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DAILY EDITION

Monday, Jan. 27, 1913.

**CONSERVATION OF MOTHERHOOD**

A bonus of \$7.50 with free medical attendance for the mother of every child born in Britain to parents insured under the new act illustrates the modern trend of legislation. It is estimated that about a million births a year will come within the provisions of the law. This is part of an urgently needed effort to avert human deterioration under the conditions which develop from competition among landless workers. The effort has not come to soon, for some are already preaching despair and concluding that decadence is far too advanced to be checked. A nation or race is doomed if physical degeneracy continues beyond the possibility of reclamation.

In many British industrial districts men and women are constantly employed. The earnings of husband and wife are necessary to their sustenance. The mother cannot afford the rest necessary to her own health and the health of her newly-born child. The discouraging infantile mortality rate is due largely to the exacting employment of the mothers and the necessity which causes subsequent neglect. The conservation of humanity threatened with destruction is the most urgent need of to-day in Britain.

Lloyd George is too keen minded to be deceived by cries of ruinous taxation from those

who think these payments are burdens. It does not burden the community to take from those who have more than they can use and give to those who have less than they need. It may not be the best way to correct the evils of unjust distribution, but it promises for the moment material results. It must tend to give the debilitated and submerged strength to devise and demand more effective measures. One absentee idler spending an unearned British income abroad burdens the whole community more than any possible system of subsidies or pensions at home. Absenteeism draws up on the country as a whole, while local indemnities and personal subventions make distribution at home more equitable. This effort to avert national decay has already been dangerously delayed. If successful it will relieve the Empire's truest and wisest friends of a growing anxiety.—Toronto Globe.

**Chance for Rupert Sports.**

Professor Morris is looking for a 140 lb. man to enter the ring against George Allen, the boxer who won a decision over Jack Cronin in the Fort George Theatre recently. Aspiring boxers in Allen's class should communicate with the professor immediately.—Fort George Herald.

W. R. W. McIntosh, buyer for Kelly, Douglas & Co., is expected in the city for a few days this week on business.

**PREMIER M'BRIDE FAVORS PACIFIC FLEET FOR CANADA**

**SIR RICHARD M'BRIDE PLEADS THAT BORDEN BE GIVEN TIME TO WORK OUT HIS NAVAL POLICY—DEFENDS PROVINCIAL CIVIL SERVICE**

Victoria, Jan. 24.—For more than two hours yesterday afternoon Sir Richard McBride defended himself and his government against the charges made Monday afternoon by Parker Williams in his speech on the address from the throne. Ostensibly Sir Richard covered the whole ground. He missed not one subject, and what he had to say was plausible, but to judge from the scant applause of his followers and the silence of the galleries, it was not convincing. After an elaborate introduction he launched out on the question of the civil service, which is one of the burning questions of British Columbia politics today. The service, Sir Richard claimed, was as good and pure as any in the world. He did not deny that in making appointments the government had listened to the advice of friends in the party, but that was the custom everywhere and he saw no fault in it.

It might have happened that an official of the government had acted as chairman when he was speaking at a meeting during the late election, but he was not aware of the man's position. He could not be expected to know all these people, but he could say that whenever the opportunity offered the government had warned the civil servants to take no part in the elections.

A proof of the integrity of the service was that during his ten years' term of office there had not been more than half a dozen dismissals, and having due regard to the government he hoped to establish a civil service which would be permanent and second to none in the world. For some time the government had been considering a civil service pension scheme.

They were waiting for Ottawa to act first on these lines, but he assured his hearers that if the Dominion authorities did not take action during the coming summer his government would immediately after and would evolve a scheme which would provide for superannuated officials without cutting into the revenues of the province.

Coming to the labor question, he declared that he had talked to thousands of working men throughout British Columbia and had only met a few who wished to be paid twice a month and wanted their hours reduced. Mr. Williams had not considered the question of capital and labor. He had never stopped to think what labor would do without capital. It would be wise to have labor represented on the labor commission, but capital must be represented as well. The government was neither a labor nor a capital administration, but simply and solely bent on doing the best for the province, regardless of race, creed or class.

On the naval question Sir Richard steered a very careful course, but he maintained that British Columbia should have full protection against Oriental invasion. At the same time he intimated that the Borden government had a further scheme for the establishment of a Canadian navy, or, at any rate, a scheme which would insure the safety of both the Pacific and Atlantic coasts of the Dominion. All they asked was that Mr. Borden should get

time. Big things like this could not be done in a day and night. His arguments were identical with those advanced by the Liberal party at Ottawa, except that he had the utmost confidence that Mr. Borden would solve the problem if left in power. The planning of a Canadian navy would take considerable time, but with the advice and assistance of mechanical experts it could be built. One thing he insisted on was that the building of the ships was the least part of the difficulty. When the ships were ready they would need crews, and the country should make ample provision for this in time.

Sir Richard blamed the Laurier government for the inability of the province to keep out Orientals. His government, he said, had always been and was still in favor of keeping British Columbia for white men. Recently their views had been placed before the Borden administration, and he was encouraged to say that full relief from Asiatic immigration would be granted by the Dominion authorities.

He could not understand why British Columbia should not be able to manage its affairs in this respect as well as Australia and other parts of the Empire, where there were exclusion laws. His defense of his land policy was subtle, but unsatisfactory for the farmers and settlers. It would be criminal, he declared, to bring thousands of people into the province and plant them down in places where there was no transportation.

The government would not do such a thing. At the same time the immigration to British Columbia last year was greater than to any other province except to Ontario and Quebec. The aim of himself and his colleagues was to provide roads within a reasonable time. In the same connec-

tion he spent considerable time in showing the present progress of railway building on the coast. There were today, he said, 3,000 men engaged on the construction of the Kettle Valley railway, and the line would be pushed through to the boundary in a few years. He had it on the authority of a most prominent official of the Great Northern that the K. V. & E. would be completed before 1914. The Pacific & Great Eastern are now employing 1,000 men on construction, and Mr. West, the contractor, had promised him that the line would be completed within two years. Then the Canadian Northern had finished 85 per cent. of its line between New Westminster and Kamloops, and by next autumn there should be a train service over the road from Vancouver to a point within a hundred miles from Kamloops. In addition to this there was the expansion plan of the C. P. R. and the plan of the B. C. E. R. to run a train line over the Pitt River. In regard to the latter scheme, Sir Richard said a sum would be included in the estimates this year to build a bridge over the river.

All this railway development, Sir Richard intimated, was the work of the government and had been inaugurated to help the province first and the farmer in the second place.

Referring to the immense land and timber sales which have taken place during his regime, he admitted that the government had been blamed, but his defence was that the money from this source had been used to open roads and develop the country. At any rate the people at the last election had supported that policy and the government were going to continue it.

**Will Try Niagara.**

London, Jan. 27.—Jabez Wolf, who has many times attempted to swim the English Channel, says he will attempt to swim the Niagara whirlpool in September.

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