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DAILY HERALD.

TUESDAY, JULY 24, 1906.

A PHILANTHROPIST.

Alfred Beit, the South African multi-millionaire, the close friend and business associate of the late Cecil Rhodes, who, with his great fortune established the Rhodes scholarships and donated his means to other philanthropic and charitable objects, is scarcely second to Rhodes in the distribution of his wealth for similar purposes.

Mr. Beit's will, which has just been filed in the courts, left the magnificent sum of \$10,000,000 to educational and other public purposes.

The University of Johannesburg for instance, receives \$1,000,000, a similar institution at Hamburg is richly endowed. Landon University and London hospitals receive princely bequests, and numerous South African charitable and educational institutions are remembered in the multi-millionaire's will.

A remarkable feature of Mr. Beit's will is his bequest of \$6,000,000 towards the construction of railway, telegraph and telephone lines in South Africa, where he accumulated his enormous fortune.

The rapid gathering of wealth by Rhodes and Beit is almost without parallel in the history of the world, and it is a remarkable coincidence that these two men so closely associated in business and socially, should leave neither wife nor other direct heirs to share their fortunes, and that both contributed so liberally towards such great public interests as education and charitable institutions.

THE WJING OF NEWFOUNDLAND.

The Imperial government would doubtless be pleased if Sir Wilfrid Laurier is able to agree with Newfoundland government on terms which would bring that colony into Canadian confederation! Newfoundland interests, French shore rights, and the fishery question has threatened more than once to embroil Great Britain in difficulties with France and the United States, and the mother country would no doubt, hail with intense satisfaction any change that might remove these troublesome questions to another domain.

As a part of the confederation, Newfoundland would be a decided acquisition, with her valuable fisheries, her mineral and other resources and she would add materially to the weight of the Maritime Provinces in parliament.

Newfoundland at present is in a flourishing condition, her revenue far exceeding her expenditure. In recent years many miles of railway have been constructed, rich iron ore deposits have been discovered, and these products are shipped to the iron and steel works at Sydney. The island's lumber resources are also being extensively exploited, and developed, and the outside public has ceased to think of Newfoundland merely as a producer of fish, although that product remains one of her principal commodities of commerce.

It would redound to the honor of Sir Wilfrid Laurier and his cabinet were they to succeed in inducing Newfoundland to enter the confederation. The Conservative government, which the project failed, but the coquettish colony of the gulf may be more inclined now to marriage with Canada, than when Johnny Cannuck formerly tried to win her. Surely she cannot consider herself too young for wedlock, since her history dates back several hundred years, and indeed, ante-dates the commencement of her wooer's career.

THE GOTHENBURG SYSTEM.

Out at Los Angeles, California, notes a contemporary, a number of the citizens have become converted to what is known as the Gothenburg system of regulating the sale of liquor. The municipality is shortly to vote upon a bye-law intended to give the experiment a fair test.

Its principal features are: No treating; only the purest liquors to be sold; bartenders given a percentage on all "soft" drinks to further the sale of non-intoxicants; no violation of existing laws; no liquors sold to minors or drunken men; no women allowed in saloons; the city to obtain the profits.

The plan has been proposed by certain men of wealth and influence, who,

if the city gives authority, will organize to acquire the saloons and turn them over to a holding committee.

A novel provision in the municipal constitution of Los Angeles provides for a vote on any bye-law for which a petition has been signed by fifteen per cent. of those voting at the last general election. The petition is accompanied by the legislation proposed, and the city council may either pass the legislation forthwith or call at once for a special election. If the petition is signed by more than seven per cent. then the subject must be voted on at the next general election.

TRYING TO HOODWINK THEM.

Mr. Hazen has been up coquetting with the electors of Restigouche in anticipation of a local bye-election in that constituency, but the astute Attorney General has also visited the ground and it may be taken for granted that the opposition leader's visit will not produce any serious results for the government. Hon. Mr. LaBillois, who has represented the county in the legislature continuously for twenty-four years, has his finger on the pulse of the constituency, and has no fear that the successor to Judge McLatchey will be a supporter of Mr. Hazen.

Mr. Hazen told the Restigouche electors that there is no Dominion politics in his campaign, but likely they exchanged winks and put down the opposition leader's observation on that score to his knowledge of Tory weakness in Restigouche and the impossibility of his succeeding to power without Liberal assistance.

Mr. Hazen should not be trying to hoodwink our Liberal friends with such sophistry.

Successor to Judge McLatchey will be morrow of forming an administration how many Liberals, think you, would be found in his cabinet?

AN EYE TO THE FUTURE.

Mr. C. Ernest Gregory, son of the late Mr. Chas. C. Gregory and nephew of Judge and Mr. A. J. Gregory of this city who has been practising law at Antigonish for some years and who contested that constituency and Guysboro as a Conservative for the Nova Scotia legislature and the house of commons, has removed to Truro and entered into legal partnership with Mr. F. W. McPhie, the firm taking the offices of the late Seymour E. Goutley, M. P. In the last local election, Mr. Gregory was one of the Conservative stumblers in Colchester, of which Truro is the shire town, and it is probable that he is entertaining the hope of becoming one of his party's leaders in that constituency, with possibly a legislative or parliamentary nomination in the near future.

CURRENT COMMENT

From a grocery clerk to a multi-millionaire is a long road, but the late Russell Sage covered it.

Those who want to see the sewerage contract finished this season would like to see a little more digging and pipe laying in progress. Labor, no doubt, is scarce, but more liberal wages might tempt men to the work.

It will be good news to Fredericton if the current report that Messrs. Donald Fraser & Sons intend to re-build the Aberdeen mill this autumn should be correct. The city would feel the loss of that enterprise as it did over one hundred years ago at remuneration wages, and the Messrs. Fraser may be sure of a very hearty welcome on their return to active business in Fredericton.

The trade returns of Canada continue to show the enormous expansion of Canada's commercial business. From the year 1896 when the Liberals came into power to the present year there has been an increase from \$239,000,000 to \$552,000,000, or to put it briefly the foreign trade of Canada has more than doubled in the past ten years. The increase from 1886 to 1896 when the Tories were in power was only \$50,000,000, but from 1896 to 1906 it was \$313,000,000.

Russia's outlaw parliament, which after its dissolution by the Czar was holding a secret meeting in Finland, was dispersed by the military, but not before it had agreed on a manifesto in which it defies the Czar, urges the people of Russia to refuse to pay taxes or to submit to conscription, and also refuse to recognize any imperial loans which the government might hereafter try to raise. In the meantime the country faces a revolution that may break forth at any moment.

BITS OF NEWS.

The Royal Bank bought a site for new office Nos. 8 and 10 King St., east, at Toronto Monday, fifty feet for \$3,000 a foot.

The Rev. C. J. Boulden, M. A. Trinity College, Cambridge, the head master of St. Alban's school, Brockville, Ont., has received and has accepted the appointment to the presidency of King's College, Windsor.

Alfred West's large and well equipped saw mill at Cole's Island, Queens county, was completely destroyed by fire Friday night. The loss is put at \$10,000, with no insurance, and thirty men are thrown out of employment.

Mr. and Mrs. J. F. McArthur and Miss Florence Trostevin of Superior, Wis., were drowned in Superior Bay Saturday night, during a severe electrical storm. They were in a small boat half way between Oatka Beach and the Nemadji River when the storm capsized the craft.

By the recent death in Tasmania of Capt. Edward Dumaresq, late 8th Bombay Navel Infantry, the oldest officer in the British army passed away. He was born in 1802 and was consequently 104 years of age at the time of his death. He joined the Indian army in 1818 and was promoted captain in 1826 and retired on half pay in 1829.

Chief Officer Freer, of the Ionian, of the Allan line, reports that on her last outward voyage to Liverpool pool from Montreal the Ionian passed an iceberg, a mile away, which when measured by instruments in the chart room, topped 200 feet above the surface of the water. The iceberg was drifting south right in the track of navigation and any vessel striking it in dark or foggy weather would have gone immediately to the bottom.

BOOK ILLUMINATION.

An Early Example of the Artistic Culture of the Ancients.

The underlying thought which has inspired illumination from its very beginning is more interesting even than the gorgeous pages which pass beyond our power of appreciation and defy our comprehension. To the ancients the rarest gems in all the world were the gems of thought. The book was the tangible and visible expression of man's intellect, worthy of the noblest setting. Its covers might be made of tables of beaten gold inlaid with precious jewels, its words might be written in minium of rare brilliancy brought from India or Spain or in Byzantine ink made from pure oriental gold upon parchment soft as velvet made from the skins of still born kids, while upon the ample margins could be displayed miniatures and decorations portraying the highest skill of the great artists of the day.

The earliest example of illumination is a papyrus in the Louvre in Paris, which contains paintings representing funeral ceremonies executed in bright colors, touched in its high lights with pencilled gold. Although we find frequent mention of some poem written in gold, of some magnificent volume or codex of colored vellum or some collection of miniatures or of some magnificent gift book decorated for prince or church, yet this simple, imperfect fragment at the Louvre is the sole tangible evidence we have that so obvious a form of artistic culture as the art of illumination was known to the long period of classical antiquity or to the later luxuries of the life of Athens and Corinth, of Pergamum and Ephesus, of Cyzicus or Rhodes, Syracuse or Tarentum, of Sybaris, of Pompeii and of Rome.

With the invention of printing the demand for the illuminator and the scribe became gradually less, and finally by the end of the sixteenth century illumination ceased to be an art. The book as the developer of the people in science and literature and in learning generally had crowded out the book as an object of art. It need no have done this, perhaps, but as a matter of fact it did.

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Stock list can be seen at the office of Slipp & Hanson, Barristers, Fredericton, N. B., and at the office of Ephraim R. Chapman, Barrister, St. John, N. B., and the stock may be inspected on application to the undersigned.

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Dated at Fredericton, N. B., this 20th day of July, A. D. 1906.

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July 21—dwtf.

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