

THE PROVINCE

FRIDAY, APRIL 17, 1914.

PAROCHIALISM.

Now Westminster, Coquitlam and other Fraser River districts appear to be ready to declare war on Vancouver owing to some of the statements made by Mayor Baxter before the Grain Commission at Winnipeg. They accuse Mayor Baxter of having unduly exaggerated their defects and glossed over those of Burrard Inlet. As representative of this city Mayor Baxter would probably deem it necessary to dwell in eloquent periods on the wonderful advantages to be gained by the placing of the government grain elevators somewhere on Burrard Inlet within sight and sound of the city. An elevator is, of course, a thing of beauty and a joy forever. It creates eternal noise and shunting; but it employs comparatively few men and the city near an elevator will not grow largely on its account. Those who know the big elevators at Port William, however, may not be mad with enthusiasm at the idea of placing such a structure too close to the city. It is true there are several places on the shores of Burrard Inlet and the Fraser River where an elevator would merge properly into its surroundings, and undoubtedly an elevator does mean ships and all that they entail.

This is, of course, the crux of the situation. Ships are valuable to any city and naturally waterfront communities desire some thing which will attract ships. It might be said it is not the elevator so much as the ships which are desirable. Fixing attention on this point there remains the problem of whether the Fraser River or Burrard Inlet makes the better harbor or channel for ships. The fact that the Fraser River, being a river naturally has to contend with sandbanks is obvious. There is possibly no need to mention such a fact to an intelligent audience. It seems that Mayor Baxter did not give the Grain Commission sufficient credit for intelligence. He apparently deemed himself in the position of counsel for Burrard Inlet or prosecuting attorney against the Fraser River.

Naturally, therefore, those whom he prosecuted are most indignant. It is a great pity, for whatever may be the merits of the case they are sufficiently obvious to have attracted the attention of the Grain Commission. The thing to have done was for all the representatives to get together and make a united plea to the commission to de-

to examine this problem from every aspect. It is the most important one which has to be decided, and the sooner it is brought to an issue the better. The Province has said before and still believes the problem is capable of easy solution owing to the fact that this climate is not really suitable to the Hindu. There are millions and millions of acres in East Africa where half the population of India could thrive and make an excellent living in a climate which is eminently suitable and where white men can not labor. There these excellent and most industrious men can grow cotton, cocoa, rubber and nearly every known product, including wheat on the uplands, and by so doing will not only benefit themselves but the whole Empire. Surely the Indian and Colonial office can make arrangements for such colonizing on a large scale. There are six months in which to guard against a possible test of the kind Mr. Curdt Singh proposes to make. Let us make the best use of them, for there is no good in blinking the fact that we are playing with fire on this whole question. If the Hindu can be eliminated from the problem of Oriental immigration at least a third of our troubles will have been settled. Let him drift along with the rest and we are only piling up a huge debt for our day of judgment.

This does not explain exactly why this news should have come from Shanghai to German newspapers first. Reuter's correspondent in Shanghai would surely be awake to the fact of its importance even if the British correspondents were asleep. Lloyd's alone would surely have "tipped it off."

CITY HALL SALARIES.

The City Council appears to be at its wits' ends to make the revenue meet the expenditure. It seems to tackle the total estimates in a despairing kind of way and endeavor to find out whether it is possible to save a few thousands here or there. It scans the estimates of the various departments and wonders whether something more can not be pruned from these without impairing the efficiency of the city. But failing all else and seeing no other way of getting within about \$100,000 of a balance it has at last turned to the salaries of the staff at the City Hall. It has been suggested that the mayor and aldermen might set a good example with regard to salaries but at most a 50 per cent. cut in this direction would only mean the saving of some \$12,000. It is a far more serious matter, however, to try and save a few thousand more by cutting down

Seen at the



MR. W.

to operate in the s beings. There ap to the miracles of

The anxiously a federal court in a case between org the new Federal I be one of those c liverances in whic pears as the loser from the Philadel the Chicago Feder back, and the new enforce performan The decision is az on the ground that into court with cl court also declares of organized base would seem to op wholesale raid by the old leagues. the latter assert th form of contract does not apply and can hold their men tions of Federal m It leaves the busin up as ever and th baseball season ma the national game of legal red tape.

Commenting on Massachusetts Lex legal to engage it tions on Sunday. says: "Workin healthful