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The Week

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ONE DOLLAR PER ANNUM

AFTER THE FIGHT. Canada has passed through the turmoil of another Federal election and in the short space of eight hours the control of the Government of the Dominion has been determined for another term, probably of equal duration to three preceding it. The victory of the Liberal party and their enthronement in power has been achieved without any more serious consequences than those which result from wordy warfare. The beating of the big drum, the shouting and the tumult of champions in East and West alike have had little effect on the sober judgment of the people who refused to be stampeded either by the declamatory speeches of Mr. Roblin or the vapourings of Mr. McInnes. While the net result may be disappointing to the Conservative party it is satisfactory to the country in that it is decisive. A narrow majority would have meant another election in the near future with all the disturbing influences of a weak and tottering Government. As matters stand Canada can go ahead on the lines of a settled policy for the next four years, during which period, unless all prognostications are wrong, she will take more than one decisive step towards the goal of her destiny.

A Victory for Laurier.

The most significant feature of the contest is that it is a victory for Laurier. The party organs pleaded for another term that Laurier might "finish his work," and the country has responded in no uncertain voice. Even the Toronto Globe, with its estimate of forty majority, failed to gauge the confidence of the people in the most picturesque and romantic figure which has ever appeared in Canadian public life. With a fourth term granted to him by the voice of the people it is not too soon to admit that Laurier already shares with Sir John Macdonald the highest place in our temple of fame. When the flight of half a century has blown away all the dust of partizanship and prejudice the historian will point to the two great figures which in the first forty years of Confederation dwarfed all others and by their combined wisdom and patriotism raised Canada to the dignity of nationhood. While Sir John may have excelled in foresight and conurbblind partizan who would deny to Sir Wilfrid the noblest qualities of personal character, lofty conception of his country's destiny, and marvellous executive skill. "Let Laurier finish his work" was the cry which won the election. West of the Great Lakes, where he came not, parties are equally divided, in spite of the fact that the brilliant but sardonic Sifton who peopled the prairies, and the Minister of the Interior with his 2,500 majority were the champions. The Maritime Provinces, where Sir Wilfrid did not appear, broke even in the aggregate. Quebec, which he no doubt counted on to remain true to his colours in any event, gave the Opposition five additional seats. But Ontario, where the Premier camped, became the real battle-ground of the campaign. It was a wise choice and never did Sir Wilfrid show greater sagacity than in choosing it. Unless his opponents could offset the Quebec majority they were lost, Ontario was the only place where this could be done and the splendid personality and brilliant oratory of Sir Wilfrid charmed forty-eight constituencies into the Liberal camp and the fight was won.

The Issues.

The issues raised by the Conservative opposition were mainly confined to charges of mal-administration, departmental mis-

management, scandals in which leading members of the party were involved and a general charge of extravagance, excessive expenditure, and undue increase in taxation. In the West local issues of more or less importance were raised in addition. The Northwest Provinces had something to say about the improper handling of agricultural and timber lands. British Columbia had two questions of prime importance to the fore, "Asiatic Exclusion" and "Better Terms." The Government relied mainly upon its great transportation policy, embracing the completion of the Grand Trunk Pacific, the construction of the proposed Hudson's Bay Railway, and of the Georgian Canal. Months ago The Week pointed out that in 1904 the Liberal party had ridden to power on the Grand Trunk Pacific project and prophesied that with the addition of the Hudson's Bay Railway it would carry them there again. The result has verified the prediction. The one thing that has made Canada is the Railway. Before the Canadian Pacific Railway there was no Canada; since its demonstration of the marvellous possibilities of the Dominion railway construction has seized the imagination of our people and it is the one magnet to charm. If Mr. Borden ever had a chance to plead his party to victory it was in 1904 when a clear-cut, definite scheme of Government ownership would have appealed to the electorate. But he hesitated, and changed his mind at the eleventh hour, and the opportunity had passed. With a vast, almost unexplored north country exceeding in area and possibly in resources the Canada that is who shall say for how many years, or even for how many decades a wise, carefully digested, railway policy will be the most popular and most effective test of statesmanship. It matters not that original estimates have long ago gone by the board, that money has been squandered in extravagant classification and a thousand other ways, the people see the railway growing, its roadbed lengthens day by day, its streaks of steel spin further and further to the last best west, and already millions of acres of golden planes are nodding it a welcome. The iron road that leads to wealth and fame! Nothing can stay it and nothing can displace it in the popular esteem. The country has decided to let Laurier "finish his work," but not in Laurier's time nor in the century that shall follow him will the twin bands of steel have coupled up the whole transportation system of the new nation of the twentieth century and linked the boundless and trackless solitudes of the frozen north to the teeming centres of population which during that time will occupy the south.

Verdict on Scandals.

It is safe to say that the Federal election of 1908 has forever settled the policy of fighting elections on a platform of petty scandal. No doubt many abuses have crept into the Laurier Administration. It may be safely conceded that influential members of the Government had used their public offices to further their private affairs, had feathered their own nests, and those of their friends, directly or indirectly, at the public expense. But whilst such conduct is indefensible the verdict of the country can only be taken to mean that the electors do not believe that one party is any better than the other in this respect, and that the only safeguard it can have is the personal character of the Premier. Reduced to this basis it becomes impossible to cavil at its decision. However estimable a man Mr. Borden may be no one, least of all he himself, would claim any

superiority to Sir Wilfrid Laurier in that particular. Further the Administration can point to the fact that the greatest sinners—Sifton, Emmerson and Hyman—have been forced from office. True the punishment was tardy, but it came. On the other hand Sir Wilfrid has laid himself open to criticism for the apparent laxity or control which he exercised, and for the manner in which on more than one occasion, notably in connection with the work of the Civil Service Commission, he lent himself to a policy which made for crippling and thwarting thorough investigation. Probably this was under all the circumstances one of the weakest acts in his career. It is greatly to be feared that the charges against Mr. Foster and Mr. George Fowler, and the revelations of the Insurance Commission more than offset these against the Laurier Government, in the public mind. Be that as it may the people evidently disregarded the latter, and in the Province where their effect should have been the greatest they fell flat and the Government made its greatest gains. Undoubtedly the Opposition made a fatal mistake in supposing that the great issue of Conservative or Liberal control turned on too many silver cruets for the Montcalm, or too many cases of rum for the Arctic. Such methods savour more of the politics of Little Peddington than of a great Dominion, and hereafter to raise them to the magnitude of an issue will be but to court derision. A nation is in the making, the wheels of progress are revolving, they cannot be hindered by a fly.

Laurier's Weakness.

No amount of admiration for Sir Wilfrid Laurier can disguise the fact that there have been weak points in his administration. These may be briefly summarized as laxity of control over his ministers, lack of determination in forcing the completion of the Grand Trunk Pacific, and extravagance in public expenditures. It seems impossible for his administration to escape a verdict of guilty on all these counts, of which the latter is by far the most serious. In fact unless there is a considerable expansion in the revenue for the next fiscal year the Minister of Finance may find himself face to face with a deficit which would stagger the country. Meanwhile there is little indication of that regime of economy which would enable the country to face a prolonged period of commercial depression with equanimity. Mr. R. E. Walker has with his usual sagacity warned the people of the necessity for practising the most rigid economy until financial conditions re-adjust themselves, but the Government shows no signs of appropriating the good advice. Further, the most perfervid supporter of the Laurier Administration must admit that its tariff policy is only a qualified success. Leading industries like that of the woollen manufacturers are paralysed. The bounty system which was to have established our steel and iron industries has failed, and after paying out many millions they are as far from being self-supporting as ever. Preferential trade with the Mother Country and the Colonies has proved to be a misnomer for the report of the Government Trade Commissioner, Mr. Gregg, shows that it works less to the advantage of England than the United States and the problem of how to ensure the exchange of Canadian raw products for British manufactured goods still remains unsolved. East, but by no means least, while Canadian opinion may not be a unit on the subject of Imperial defence, it cannot for a moment be contended that the Laurier Government has responded to public senti-

ment on this great question. These are some of the weaknesses of the late Administration for which Sir Wilfrid Laurier must be held responsible, and the treatment of which fairly illustrates the difference which exists in principle between Liberalism and Conservatism as they exist in Canada.

Mr. Borden.

Of Mr. R. L. Borden's personal character nothing can be said that is not both favourable and complimentary. He is a man, like Sir Wilfrid, of spotless reputation, scrupulous, straightforward, direct and truthful, but in the moment of defeat it is as well to speak plainly, and after many years of parliamentary life it yet remains for Mr. Borden to prove that he is a leader. He has led his party to some measure of success in the House, but he has never been able to create enthusiasm in the country, and without enthusiasm there can be no victory. Up to the close of the polls on Monday Mr. Borden predicted victory for his party. If he were merely a politician this might have been expected, but Mr. Borden is a man who only says what he believes, and viewed in this light his prediction is a remarkable evidence of lack of judgment. This same lack of judgment has been manifested at different periods of his career in the shifting of his ground at the inception of the Grand Trunk Pacific and leaving his party practically without a policy; in accepting a salary from the Government as leader of the Opposition and so handicapping his independence; in retaining Mr. Foster and practically offering the country the alternative of Fielding or Foster, an offer which could only have one result. And lastly in tolerating, if he did not initiate, a campaign of personal criticism in the East which was too small to enlist the sympathy of the voters. It is true that Mr. Borden's Halifax platform has some excellent planks; it is a series of political axioms to which the party and probably the country would heartily assent, but it discloses no great constructive policy and contains nothing which would appeal to the imagination. The party has been loyal to Mr. Borden and will continue to support him as long as he retains his present position, but with men as brilliant and as clean as Mr. Mackenzie King coming to the front it begins to look as if Sir Wilfrid Laurier's successor, not only as leader of his party but as Premier of Canada, may be found in the Liberal ranks.

The Strength of Conservatism.

And yet this should not be so. Conservatism made Canada. The Canadian Pacific Railway and the National policy, both opposed tooth and nail by the Liberal leaders, including Sir Wilfrid Laurier, and the Liberal party, were the two factors in building up our Dominion. Any success which has been achieved by the Liberal party has come through the abandonment of their traditional fiscal policy and the appropriation of the National Policy. Tariff for revenue only, to say nothing of Free Trade, is a buried Shibboleth. The old war cry of Liberalism, "Retrenchment and Reform," is almost forgotten. The Liberalism of George Brown and Alexander Mackenzie is represented by dry bones in the valley of Humiliation, and there is no voice to make them live. The Liberalism of today is masquerading in the cloak of Conservatism, and the country has not yet found it out. Why? Because the Conservative party lacks the men who can drive conviction home. Where the Liberals are most vulnerable the Conservatives are most

(Continued on Page Five)

Social and Personal.

Mr. Beauchamp Pinder arrived from Dawson early in the week.

Mr. W. E. Norris of Vancouver came over on business last Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Percy Roberts were passengers by the last northern boat.

Mr. Jas. Gaudin has returned from the North and will spend the winter here.

Mr. W. Newcombe left with the Vancouver football team for Frisco.

The Misses Ellis, Gorge Road, have issued invitations for a dance.

Captain Gaudin left for Vancouver by Wednesday's boat.

Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Oliver and daughter left on Tuesday last via Northern Pacific for New York, sailing from there on the Cunarder, Lusitania on a twelve months' trip to the Old Country.

Invitations have been issued by Mrs. Andrew Gray for a Halloween party.

Captain Parry, H.M.S. Egeria, gave a luncheon party on board last Wednesday.

Captain Musgrave has returned from Prince Rupert and is a guest at the Balmoral.

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. S. Matson leave shortly on a trip to the Old Country.

Miss Elsie Bullen left on Friday for Honolulu.

Mr. G. S. Holt was in Victoria for a few days during the week.

Miss Barbara Mainguy has been staying with Mrs. Stevenson, Burdette Avenue.

Mrs. Stretfield came in from Sidney and spent a few days in town.

Mr. A. J. Mara spent a few days in Vancouver last week.

Mr. George White-Fraser returned from the North on Wednesday and left the same evening for Vancouver.

Mrs. P. F. Rogers left on Wednesday for Spokane.

Mrs. Koenig of Shawnigan is registered at the King Edward.

Miss Grylls, who is very popular in musical circles in Victoria, has been engaged to give a series of concerts at the Empress. Her first she gave last Wednesday evening and was met with a very warm reception. Miss Grylls was heard to advantage in the following solos:

- Berceuse de Jocelyn Godard O.
- Lovely Night Landon Ronald
- The Kerry Dance Molloy
- (a) Till I Wake Woodforde-Finden
- (b) Ashbro's Song from Thelum River Woodforde-Finden
- (a) Purple Pansies Noel Johnson
- (b) Memory E. R. Park
- (a) Robin Adair Scotch
- (b) The Lass with the Delicate Air Arne, arr. by A. L.

Mrs. (Dr.) Verrender gave a children's dance on Saturday evening.

The Alexandra Club gave a very enjoyable tea on Friday at the Club Rooms. There was a large attendance of members and their friends.

Miss Gladys Blakemore left on Wednesday for Nelson on a visit to her sister, Mrs. R. H. Ley.

The famous baritone, Emilio de Gorgoza, was heard for the second time in Victoria on Tuesday evening at the Victoria Theatre, before a small but enthusiastic audience.

Among those present were: Mrs. James Dunsmuir, Misses Dunsmuir, Mrs. Robin Dunsmuir, Mr. Bromley, Colonel and Mrs. Grant, Mrs. Luxton, Dr. and Mrs. Hermann Robertson, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Laing, Mrs. Holt, Miss V. Hickey, Miss Monteith, Mr. Bridgeman, Miss K. Gaudin, Mrs. Percy Roberts, Mr. James Gaudin, Mrs. F. B. Pemberton, Mrs. Pemberton, Miss Pemberton, Mr. F. Pemberton, Mr. Sampson, Mr. Lawson, Miss McCoy, Mrs. R. Jones, Col. and Mrs. Prior, Mrs. Freeman, Mrs. Little, Miss Little, Mr. and Mrs. J. Wilson, Mr. A. Gore, Mrs. Walter Langley, Miss Langley, Mrs. McCallum, Mrs. Bridgeman, Miss McKay, Mrs. Janion, Mrs. Peters, Miss Peters, Mr. Dewdney, Mr. and Mrs. Muskett, Misses Pooley, Mrs. W. Bullen, Mrs. Monteith, Misses Blakemore, Mrs. P. de Nee Walker, Mrs. Musgrave, Miss

Mills, Mrs. O. M. Jones, Mrs. Newling, Mr. B. Parker, Mr. Russell and many others.

Victoria Amusement Co.
Among the companies registered during the past week we notice The Victoria Amusement Co., Ltd., according to whose prospectus, "the undertaking of the company will in the first instance be confined to the erection and operation at the Gorge Park of a first class and up-to-date Water Chute."

Plans have already been prepared by Mr. William D'Oyly Rochfort, the well-known local architect.

The need for such an amusement has long been felt, but it has been left to Mr. Arthur V. Kenah, the promoter of the company, to take active steps to supply this want.

The natural attraction of the Gorge Park are too well known to need any eulogy on our part and the thousands of people who visit it every year are the best possible proof of its popularity.

At the same time there can be no doubt that such an addition as the proposed Water Chute will do much to increase this popularity, as it is a form of amusement which, while being perfectly safe, is at the same time very exhilarating and the sensation produced by rapidly rushing through the air and shooting out on to the water has to be tried to realise how delightful it is.

When one realises that there is no similar structure in Canada west of Toronto, it can readily be understood that there must be a very large number of people in Victoria to whom this will be an absolute novelty, and one which will speedily take its place in the front rank of Victoria's amusements.

The possibilities of the Gorge Park as a pleasure resort have been fully realised by several American financiers and it is therefore all the more gratifying to know that Mr. Kenah was able to get ahead of them, and secure the necessary rights for the erection and operation of the Chute, thus ensuring that nothing but local capital and local labour will be employed in the undertaking.

The registered office of the Victoria Amusement Company is at the Law Chambers, and full particulars regarding the Water Chute may be obtained from the company's broker, Mr. Griffin W. Jones, at his office in the Metropolitan Buildings, which is situated on Government Street directly opposite the post office.

On Wednesday evening a modern play entitled "Paid in Full" was presented at the Victoria Theatre. The play is a good one, being cleverly constructed and cleverly written. In the last respect it is easily the best product of the modern American drama, and is at times smart enough to suggest Pinero or Oscar Wilde. Unfortunately, it was not well acted, several of the chief characters being very inadequately portrayed. The character part of Capt. Williams could hardly have been better handled; indeed he was the backbone of the whole representation, and if the leading lady had been more competent the scene in the Captain's chambers would have been thrilling. One can imagine what Mrs. Kendall could have done with such an opportunity. The husband, too, was lamentably weak. The villain is supposed to look like a villain on the stage, but he is not expected to proclaim himself as such in almost every sentence that he utters, nor does he add to the vraisemblance of his part by screeching at ladies. The actor who tried to portray Mr. Brooks might well study the methods of Willard, whose finished and polished sketch of "Spider" in "The Silver King" is a very quintessence of "villainous" acting. That the play had a long run in New York and Chicago is not to be wondered at. With a strong all round company it could not fail to attract. It has many dramatic and a few thrilling moments. At the Victoria Theatre it was splendidly staged and mounted.

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Sporting Comment.

I am pleased to see that the Victoria Rugby players are rapidly bunding into shape in spite of the fact that several of the most promising players are out of the game. The practice last Saturday was a hard one and although the teams were both short those who did put in an appearance showed the effects of the previous Saturday's drill, not by their cruises but by the style of play. The forwards formed up better and the back players were less inclined to hold on to the ball. If the players only continue as they have commenced there is no question but that they will make any team in B. C. play to beat them.

The forward division will have good eight as well as being speedy while the three-quarters will very likely be the strongest part of the team. With Newcombe at half-back there is no question that his part of the field will be well looked after and if another player of his style can be located they will take a lot of beating. At full back Johnson is developing into a very reliable man, but he has lots to learn. Some of the stunts he pulls off are extremely lucky and if it should so happen that he missed one in a game it might be at the cost of the match.

On the whole, however, the outlook is very bright for a good team. All that is required is practice and from the showing that has been made I think the players realize and are determined to do their best to be ready and fit when the whistle blows for the first big match.

I am very sorry to see that Sparks will have to remain out of the game for the season; he is a good, strong player and with him at the head the forwards could do a lot of good work. His resignation as captain has also become necessary and a more capable man could not be secured than the one who was made at the meeting of the players, that of Hebden Gillespie. The first big match will not take place for a few weeks yet, but during that time the players should not miss an opportunity to get a few minutes practice. Every little bit helps and it will be condition that will tell when the struggle comes. Billy Newcombe is the only Victoria player who accompanied the Vancouver team to California. When the trip was first mentioned the Vancouver club had an idea of taking several Victorians, but the number has gradually dwindled down to one, but in my opinion the team would have been much stronger if three or four of the locals had been selected. The team that was sent down is weak and it will be a surprise if the majority of the games do not go against them.

The soccer players had another big day last Saturday, three matches being played, all of which resulted in very close contests. While the results did not materially affect the standing of the various clubs in the league they have added a little interest by the fact that several of the clubs lower down are beginning to do things and it would not be surprising if some of the top notchers are given surprise before the season is over. Today three more games will be played, all of which should prove interesting and it is expected that each will have a good quota of spectators. There is a report going around that some of the local sporting organizations are complaining about the arrangements of the dates for the Oak Bay grounds. As far as I can find out the only club that has any kick comes is the hockey club and from enquiries made the objections that have been registered are not as strong as have been made out. Every club realizes that there is a great difficulty in securing suitable grounds, and in Oak Bay the James Bay Athletic Association has secured the best. I think the management is making every effort to give each and every club their share of Saturdays.

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Hounded!

Last winter Col. Wolfenden, the King's Printer, published an "edition de luxe" of the log and records of the journey of the Royal Engineers who came to Victoria half a century ago. If any of my readers who are fortunate enough to possess a copy will turn to it, they will find the portrait of a tall, dark, handsome man with a high intellectual forehead, a somewhat nervous expression and wearing the long whiskers which were in fashion at that time. This man was no other than the General Luard whose name has been on every lip during the last few months.

During the fifty years which had intervened, young Luard had a distinguished career, and after attaining the rank of general retired some years ago on his pension. It is not necessary to recapitulate the distressing features of the sad event which has occupied the attention of the courts, and which only received its final verdict quite recently, that verdict being that General Luard had taken his own life during a period of temporary insanity.

The feature of the enquiry which at the present moment possesses the greatest interest for the public is the rider appended to the verdict by the coroner's jury, and feelingly endorsed by the coroner himself. It was to the effect that the deceased had been hounded to death by writers of anonymous letters.

A few weeks before the wife of the General had been murdered under somewhat remarkable circumstances. After walking part of the way from their home to the golf links with her husband, the deceased lady left him to continue her walk alone. They were on the best of terms, and there had never been a suggestion to the contrary. Within little more than one hour she was found shot through the head, on the verandah of an unoccupied residence in the vicinity. Money and jewelry were missing, her pocket was torn from her dress, and her fingers had been cut by the removal of her rings. In the absence of any other apparent motive, this evidence would seem to point to robbery, but by one of those processes of intuition which operates in the public mind, even in the teeth of logic, the idea gained ground that the evidences of robbery were manufactured by the criminal to cover a deeper intention.

The strongest supporters of this view pointed to the fact that although there were numbers of people within earshot of the scene of the murder no cry was heard, and, further, that as the gun was fired within a few inches of the victim it is difficult to understand how the murderer could have got so near without attracting attention. If the murderer were a tramp as suggested, it is argued that his approach would have been discovered, and the lady would have screamed or run away.

Along this line of argument the theory developed that she was murdered by some person with whom she was acquainted, and whose near approach she would not resent. As there were no dark chapters in her life and no basis whatever for the suggestion of a rendezvous, some people of malicious inclination, or weak intellect, began to write anonymous letters to General Luard. The purport of these letters was either that he had committed the murder, that he was going to do it, or that he knew of some reason other than that of robbery why it might have been committed. All these suggestions hinted at a more or less guilty knowledge on his part.

Some of the letters were published in the most abusive language, and the

General, who was a peculiarly sensitive man, and had lived in happiness with his wife all their life-time, was so wrought upon by the horrible insinuations that his mind became unhinged, and he took his own life.

A letter which he wrote just before death is pathetic in the extreme. He spoke of his affection for his wife, of the horror of the charges which had been made against him, how the worry had rendered him sleepless, and finally exhausted his strength; then in an instant "something inside seemed to break," and the impulse to self destruction became irresistible, and he went, as he expresses it, to join his wife. Literally hounded to death.

To say that it is a sad ending to an honourable career is hardly to touch the fringe of a great question. I wonder how many men and women have been hounded to death by the same means? No person is immune from the anonymous letter-writer. Anyone wicked enough could write letters under the cloak of anonymity to every person in the city making false charges, possibly against themselves, or against their dearest and best beloved, and there is no protection and no defence, the blow comes out of the dark, so cannot be parried. It smites the innocent, and is cruel. It acts regardless of consequences, and is therefore unjust. It is easy to say that the right thing is to ignore such letters. No doubt it is, and every right minded person would do so, but the fact remains that there will be many a bleeding heart. The fate of General Luard furnishes a concrete illustration of the result of a system against which civilization is defenceless, but which imposes a terrible burden of responsibility upon those who lend themselves to its operation.

Bohemian.

Short Story

RAILHEAD.

A TALE OF MYSTERY.

By Perceval Landon.*

This story was told me in Rangoon by a man whose name, I think, was Torrens, but I cannot remember very clearly, if indeed I ever knew. I hardly know anything about the man who told it except that he was obviously convinced of its truth. He said that John Silbermeister told him the story himself, and I have no doubt that he did. So far as Torrens could recall the man, Silbermeister was an ordinary lanky man, of a singular directness of speech, and totally unable to see a joke. So, for that matter, Torrens. He said that he had so far verified the story that at the date that Silbermeister mentioned, the N. P. Railway would have reached Enderton; nor is it apparent what motive there could be for Silbermeister lying in the matter. Torrens hadn't the imagination of a rickshaw wallah, so it isn't his lie either. At any rate, I give it for what it is worth.

Torrens was a little man who had taken up Christian Science somewhat earnestly a little beyond middle life. He was really a person of some importance on the railway, and I believe one of the company's most efficient servants. To listen to him sometimes one would hardly believe that an accident could possibly occur on the railway, except as a mere delusion of the senses. I believe he died about two years after he told me the story, and for his own sake I hope that he was able to maintain his Christian Science doctrines to the end, for he had sore need of them. He died of cholera at Bhamo in 1904.

He had shown me round the curiosity shops of Rangoon, and with his help I had disentangled one or two interesting pieces of work from the mass of modern substitutes—it is unwise to call them forgeries—which fill

up the curio-shelves of Rangoon dealers. One of them was a little bronze serpent, which sat on its rounded tail and blinked at me with ruby eyes as he told the story in the billiard-room of the "Strand"; and I remember that the Calcutta boat was coming in from the Hastings shoal at the time, and from time to time wailed like a lost spirit up the river. The heat was intense. They have not in Rangoon the mosquito antidotes to which one is used in India. One buzzing electric fan supplied the entire room, but its sphere of influence was entirely monopolized by a pair of German-Jewish diamond merchants and their wives. "Some years ago," said Torrens, "a man called Silbermeister came to me with excellent references, and asked if there was any chance of his being employed on the new construction toward the Yunnan frontier. That was before Curzon had put a stopper on the whole project. I dare say Curzon was right. The railway to the Northeast, both on this side and on the other side of the frontier, would have been extremely expensive and possibly impracticable. There are deep ravines, 'canyons,' Silbermeister called them, across which our line had to be thrown. To zigzag down to the bottom by reversing stations and then up again seemed to be the only possible means of crossing them, and with such enormous initial expenditure it was doubtful whether the traffic would ever pay 1 per cent. upon the capital. But we in Rangoon wanted to establish a definite connection with China for political reasons, and if the Indian Government had been willing to guarantee half the cost the Burmah Railway would have gone on with the business. Silbermeister, who had had a good deal of pioneer railway experience, would have been just the man for the job. While the matter was being decided in Calcutta he remained here, and I saw a good deal of him. One evening Silbermeister told me this story, and, so far as I can judge the man at all, I should say that he was telling me the truth."

Some years ago, when the big New York Syndicate that, among thirty thousand others employed Silbermeister, was pushing forward the construction of the N. P. Railway in Nebraska, he was for about three months in charge of the railhead station at Enderton. This was merely a solidly built wooden hut by the side of the line. Trains run up to it and nominally carried passengers, but as a matter of fact very few wanted to go farther than Castleton, a raw pioneer clump of houses, which had already blossomed out into half a dozen stores, seven "hotels," an electric generating shed, and thirty or forty pretentiously named wooden houses. Beyond Enderton the railway was at this time actually in course of construction. The navvies were chiefly Italian. It was a difficult piece of work and, about eight miles on, matters had temporarily come to a standstill owing to a persistent subsidence along the edge of a small half-dry river. On one Thursday morning a piece of the embankment had given way, and an Italian workman had been killed. This was a matter of no great importance; all engineers know that their lives must be sacrificed to carry out any important work, and on the whole the loss of life on this section of the N. P. line had been less than might have been expected. There were the usual police guards in the navvies' camp, which contained between three to four hundred workmen.

On a Friday evening, between six and seven o'clock, Silbermeister was sitting in his station house at Enderton running over the week's wages' account, when a light engine ran up from Castleton. Silbermeister was expecting the money with which to pay the navvies' weekly wages on the following day, and a sub-inspector got off the footplate carrying a canvas bag which contained the money that was needed. It was the usual week-end routine. At the same time, a couple of railwaymen took off the tender half a dozen large packing cases containing materials that had been requisitioned for the work, and put

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them into the baggage-room, which composed one-half of the station house. The inspector ran through Silbermeister's accounts, initialed them as correct, and then took a receipt for the money which he brought with him. Silbermeister proceeded to lock the money up in the safe in his own room, and then checked the packing-cases which had just been stored in the baggage-room. Among these cases was a somewhat gruesome object, a coffin sent up by the company from Castleton in order that the victim of the late accident might be decently buried on Sunday morning. Another receipt was signed for the cases, and then the inspector told the engine-driver he was ready to return.



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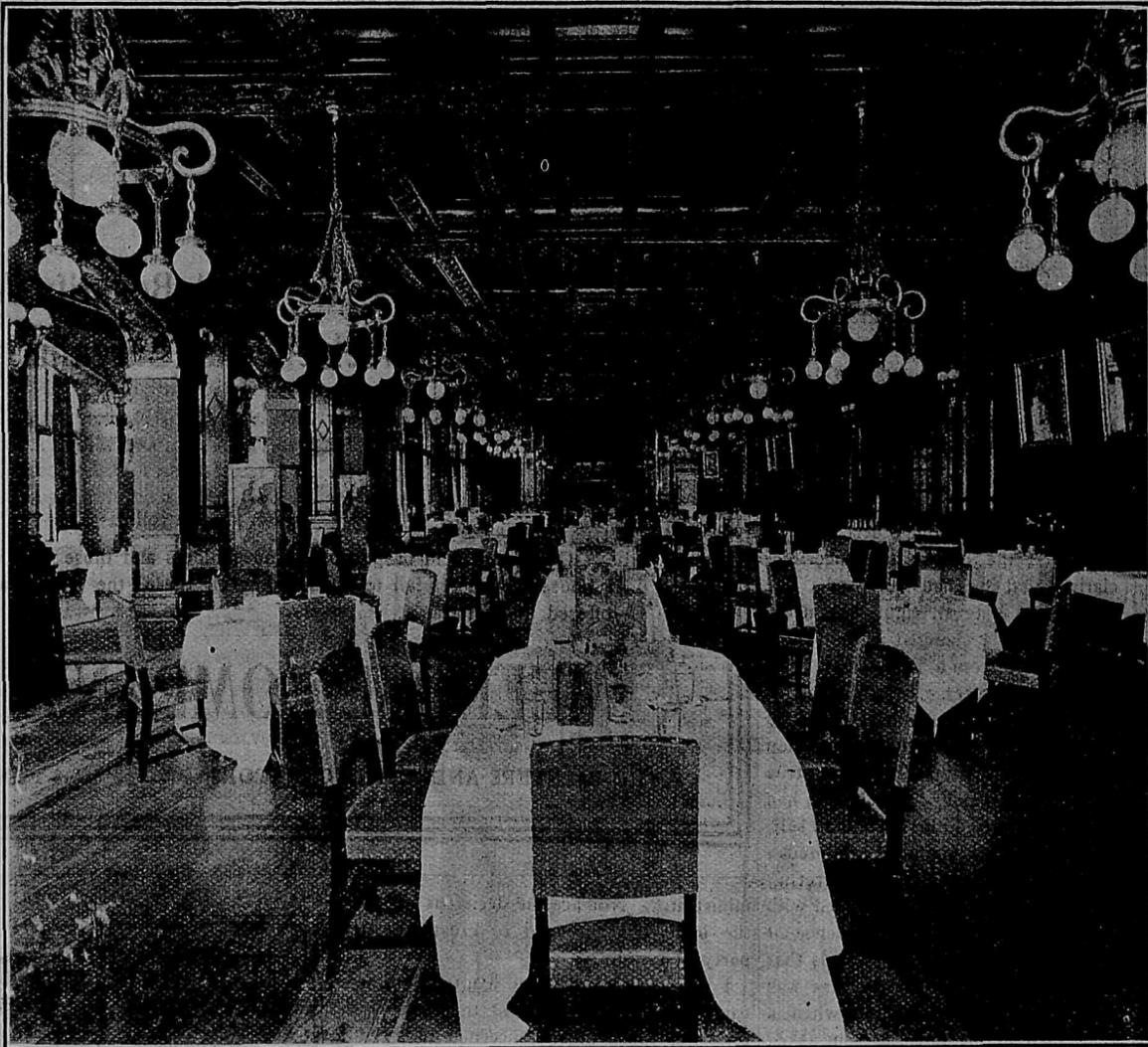
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Before doing so, however, he turned to Silbermeister and said:

"Do you feel quite safe here with all that money? Shall I leave you a man to spend the night here with you?"

Silbermeister shrugged his shoulders, and with a smile declined the offer. He said that the police looked after the navvies' camp, that he and his Negro servant had spent many nights together at the station, and that he had no fear of burglars. He had, he said, his revolver beside him, and the money would not remain with him more than that one night. The two men shook hands, and the inspector departed as he had come.

Silbermeister then re-checked the books, recounted the money, saw that the doors were properly locked, sent away his Negro servant for the night—the man had been getting the table ready for his supper while he was escorting the inspector back to the engine—and, after locking the door on to the platform, occupied himself with some small duties now that his day's work was done. There was no further possibility of being rung up from Castleton, so he took this opportunity of cleaning and readjusting the telegraph instrument which stood on a table by the wall, and had not been working quite satisfactory that morning. For this purpose he disconnected the instrument, and being a fairly skilled electrician—though of an old-fashioned school, Torrens said—he did nearly all that was needed in a few minutes. Leaving the instrument as it was, he lit a pipe and started to get ready his supper. By this time the night had begun to fall in earnest, and he lighted the kerosene lamp on the table. More from habit than from anything else, as he knew that he was not likely to need it, he also lighted the bull's-eye lan-

tern which, on most evenings in the week, he took with him on his final rounds.

Silbermeister then opened the cupboard and took down a loaf of bread, a tin of canned meat, and a pot of marmalade. His preparations for supper were simple. It was a cold night, and he meant to have some hot grog before turning in, so he lighted the spirit lamp and filled his kettle from a pitcher of water. While the water was boiling he opened the tin of meat, cut himself a German slice of bread, and sat down to his meal. By this time the sun had entirely set, and only the last reflections from the dull western horizon still found their way through the windows. For a moment he looked out through the widows across the platform and the wide level waste beyond. There was not a living thing in sight—not a tree, hardly a bush. Then he shut up the house for the night, and fastened the shutters. He sat down at the table for his meal, propped up a book underneath the lamp, and made himself as comfortable as he could. The bully-beef was not a very appetizing dish, and it occurred to him that he had a bottle of sauce put away in a box at the side of the room. He got up, opened the box, and, in order to find the sauce, turned out upon the floor with some noise most of the contents of the trunk. While doing so, he did not notice that the telegraph instrument on the farther table ticked out a short and sharp message; at least, it was only the last few strokes that attracted his attention. He turned from the box, before which he was kneeling, to listen, but the message had already stopped. Leaving the sauce undiscovered, he rose to his feet and muttered:

"I'm sure the thing was talking," and went across to the table to ask

for a repetition from Castleton, only to discover, as he might have remembered, that he had himself disconnected the instrument while cleaning it. Dismissing the matter as an illusion, he returned to the box where the sauce was, and after a moment or two found what he wanted. He then resumed his seat at the table without thinking again of the telegraph instrument. He began his reading, and was in the middle of an engrossing sentence when the telegraph instrument spoke again. This time there could be no mistake. Silbermeister, who knew that when he had left the machine three minutes before it was entirely disconnected laid down his knife and fork and listened like a man in a dream. There was no doubt about it.

"E — N — T."

The signal for Enderton Station had been called up sharply, imperiously, unmistakably. He waited a moment, and then, in spite of the fact that he had not acknowledged the call, came the short message. He muttered the words as they were ticked out:

"Watch the box."

For one full minute Silbermeister sat immovable. There was no question of the fact, yet the man's common sense refused to believe in what his ears had heard. The room was dead silent except for the hissing of the spirit lamp which had just begun to boil. Silbermeister felt that he was the victim of some nightmare. He would not believe his own senses, and decided to test the thing once more. He rose from the table, went across to the instrument, and brought it bodily away from its position. He put it on the table in front of him next the corned beef, and then, blowing out the spirit lamp in order that the silence might be more intense, he

resumed his seat and waited, hanging over it with every sense on the alert. The lamp lighted up his angular jaw and deep-set eyes staring at the little contrivance of brass and wood. He had not to wait long. The instrument, with its connecting wires and plugs hanging over the side of his dinner-table, and still swinging to and fro beneath it, once again called out his station:

"E — N — T."

The sweat leapt to Silbermeister's forehead, but he made no sign. It went on. It was the same message, short, clear, and beyond all doubt:

"Watch the box."

(To be continued)

After the Fight.

(Continued from Page One)

vulnerable too, and so the people have turned from principles to a personality. Dreams of a slender majority to be easily overturned, have been rudely shattered. Sir Wilfrid Laurier has been entrenched in power in many respects more strongly than ever, but there is no reason to lament. The inherent strength of Conservatism remains. The party is greater than any leader and the country than party. There will be four years in which to develop a constructive Conservative policy. The fetich of 1878 will not serve. The party has counted too long on the name and influence of Sir John Macdonald. The impetus of his great personality has spent itself as a potent electoral force. If the party has conserved any of his wisdom and energy it must show

itself in a "renaissance." The future government of Canada lies with the party which can frame a twentieth century policy. It may be erected on the foundations laid by the Fathers of Confederation, but it must be more than a one-story building if it is to endure, and the architect must be not only a noble knight, "sans peur et sans reproche," but a statesman with Imperial ideas. The destiny of Canada is still in the womb of Time. The great Pro-Consul who recently visited our shores in his profound address at Winnipeg elaborated the idea that the keynote of our destiny was 'internal development.' So far that development has proceeded on the lines originally laid down by Conservative statesmen. The present hiatus is one of personality rather than policy and the sceptre will return when the law-giver appears.

I notice that President Magurn of the Victoria Lacrosse Club is getting ready for next season. A few weeks ago I advocated such a course, and I am glad to see that it is being followed. It is only by this method that a good team can be built up get busy right away or the season will be open and Victoria will be in the same position as for several years past. Every effort should be made to assist President Magurn in his endeavours and if lacrosse enthusiasts would work together there is very little doubt but that Victoria would put a winning team in the field for the season of 1909, although something will have to be done to heal the breach between Vancouver and New Westminster before there is much lacrosse next year:

CORRESPONDENCE

The Week accepts no responsibility for the views expressed by its correspondents.

Communications will be inserted whether signed by the real name of the writer or a nom de plume, but the writer's name and address must be given to the editor as an evidence of bona fides. In no case will it be divulged without consent.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Socialism and Roman Catholicism.

White Horse, Y.T.,

October 10th, 1908.

To J. A. Van Nevel, Esq., care The Week, Victoria, B.C.

Dear Sir,—I am in receipt of a copy of The Week containing a letter over your name, dated August 10th, purporting to be a reply to my open letter to "Bohemian," which appeared some time previously in the same paper.

You assert that I make a "flippant" attack on Christianity in general and against the Roman Catholic church in particular. My remarks were directed more against the form of Christian teachings handed out by the churches today and, if you will have it so, especially the brand served us by the Roman Catholic church. I also stated that so far, the Christian churches have failed in permanently uplifting the masses from poverty or near want.

You cite Belgium as an example of the Roman Catholic Church's uplifting and claim the bettered conditions of the workers in that country were brought about by "the noble and elevating principles" enunciated in a papal encyclical and the election to government of a Catholic majority. Previous to 1885 the factory owners controlled Belgium. In 1872 a bill was introduced to prohibit girls under 13 years of age working underground in the mines. Of course such a bill received but little consideration. Finally in 1878 a vote was taken, resulting in five votes in favour of the bill with one hundred and fifty against it. The failure of such measures as this opened the eyes of the workers and in 1885 a Labor party was formed, and candidates placed in the field in opposition to the old parties, which resulted in some legislation being passed favourable to the workers. The Labor party continued to grow in strength, and today, while not in control have considerable voice in the affairs of the country. I fail to see wherein the ministry was guided and inspired by a papal encyclical, rather the awakening of labor to help itself through the ballot box accomplished the good results. You state that the 2,000 miles of railroads in Belgium are government owned. If such ownership has helped to bring about such happy results in that country, why does your church so bitterly oppose the same scheme of ownership in this country?

In addition to Belgium, there are a few other countries in which the Roman Catholic church largely dominates the masses. For instance: Spain, Portugal, Italy, Mexico, and several of the South American republics. Will you show in what way the church has uplifted the masses of these countries. Why is there such a percentage of illiteracy and enormous amount of poverty among these people if the church has done so much to promote their temporal and spiritual welfare? Why are the people so backward and such slaves to superstition in their religious beliefs?

With regard to the sad experience of the French town of Roubaix and their frenzied Socialistic experiment. It would be interesting to know if this town was quite free from poverty and misery previous to the election of the Socialists, as you state these conditions were rampant afterwards. I have no information at hand regarding the experiment of the town named from the other side of the question, so am not in a position to discuss their success or failure.

The concluding paragraph of your letter states that the Roman Catholic church has nothing to fear. If so, why does she so oppose this movement? Is it that she dislikes to have people think for themselves. She has nothing to fear from Socialism, as a Christian church, for under Socialism people would be still at liberty to be-

lieve in her teachings and superstitions, but her influence outside of religion would probably wane.

YUKONER.

A Grave Danger.

Victoria, Oct. 28th, 1908.

Sir,—I wish to call the attention of the electors and public generally to the conduct of the Returning Officer at the recent election. This person—an individual of the name of Hick—apparently quite forgot that, in the position he occupied, he was merely the hired servant of the public as a whole, not the agent of one political party alone. His manner in the polling booths was grossly offensive to many of the Conservatives with whom he came in contact, and also—which was very funny to see—to several pronounced Liberals of whose political proclivities he was not aware. In one instance, which came under my personal notice, a well-known working-man here, who was formerly a Conservative, but who has been a consistent Liberal supporter for the past ten years, was approached by this Jack-in-office the moment he entered the Institute Hall and ordered out of the place, the Returning Officer declaring that he had no vote. The man had a vote all right, but, needless to say, he changed in that short conversation from a Templeman voter to a Barnard voter.

But it was at the official count on Tuesday afternoon that this man Hick showed himself in his true colours. The result of the election had evidently irritated him beyond all self-control, and his manners exhibited a charming combination of the fretfulness of a spoiled child, combined with the calculated gratuitous insolence of a very common person who feels that he has powerful protectors. He was rude to Mr. Barnard, and, when a gentleman among those present asked him, in a perfectly civil way, at the close of the count, what the exact figures were, the Returning Officer snarled like an ill-conditioned dog, and told him that the figures were in the proper hands. He also refused—contrary, I believe, to the Election Act under which he was sworn in—to make a formal official declaration of the result.

Now, Mr. Editor, this man's conduct calls for the severest public rebuke. I am pleased to see that the Colonist, in its Wednesday issue, referred to the exhibition the man Hick made of himself in terms of contempt and condemnation. But something more is needed. The Returning Officer's behaviour is merely an illustration of the attitude which has now been consistently adopted for some years by many of the heelers of the Liberal party towards the general public. It is not a pleasant thing to say, if the gravity of the situation did not call for frankness, but the attitude of these men may be briefly put in the following words:

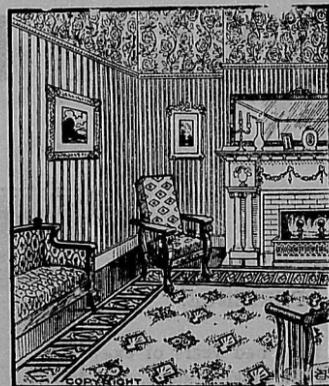
"We control this country by so large a majority that we are responsible to no one. We do not need to observe the laws, for we own the judiciary to a great extent, quite enough to secure our immunity from punishment. The power and the authorities are on our side, and they will see to it that, if we commit an offence, particularly against a political opponent, our punishment, if we get any at all, will be merely nominal."

This is a very dangerous state of affairs to exist in a free country. I am not in the least exaggerating in the picture which I have drawn; these statements can be confirmed by some of the most prominent citizens of this town, who are only kept silent through fear of injury to their business interests, and—to the shame of the Liberal party be it said—through fear of attack on their private and domestic lives and on the good names of those nearest and dearest to them.

You will confer a great benefit on the public by taking this matter up. Should you desire it, I am in a position to give you further particulars. It must be made clear to the Liberal party at large, and to their ward heelers in particular, that public support of his party at the polls does not entitle a member of that party to consider himself superior to the laws of which his party is only the paid ad-

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ministrator. Nor are the decisions of the ballot-box intended to create a party of tyrants.

I have written at some length, because of the importance of the matter. Let those most concerned take warning. The free people of Canada are little likely to lie down quietly under a tyranny of their own making, and, if the spirit which I have illustrated grows much larger among the Liberal party, its members will receive an awakening with which the ballot box has nothing to do at all.

FREE CANADIAN.

Emilo De Gogorza.

The Victoria Musical Society inaugurated their season on Tuesday evening at the Victoria Theatre by presenting Emilo De Gogorza, the celebrated baritone. This great artist, for he is undoubtedly entitled to the adjective, rendered a programme which contained seventeen items, singing in no less than six languages. Gogorza has been heard here once before when he created a profound impression. This makes it all the more unaccountable that on his return visit the theatre should not have been more than three parts full. The only possible explanation of this is the distraction of the public mind by the election. Gogorza has a really magnificent baritone voice which has been well trained and is thoroughly under control. He has the artistic temperament and a strong dramatic instinct. He was equally at home in rendering dainty songs like "A Dream," an exquisite composition by Howard Breckway, the Arioso from "Roi De Lahore," and the grand air "Thoas" from Gluck's "Iphigenie en Tauride." The only instance in which he failed to give absolute satisfaction was in Tour's exquisite song "Mother o' Mine," for which he seemed to lack the requisite tenderness and sympathy. The song which gave the most satisfaction was Parker's old favourite, "The Lark Now Leaves Its Watery Nest." In this Gogorza's finest qualities, richness and fullness of tone, were best exhibited; his "sostenuto" being wonderful. In response to an irresistible encore he rendered Balfe's favourite "Drink to Me Only With Thine Eyes," and the audience would fain have had more.

It would be unfair not to speak in the highest terms of the accompanist, Mr. H. C. Whittenmore, who, as an accompanist, is simply perfect, and as a pianist is a delight. He has a most delicate touch and his rendering of Wider's beautiful little Berceuse "Au Soir" was simply inimitable, whilst his performance of Liszt's



For Fall and Winter we are showing Semi-Ready Styles in Exclusive Patterns in Raincoats and Overcoats, Finished to your measure in two hours,

Semi-Ready Tailoring

B. Williams & Co.,

Sole Agents for SEMI-READY

New Turkish Baths

Shortly to be opened at 821 Fort St., close to corner of Blanchard St. There will be two hot rooms, nidel showers, marble slabs, bedrooms, etc., etc.

The place there is going to be kept strictly respectable; will be open for ladies twice a week, with lady attendants.

Proprietor.

G. BERGSTROM-BJORNFELT
Swedish Masseur.

JALLAND BROS.

Fine Groceries

FRESH FRUIT DAILY.

623 Yates St. - VICTORIA, B.C.

"Rhapsody No. 12," classified him with the star pianists now before the public.

It is to be hoped that the enterprise of the Victoria Musical Society will meet with a better response from the public at the remaining concerts, a list of which is appended:—

Mme. Nordica, December 7th or 8th.
Miss Goodson and Arthur Hartmann, December 29th.

Mme. Galski, January 27th.
Royal Welsh Male Choir, February or March.

Season tickets at the rate of \$7.50 for the course can be obtained from the Victoria Musical Society's Agents, Messrs. M. W. Waitt & Co. Early application should be made for same.

A Lady's Letter

By **BABETTE.**

Dear Madge:

Once upon a time, woman shrieked at a mouse; now, if she "shrieks," it is in order to effect a reform (if possible). As a matter of fact it would be grossly inaccurate nowadays to describe womenfolk as "timid." Now that ladies compete in motor races at sixty miles an hour, go up, as a matter of course, in balloons and dirigibles, make raids on the House of Commons, and even invite men to lunch at their clubs, they cannot, in any fairness be classed among the shy and recluse mammalia. Moreover, every astute observer of the human comedy has long been aware that women have far more moral courage than men. What man, for instance, dares to dismiss (or even to rebuke) his cook, without infinite trepidation? What man would have the courage to wear the masculine equivalent of a Directoire dress and a matinee hat of vast proportions? What male would have the audacity to snub the right person with the supreme impertinence shown by his more courageous womenkind?

Man, too, is much more the slave of social ritual than woman, hence his heroic adherence to black-cloth coats and top hats in the most torrid weather, and his performance of other uncomfortable rites which woman, with her larger latitude would not consent to undergo. Some other epithet, it is obvious, will have to be found for the sex than "Timid."

The independent woman is a prominent feature of our twentieth century civilisation. She is to be met with everywhere—in restaurants, in trains, in the streets, at home and abroad—and always, by her lack of self-consciousness and her air of aloofness, she communicates the fact that she faces life single-handed. Numerous novels and articles have been written round this type of femininity, the majority of them of a truly harrowing character. Reading them, one might reasonably imagine that the life of the average independent woman is one long-drawn agony, and that she spends all her spare time (if she has any) in a back bed-room making loud lamentations over the wretchedness of her fate.

In some cases the picture is, alas! a fairly true one. The weak woman who finds it absolutely necessary to lean on something or someone; the sentimental woman, to whom romance of a melodramatic character is a necessity; and the woman who suffers from perpetual ill-health—all those find the solitary and independent life revolting a wretched in the extreme. For them life is not worth living, and the wonder is that more of them do not, like the girl in "The Pathway of the Pioneer," "send in their resignation." But these poor girls, gripped so firmly in the "fell clutch of circumstance" have the courage neither to live nor to die; so year after year they drag on a miserable existence between office and "top-floor-back."

For this type of woman hardly ever manages to descend from the top floor, and she is devoid of the philosophy which enabled Dr. Johnson to enumerate cheerfully the advantages

of living in a garret. In her vocation, whatever it may be, she makes little or no progress. Absolutely devoid of interest in her work, she naturally fails to find favour in the eyes of her employer, and the only "rise" she gets is what is vulgarly known as "Paddy's rise," or, in other words, dismissal. What her old age is no one knows. Probably she dies comparatively young, and if so, she is beloved of the gods.

Occasionally one marries someone she has met "in business," but often his salary is not enough for both, and she is still compelled to support herself.

It is the strong, practical, unsentimental woman, the woman with "no nonsense" about her, who finds the independent life full of interest and attraction; in fact she would be loath to leave it for any other. This type of woman is every day becoming more numerous. She has ambition and "push" and is an accomplished hustler. Unhampered by any expensive emotions, she has a solid appreciation of the "creature comforts" of life. Her outlook is eminently sane and practical. Men, she regards with amused toleration, but she certainly has not the slightest desire to marry one of them.

That girls are quite able to hold their own at times, even with college professors, is well illustrated in the following incident for the correctness of which I am able to vouch:

A young and bashful professor was frequently embarrassed by jokes his girl pupils would play on him. These jokes were so frequent that he decided to punish the next perpetrators, and the result of this decision was that two girls were detained an hour after school, and made to work some difficult problems, as punishment.

It was the custom to answer the roll-call with quotations, so the following morning, when Miss A.'s name was called she rose, and looking straight at the professor's eye, repeated: "With all thy faults I love thee still," while Miss B.'s quotation was: "The hours I spend with thee, dear heart, are as a string of pearls to me."

BABETTE.

The New Grand.

The feature of a big bill arranged for next week will be Mme. Kessley's Marionettes, a European act that has been a pronounced success all over the circuit. The scene is that of a theatre with orchestra, boxes and various performers on the stage. This act will be a great treat for children, and for older folk as well. Other good turns will be the La-Sello Trio, in an acrobatic and tumbling act; The Pelots, comedy jugglers; Sam Hood, minstrel comedian; Miss Mason with a few songs; Thos. J. Price, singing the illustrated song, "Sweet Polly Primrose," and New Moving Pictures entitled "The Boundary," and "Susceptible Youth."

Alabama, a "dry" state, has invented the whiskey sandwich, consisting of two thick slices of bread with a flat whiskey flask between them.

YOUNG ENGLISH WOMAN SEEKS engagement as help or companion; domesticated, linguist, willing to travel. Apply L. W., care Week Office, Victoria, B.C.

No. 354.
CERTIFICATE OF THE REGISTRATION OF AN EXTRA-PROVINCIAL COMPANY.

"Companies Act, 1897."
I HEREBY CERTIFY that "The Jordan River Lumber Company of New York," has this day been registered as an Extra-Provincial Company under the "Companies Act, 1897," to carry out or effect all or any of the objects of the Company to which the legislative authority of the Legislature of British Columbia extends.

The head office of the Company is situated in the City of New York, Borough of Manhattan, County of New York, State of New York.

The amount of the capital of the Company is five hundred thousand dollars, divided into five thousand shares of one hundred dollars each.

The head office of the Company in this Province is situated at Victoria and J. D. Lutz, whose address is Victoria, B.C., is the attorney for the Company.

The Company is limited.
Given under my Hand and Seal of Office at Victoria, Province of British Columbia, this thirteenth day of October, one thousand nine hundred and eight.

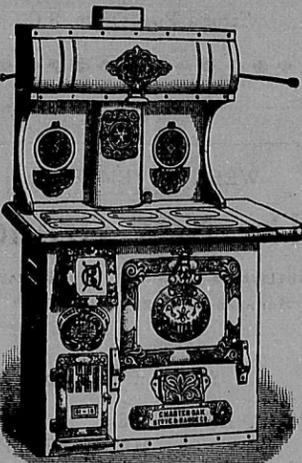
S. Y. WOOTTON,
Registrar of Joint Stock Companies.

EDISON
Phonograph

If you should spend all your spare cash in going to theatres, you could not buy as much entertainment as with a small part of that money invested in the Edison Phonograph and Edison Records.

It is almost as easy to buy the Edison as it is to hear it. A small payment down will enable you to take it home. You can hear it play while you pay.

WAITT'S
MUSIC STORE
1004 GOVERNMENT STREET



BONA FIDE OFFER
To introduce throughout B.C. the
Charter Oak Steel Range
Of which there are over 400 in Victoria alone.

We make the following offer, viz.—On receipt of following prices we deliver, freight prepaid, to any point in B. C., reached by direct transit, lake or rail:
1-14 in. oven, 4 hole, high closet\$42
1-15 in. oven, 6 hole, high closet\$46
1-18 in. oven, 6 hole, high closet\$50

QUICK AND PERFECT BAKERS.
If not as represented return at our expense and get your money.

Watson & McGregor
647 Johnson Street,
VICTORIA, B. C.

LICENCE TO AN EXTRA-PROVINCIAL COMPANY.

"Companies Act, 1897."
Canada.
Province of British Columbia.
No. 452.

THE SIS TO CERTIFY that the "National Fire Insurance Company of Hartford," is authorised and licensed to carry on business within the Province of British Columbia, and to carry out or effect all or any of the objects of the Company to which the legislative authority of the Legislature of British Columbia extends.

The head office of the Company is situated at Hartford, Connecticut.

The amount of capital of the Company is five million dollars, divided into fifty thousand shares of one hundred dollars each.

The head office of the Company in this Province is situated at Victoria, and W. A. Lawson, Insurance Agent, whose address is Victoria, B.C., is the attorney for the Company.

Given under my Hand and Seal of Office at Victoria, Province of British Columbia, this tenth day of September, one thousand nine hundred and eight.

(L. S.) S. Y. WOOTTON,
Registrar of Joint Stock Companies.

The objects for which this Company has been established and licensed are:—To make insurance against the loss by fire on all kinds of real, mixed and personal property of every name and description, and are also authorized to insure on vessels of all descriptions, and on all kinds of goods and merchandise; and said Corporation shall be liable to make good, and to pay to the several persons who may or shall be insured by the said Corporation for all losses they may sustain in the subject matter insured, in accordance with the terms of the contract of insurance and of the form of the policies issued by said Company, which said policies, and all other contracts of said Company, may be made with or without the common seal of said Company, and shall be signed by the President or Vice-President and countersigned by the Secretary, and, being so signed and executed, shall be

obligatory on said Company. To make insurance against loss or damage by wind or hail storms, lightning, tornadoes, cyclones, leakage of sprinklers and sprinkler systems installed or maintained for the purpose of protecting against fire, and explosions, whether fire ensues or not; provided the same shall be clearly expressed in the policy, but nothing herein shall be construed to empower said company to insure against loss or damage to person or property resulting from explosions of steam boilers.

LAND REGISTRY ACT.
In the matter of an application for a Duplicate Certificate of Title to Lot 1, Block 14, (Map 537A), Town of Fort Essington.

NOTICE is hereby given that it is my intention at the expiration of one month from the date of the first publication hereof to issue a Duplicate Certificate of Title to above land issued to Edward Ebbs Charleson on the 28th day of March, 1905, and numbered 10977C.

Land Registry Office, Victoria, B.C., the 18th day of August, 1908.
S. Y. WOOTTON,
Registrar-General.

CARIBOO LAND DISTRICT.
District of Fort George.
TAKE NOTICE that William H. Perkins, of Phoenix, B.C., occupation Station Agent, intends to apply for permission to purchase the following described land:
Commencing at a post planted three and one-half miles east of the southeast corner of Indian Reservation No. 1, Fort George; thence north 80 chains; thence west 80 chains; thence south 80 chains; thence east 80 chains to the point of commencement and containing 640 acres, more or less.
Dated June 30, 1908.

Aug. 15 **WILLIAM H. PERKINS.**



NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS.
Vancouver Island Trunk Road—Sections 1, 6, 7 and 8.

SEPARATE SEALED TENDERS superscribed "Tender for Section Vancouver Island Trunk Road," will be received by the Hon. Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works up to and including Monday, the 21st day of September, 1908, for constructing and completing Sections 1, 6, 7 and 8, each Section being two miles, more or less, in length, of the Vancouver Island Trunk Road. Plans, profiles, drawings, specifications and forms of contract and tender may be seen by intending tenderers, on and after Monday, the 31st day of August, 1908, at the office of the undersigned, Lands and Works Department, Victoria, B.C., and at the office of the Government Agent, Duncan, B.C.

Intending tenderers can obtain one set of the location plans and profile, and of the specification of each or any Section, for the sum of five (\$5) dollars per set, on application to the Public Works Engineer.

Each separate tender shall be for one Section of the road only, and must be accompanied by an accepted bank cheque or certificate of deposit on a chartered bank of Canada, made payable to the order of the Hon. the Chief Commissioner, in the sum of two hundred and fifty (\$250) dollars, which shall be forfeited if the party tendering decline or neglect to enter into contract when called upon to do so, or fail to complete the work contracted for.

Tenders will not be considered unless made out, on the forms supplied, separately for each Section of the road as specified, signed with the actual signatures of the tenderers, accompanied by the above-mentioned cheque and enclosed in the envelope furnished.

The Chief Commissioner is not bound to accept the lowest or any tender.

F. C. GAMBLE,
Public Works Engineer,
Lands and Works Department,
Victoria, B.C., August, 1908.
Sept. 5

CARIBOO LAND DISTRICT.
District of Fort George.
TAKE NOTICE that Edward L. Thompson, of Phoenix, B.C., occupation Miner, intends to apply for permission to purchase the following described land:
Commencing at a post planted five (5) miles southeast of the southeast corner of Indian Reservation No. 1, Fort George; thence south 80 chains; thence west 40 chains; thence north 80 chains; thence east 40 chains to the point of commencement and containing 320 acres more or less.
Dated June 30th, 1908.

Aug. 15 **EDWARD L. THOMPSON.**

CARIBOO LAND DISTRICT.
District of Fort George.
TAKE NOTICE that John A. Morrin, of Phoenix, B.C., occupation Merchant, intends to apply for permission to purchase the following described land:
Commencing at a post planted four (4) miles east of the southeast corner of Indian Reservation No. 1, Fort George, thence east 80 chains; thence south 40 chains; thence west 80 chains; thence north 40 chains to the point of commencement and containing 320 acres more or less.
Dated June 30, 1908.

Aug. 15 **JOHN A. MORRIN.**

CARIBOO LAND DISTRICT.
District of Fort George.
TAKE NOTICE that Charles H. Pinker, of Phoenix, B.C., occupation Miner, intends to apply for permission to purchase the following described land:
Commencing at a post planted five (5) miles southeast of the southeast corner of Indian Reservation No. 1, Fort George, thence south 80 chains; thence east 40 chains; thence north 80 chains; thence west 40 chains to the point of commencement and containing 320 acres more or less.
Dated June 30, 1908.

Aug. 15 **CHARLES H. PINKER.**

CARIBOO LAND DISTRICT.
District of Fort George.
TAKE NOTICE that John D. MacLean, of Phoenix, B.C., occupation Physician, intends to apply for permission to purchase the following described land:
Commencing at a post planted four (4) miles east of the southeast corner of Indian Reservation No. 1, Fort George, thence south 80 chains; thence west 80 chains; thence north 80 chains; thence east 80 chains to the point of

commencement, and containing 640 acres more or less.
Dated June 30, 1908.
Aug. 15 **JOHN DUNCAN MACLEAN.**

CARIBOO LAND DISTRICT.
District of Fort George.
TAKE NOTICE that Donald J. Matheson, of Phoenix, B.C., occupation Postmaster, intends to apply for permission to purchase the following described land:
Commencing at a post planted four (4) miles east of the southeast corner of Indian Reservation No. 1, Fort George, thence north 80 chains; thence west 80 chains; thence south 80 chains; thence east 80 chains to the point of commencement and containing 640 acres, more or less.
Dated June 30, 1908.
Aug. 15 **DONALD J. MATHESON.**

CARIBOO LAND DISTRICT.
District of Fort George.
TAKE NOTICE that John D. MacLean, of Phoenix, B.C., occupation Physician, intends to apply for permission to purchase the following described land:
Commencing at a post planted four (4) miles east of the southeast corner of Indian Reservation No. 1, Fort George, thence south 80 chains; thence west 80 chains; thence north 80 chains; thence east 80 chains to the point of

commencement, and containing 640 acres more or less.
Dated June 30, 1908.
Aug. 15 **JOHN DUNCAN MACLEAN.**

CARIBOO LAND DISTRICT.
District of Fort George.
TAKE NOTICE that Donald J. Matheson, of Phoenix, B.C., occupation Postmaster, intends to apply for permission to purchase the following described land:
Commencing at a post planted four (4) miles east of the southeast corner of Indian Reservation No. 1, Fort George, thence north 80 chains; thence west 80 chains; thence south 80 chains; thence east 80 chains to the point of commencement and containing 640 acres, more or less.
Dated June 30, 1908.
Aug. 15 **DONALD J. MATHESON.**

Shakespeare Says:

"There is a tide in the affairs of man which, taken at the ebb, leads on to fortune."

How often that opportunity is lost through lack of Capital!

How many golden opportunities are lost by improvident men!

Dontbe Improvident
Start to Save at Once

so when opportunity knocks you will be ready.

We allow 4 per cent on Savings and give the privilege of issuing cheques.

INVESTIGATE!
The Great West
Permanent Loan and
Savings Co.
1204 Government Street
R. W. PERRY,
Phone 1055. Local Manager.

LICENCE TO EXTRA-PROVINCIAL COMPANY.

"Companies Act, 1897."
Canada:
Province of British Columbia.
No. 454.

This is to certify that "The Boiler Inspection and Insurance Company of Canada" is authorised and licensed to carry on business within the Province of British Columbia, and to carry out or effect all or any of the objects of the Company to which the legislative authority of the Legislature of British Columbia extends.

The head office of the Company is situated at the City of Toronto, in the Province of Ontario.

The amount of the capital of the Company is five hundred thousand dollars, divided into five thousand shares of one hundred dollars each.

The head office of the Company in this Province is situated at Temple Building in the City of Victoria, and Robert Ward & Company, Limited Liability, Insurance Agents, whose address is Victoria aforesaid, is the attorney for the company.

Given under my Hand and Seal of Office at Victoria, Province of British Columbia, this eighteenth day of September, one thousand nine hundred and eight.

(L. S.) S. Y. WOOTTON,
Registrar of Joint Stock Companies.

The objects for which this Company has been established and licensed are: To transact and carry on the business of insurance and re-insurance against loss or damage from explosion to stationary, marine and locomotive boilers, the machinery connected therewith, or the house or houses, store or stores, or other building or buildings, or vessel, steamer, boat or other craft in which the same are placed or to which they may be attached, or to any goods, wares, merchandise, cargo or other property of any description stored or conveyed therein; and for the said purposes, or any or either of them at any and all times and places, to make and execute written or printed, or partly printed and partly written policies, contracts, agreements or undertakings according to the exigency of the particular case and cases, and generally to do and perform all the necessary matters and things connected with and proper to promote those objects. And they shall have the additional powers of making, entering into and executing policies, contracts, agreements and undertakings, guaranteeing engineers and firemen in actual attendance upon any boiler insured by the said company against loss of life or injury to person, resulting from the explosion thereof.

Sept. 26

LAND REGISTRY ACT.
In the matter of an application for a Duplicate Certificate of Title to East half of Sec. 8, R. 6, N. half of Sec. 7, R. 6, W. half of Sec. 6, R. 7, W. half of Sec. 7, R. 7, Quamichan District.

NOTICE is hereby given that it is my intention at the expiration of one month from the date of the first publication hereof to issue a Duplicate Certificate of Title to said lands issued to James Mearns on the 9th day of December, 1871, and numbered 392A.

Land Registry Office, Victoria, B.C., the 29th day of September, 1908.
S. Y. WOOTTON,
Registrar-General.

LAND REGISTRY ACT.
In the matter of an application for a Duplicate Certificate of Title to west half of Subdivision No. 20 of Suburban Five-Acre Lot No. IX, Victoria City.

NOTICE is hereby given that it is my intention at the expiration of one month from the date of the first publication hereof to issue a Duplicate Certificate of Title to said land issued to Richard Baker on the 13th day of May, 1884, and numbered 5662A.

Land Registry Office, Victoria, B.C., the 1st day of October, 1908.
S. Y. WOOTTON,
Registrar-General.

LAND REGISTRY ACT.
In the matter of an application for a Duplicate Certificate of Title to west half of Subdivision No. 20 of Suburban Five-Acre Lot No. IX, Victoria City.

NOTICE is hereby given that it is my intention at the expiration of one month from the date of the first publication hereof to issue a Duplicate Certificate of Title to said land issued to Richard Baker on the 13th day of May, 1884, and numbered 5662A.

Land Registry Office, Victoria, B.C., the 1st day of October, 1908.
S. Y. WOOTTON,
Registrar-General.

LAND REGISTRY ACT.
In the matter of an application for a Duplicate Certificate of Title to west half of Subdivision No. 20 of Suburban Five-Acre Lot No. IX, Victoria City.

NOTICE is hereby given that it is my intention at the expiration of one month from the date of the first publication hereof to issue a Duplicate Certificate of Title to said land issued to Richard Baker on the 13th day of May, 1884, and numbered 5662A.

Land Registry Office, Victoria, B.C., the 1st day of October, 1908.
S. Y. WOOTTON,
Registrar-General.

At The Street Corner

By THE LOUNGER

It is an old story to turn once more to the water question, but under the circumstances it is justifiable. We are in the last week of October, a time which is usually long past the summer season and well advanced into the wet weather. During the past week we have had a fairly good rainfall, yet in spite of this extreme measures have been taken, both with power and light, and at the present moment we are burning the farthing dips of our youth after eleven o'clock, and during the daytime are waiting for the cars from five to ten minutes as conditions determine.

The first night the new regulations came into force I was certainly caught napping. Getting home from the theatre at a few minutes past eleven, I was startled to find the house in complete darkness, and as I am not possessed of a lamp or a candle, I had to search for my night cap, and perform the various offices of the toilet by the aid of a box of matches. It is astonishing how many matches one can use up under such circumstances. The evidences of my extravagance were abundantly strewn all over the house to the great indignation of the maid who had to sweep them up the next morning.

Seriously, this is no joking matter. Apart from the inconvenience and annoyance there can be no question that the risk of fire is greatly increased. While I do not doubt that the various corporations concerned are doing their best to minimize the evil, I cannot but think they must share the reproach which undoubtedly attaches to the present scandalous condition of affairs. Two things would have prevented what has occurred—either the building of an additional dam at Goldstream to increase the storage of water; or the providing of a larger permanent steam plant to generate power.

It has always seemed to me reasonable that a substantial steam plant should be established in every city, as an auxiliary to the water power plant, and I have no doubt that in the near future it will be regarded as a "sine qua non."

I am tired of harping on the general question of a permanent water supply, and am now speculating as to what greater depths of humiliation Victoria must sink before it will be possible to arouse public sentiment, and to goad the City Fathers to definite action.

Human nature is a strange thing, and the vagaries of men are beyond finding out, and beyond explaining. For instance, it is well known that at the present time a wave of moral reform is sweeping over the civilized world, saloons are being closed by the thousand, facilities for drinking anything stronger than aerated waters are undergoing a universal restriction, and perhaps even more noticeable still, a dead set has been made at gambling. There are few wide open towns left, even in Canada, and in the United States betting has been expunged from the race track record.

Over against this prevailing sentiment must be set a circumstance which furnishes the philosopher with food for reflection, and which gave rise to the opening sentence of this paragraph; it is that the gambling instinct is so strong and so prevalent in our race, that no laws of repression can extinguish, or materially affect it. Everyone knows that times are dull, and money scarce, yet more money has changed hands in connection with the recent elections than for many years past. Men everywhere seem to have made it the occasion for a set attempt to repair their fortunes and replenish their exchequers. In Victoria I do not think it would be an exaggeration to say that more than \$50,000 dollars changed hands. I know one man who cleared \$8,000. I know hundreds who won amounts

ranging from \$50 to \$100. In Vancouver and New Westminster proportionate amounts were betted, and at the present time large books have been made on the deferred elections in Yale and Kootenay.

The humours of betting are best illustrated at election time; enthusiasm often leads a man to wager more than he can afford, to give bigger odds than he ought, and sometimes in the spirit of bravado to go against his better judgment. No doubt in the majority of instances a man backs his honest opinion, and as a consequence works hard for the success of his candidate. I am satisfied that much of the feverish activity of the late hours of Monday's polling was due to the zeal of men who had "something on."

On the ethics of gambling I have nothing to say. The world has made up its mind long ago that like many other things which are nice, it is naughty, but they all do it, and I am not afraid to say that of all forms of gambling an election bet is the least reprehensible because it involves a certain measure of honest conviction, and generally a still larger measure of honest endeavour. Speaking of elections, I heard a good story in the Strand Hotel:

"On Monday night Mike Dogherly announced that he should call upon a sick friend. Accordingly, he gave his money to his wife and departed. Nine o'clock came—12, 3; still he did not return. At 5 in the morning the bell sounded.

"You're a soight!" gasped Mrs. Dogherly, as she viewed the battered figure of her belated spouse, who, with head tightly bandaged, one arm in a sling, and his right eye done in court plaster, limped painfully into the room. "Phwat happened to yez?"

"Me an' Chris Schultz had a little argymint down at Flannigan's."

"Argymint, is it? An' th' loikes av yez be afther gittin' licked be wan av thim weasel-faced, sphindle-shanked Dutehmin!"

"Whisht, Maggie!" returned Mike, softly. "Niver sphake disrespectful ov th' dead!"

Lounger.

Mr. G. H. Barnard, Member for K.C., has been elected member for Victoria.

His majority was small but all too large for his opponent. It was a great victory measured by any standard. He defeated the only Cabinet Minister who went down to defeat in the Dominion. Mr. Templeman was returned at the bye-election by Conservative voters who yielded to the glamour of a Portfolio. On Monday many of these gentlemen still continued to support Mr. Templeman for the same reason. The Minister in all the panoply of Government armour went down before a young man, a native son. The explanation is two-fold. Mr. Barnard gained in personal popularity every day and from being a doubtful winner at the start gained so many friends by his courtesy and ability during the progress of the campaign that for the last week all doubt of his election vanished. He will make good at Ottawa and more than justify the confidence of his party. Mr. Templeman lost because of his own negligence and the indifference of his leader to British Columbia interests. Sir Wilfrid tinkered Better Terms and botched Asiatic Exclusion. Mr. Templeman practically ignored both and is now paying the penalty. It is about time that the Liberal Administration learnt to distinguish between "live" and "dead" issues.

Senator Depew says gaily: "This is the golden age of politics." The oily age, seems fitter.



EVERLASTING JUTE SOLE SHOES.

Put yourselves and your children in the original Jute Sole Shoes, manufactured in the Old Country, hundreds of testimonials of the same pair worn daily for years; no corns; no hot or cold feet; perfect comfort. All sizes, one price, two dollars per pair, delivered in your mail, duty and postpaid.

Remit mail order today.

Jute Sole Shoe Co'y

Victoria Post Office, B.C.

WEEK NOVEMBER 2.

The New Grand

SULLIVAN & CONSIDINE, Proprietors.
Management of ROBT. JAMIESON.

The Sensation of Europe

MME. KESSLEY'S
MARIONETTES

THE LA-SELLO TRIO

The Most Daring and Sensational
Risley Marvels on Earth.

THE PELOTS

Odd and Humorous Jugglers.

SAM HOOD

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