

THE DAILY NEWS

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DAILY EDITION

Saturday, Feb. 15, 1913.

DRASTIC LAND REFORM SCHEME

Lloyd-George is earning the
title of "The Socialistic Chan-
cellor" flung at him by the
Unionist landed proprietors.
A few weeks ago he sailed un-
daunted through the ferocious
tempest of uncompromising
epithets hurled at him by the
British Medical Association
regarding the National Insur-
ance policy. But his policy of
Land Reform is the most drastic
ever proposed in the British
House. When brought in-
to operation it will be the final
blow to the old feudal sys-
tem under which the humble
crofters still labor through-
out the countryside of Britain.
Lloyd-George is convinced
that the supreme aim of Lib-
eralism must be in the coming
years to supplement freedom
of trade by freedom of oppor-
tunity—a chance of an inalien-
able home for every family
who wishes it in the English
country.

INSPECTING THE GIFT

The proposal that the Dom-
inion government shall spend
a million dollars a year for ten
years for the purpose of ad-
vancing the farming industry
by means of instruction in ag-
riculture does not bring as
much joy to the farmers as
might have been expected.
The Weekly Sun, for instance,
which pays special attention
to the agricultural needs of
Ontario, points out that edu-

cation, in agriculture as in other
things, is a matter for the
provinces, and that there is no
justification for an invasion of
this field by the Dominion.
There is just one service, the
Sun says, which the Dominion
Government could render just
now, and that would be the ac-
ceptance of the American offer
of reciprocity that still stands.
"The opening of the American
markets to our live stock," says
the Sun, "would give a greater
impetus to Ontario agriculture
in one year than the best de-
vised scheme of agricultural in-
struction would give in ten years."

The proposal to collect a
million dollars in customs tax-
ation from the Dominion as a
whole and then hand back
Ontario its share does not
strike the Sun as either very
brilliant statesmanship or a
satisfactory substitute for bet-
ter market accommodation.
The advantage of the proposal
from the party point of view
is that it may help to recon-
cile the farming community to
the policy of tariff taxation
and restriction. The govern-
ment will be able to say to the
farmers who complain of the
protective tariff "Well, here
is your share of the spoils;
what are you kicking about?"
From this point of view the
proposal does not look unlike
a scheme for bribing the peo-
ple with their own money. It
may be, however, that the Gov-
ernment has other and more
serious intentions.

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT PAYS TRIBUTE TO SCOTT

PREMIER MOVES AND LEADER OF OPPOSITION SECONDS A
RESOLUTION HONORING DEAD EXPLORER'S
NAME.

Victoria, B. C., Feb. 12.—Ex-
tra provincial matters—the ex-
pression of British Columbia's
regret for the untimely fate over-
taking Captain Scott's Antarctic
expedition (in symbol of which
the Union Jack floated half mast
high in front of the Parliament
buildings yesterday) and the
definition of the fixed conviction
of this province in honor and in
equity, the Panama Canal should
be operated with impartiality to-
ward the shipping of all nations,
occupied the attention of the lo-
cal House yesterday to such an
extent that routine matters were
almost entirely subordinated.
Both resolutions as they ap-
peared on the order paper passed
by unanimous vote of the House,
the former being seconded by
the opposition leader, Mr. Parker
Williams, and the latter by the
president of council, Hon. A. E.
McPhillips.

Supply Resolution.

During the course of the sit-
ting the formal resolution for
supply was proposed by Finance
Minister Ellison and duly re-
ported by the committee of the
House, it being resolved further
that the assembly would on Mon-
day next resolve itself into com-
mittee of supply.

This is necessarily precedent
to the submission of the esti-
mates and the delivery by the
finance minister of his annual
budget speech.

Prior to the rising of the
House yesterday the Attorney
General's bill for validation of
the incorporation of Saanich mu-
nicipality was introduced and
given its first reading, considera-
tion of the principle being set for
this afternoon, when also Hon.
Mr. Ross will discuss in detail
the proposed changes in govern-
mental policy that are involved
in this session's land act amend-
ment bill.

Sir Richard's Speech.

In moving the resolution with
respect to the Panama Canal, the
Premier was first careful to give
assurances that he was prompted
by no unfriendly feeling to the
United States. He then entered
on a lengthy review of the cir-
cumstances leading up to the
construction of the canal, begin-
ning with the Clayton-Bulwer
treaty, and dealing at some length
with the two Hays-Pauncefote
treaties. Sir Richard insisted
that Great Britain enjoyed certain
proprietary rights in the isthmus
which were surrendered in the
last treaty. After discussing the
subsidy laws of the United States
the Premier went on to consider
the enormous value of the canal
to the trade of Vancouver and
other British Columbia ports,
quoting distances and statistics
of exports with a dexterity which
betokened considerable study of
the subject. He then gave ex-
cerpts from statements of lead-
ing Americans denouncing the
granting of free tolls to Ameri-
can coastwise shipping as a
breach of the agreement with
Great Britain.

The Legislature's Duty.

The Premier concluded as fol-
lows:
"In this local Legislature,
while we do not profess to have
any official responsibility in re-
gard to matters of international
concern, yet when a subject of
this character arises so closely
associated with the commerce and
national life of the country, I say
it is the bounden duty of this

Parliament, even within the lim-
itations by which it is bound, to
leave nothing undone to make
its impress upon the records of
the country so that the people on
both sides of the line may come
in contact with the real opinion
of the people of Western Canada
regarding the Panama bill passed
in 1912. It is our duty to make
it known that we have a strong
conviction that a wrong has been
perpetrated against the Empire,
that this is being felt keenly by
a province that neighbors closely
upon Alaska and Washington,
and by a people who have nothing
but kindly and generous
sentiments for the people of the
United States, and who have al-
ways been ready and willing to
offer a welcoming hand and who
have never hesitated in the duty
that one neighbor naturally owes
to another in doing what is right
and proper and manly. Mr.
Speaker, I beg to submit the resolu-
tion."

DEFENDANT HAS A BIG COUNTER CLAIM

Mr. John McLeod Wants \$91,000
from Graham Island Col-
lieries as Commission

A claim for \$7,000 balance on
the purchase of stock in the Gra-
ham Island Collieries, which is
being met by a counter claim of
\$91,000 for commission alleged
to be due on a sale he arranged
of the company's property, is be-
ing fought out in the Supreme
Court at Vancouver. Mr. John
McLeod is the defendant to the
suit and the claimant to the large
sum for commission. He claims
that he introduced a prospective
purchaser for the company's 32,-
000 acres, a Mr. Hoare, who was
prepared to give \$1,000,000 for
the property.

The defence to the counter
claim is that Mr. McLeod was not
an agent, but only the holder of
an option and that Mr. Hoare was
not willing or able to purchase
but wished to enter the transac-
tion on a speculative basis.

The Daily News has the larg-
est circulation in Northern B.C.

About \$500 has been raised by
a concert at Alford Bay and by
subscription to be sent to the
widows of Percy Graham and
Fred Newman, two employees of
the B.C. Fisheries Co., who were
drowned a month or so since.

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