The Auditor-General took two objections, one that there was no legal authority for the payment and the other that, granting the legal authority, there was no moral obligation on the government to pay the amount. The Treasury Board overruled him on the first point and there is to be an investigation into the second point. It seems rather odd that a government official, or rather a parliamentary official, for such the Auditor-General is, being removable only by a two-thirds vote of parliament, has a right to raise a question as to what he calls "the moral obligations" of the government, and the point is one that will have to be determined, because if the Auditor-General has a right to sit in judgment upon anything to relieve the legal aspect of expenditures, it is difficult to see where the line can be drawn. It would be an extraordinary thing if a government should have to appeal to parliament to authorize by express enactment an expenditure authorized by law, but for which the Auditor-General might think no moral obligation existed.

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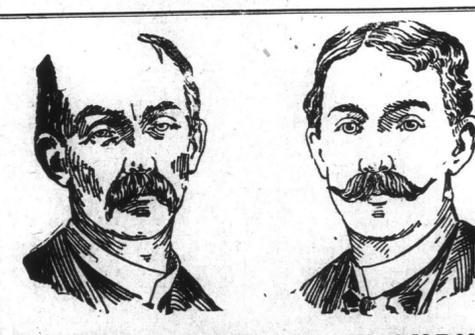
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Washington, April
state of war exists
try and Spain, the
events according to
of nations becomes
consequence. This
view of the fact th
which is expected to
of the land forces o
most of the struggle
to finish the war.
-ship is an immen
of complicated
pelled entirely by s
main sea any co
time, and must fre
provisions, coal or
that neither our own
enemy can cross the
pared to meet the
touching port may
preventing a genera
quadrons. The navy
sible, will partake
single ship contests
the two countries i
the world than had
ships of both countr
be forced to resort
ports. The treatme
ceive will be of u
Outside of the Cana
Porto Rico and Ha
coal or provision
those on the coast o
have already prompt
effective blockade of
United States have
own coasts.

The establishment
of interest to be
creation. The Rom
were not allies as
means of maritime
principle of neutrality
the law of nations,
formed by maritime
between those borde
"As soon as the
their independence,
international law, "th
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of the old Hanseat
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strength they did n
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Abstention from
hostilities.
Impunity of per
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order to each of the

