

The Weekly Times

Victoria, Friday, May 3

STILL UNCERTAIN.

It might have been expected that when Premier Bowell spoke to the senate he would explain in the clearest way what his government would propose to do with the Manitoba school question in the event of the Manitoba government and legislature refusing to obey the "remedial order." That order has been interpreted in different ways by the Conservative politicians and organs and the head of the government owed to the country a definite statement of the government's intentions. His nearest approach was this concluding sentence of his speech:—"I can only say that when the time comes, if it should come, for action by this government, the people of Canada will find that the present administration are quite prepared to assume the responsibility which may fall upon them, no matter what the results may be."

This utterance, as was natural, has been interpreted as variously as the "remedial order." One group of the government's supporters take it to mean that the government will ask parliament to pass an act restoring separate schools in Manitoba if the provincial authority refuses to do so, while those in another group say it means nothing of the kind. The Mail and Empire, the chief government organ, tells the people of Ontario that "it will be parliament, and not necessarily the government, that will have to deal with the question in its next stage, should another stage be reached." If that is so, what did Sir Mackenzie Bowell mean by talking of "the time for action by this government?" The Toronto World, another prominent organ, says:—

"At this stage it looks as if Manitoba will refuse to do anything, and that after a reasonable time has been given her to consider the whole question, say by the session of 1896, parliament might be asked to pass a law which would exempt Catholics from paying public school taxes in Manitoba. How parliament could go further no one sees. Parliament, for instance, could not administer a separate school law in Manitoba if it passed one."

It could only at the most, as stated above, exempt Catholics from public school taxes. It could in this remedial legislation and certainly would declare that Manitoba had complete jurisdiction over any separate schools to regulate them, to prescribe text books and examinations for teachers, etc. But even to pass this mild remedial legislation will be a strain, in so far as the province of Ontario is concerned. As the World said two weeks ago, non-interference is the wisest course.

The Hamilton Spectator "copies out flat-footed" and in reference to Sir Mackenzie's statement says:—

"If that means that should Manitoba refuse to restore the separate schools the Dominion government will assume the responsibility of forcing Manitoba to re-establish those schools, we can only say that when the time comes, if it should come, the government will have to do the job without the assistance of The Hamilton Spectator, and, we think, without the assistance of the bulk of the Conservative party in Ontario."

In another issue the Spectator declares the Toronto World's scheme impracticable, since the provinces are given sole control of the taxation for provincial purposes. It further says:—

"The attitude of Sir Mackenzie Bowell toward Manitoba is most extraordinary. He has, he says, asked Manitoba to relieve the Roman Catholic minority of Manitoba. The government of Manitoba received this remedial 'order' or request, and adjourned the legislature in order to give time to consider the question, and to decide upon action. Sir Mackenzie Bowell says he hopes Manitoba will be patriotic enough to take action, to restore their rights to the minority, and to relieve the Dominion parliament of the question entirely. But while the Manitoba legislature is still adjourned; while the Manitoba government is still considering the question; and before that government could reasonably be expected to make a reply to the Dominion government in so important a matter as this is, Sir Mackenzie Bowell gets up in his place in the Dominion senate and threatens Manitoba! He says, in effect: I hope, Manitoba, that you will look at this question as I do in my capacity as premier—privately I am opposed to separate schools—and will give the Roman Catholics of your province the schools you have taken away from them. I hope you will do this and relieve me of a great responsibility and relieve parliament and the country at large of much annoyance. There's a good girl, Manitoba, fix this thing up so that 'I won't bother you: Your little legislature is only a side show compared with the Dominion parliament, and it does not matter if the little legislature does stultify itself by cancelling the legislation it made only a little while ago with the approval of nine-tenths of the people of your province. I ask you, as a favor to me, to do this, Manitoba, but, r-r-r-remember! If you do not do it, I shall take immediate steps to compel you to do it, no matter what the results may be! We think that Sir Mackenzie Bowell would have done better had he waited until the Manitoba legislature resumed, and had shown some sign of making reply or of refusing to make reply."

The Conservative camp is therefore divided by a marked line of cleavage in

regard to this matter, and it would surely be but seemly if the gentlemen would heal their own division before calling on Mr. Laurier for a judgment.

THE WOMAN'S TIMES.

The editor of the Woman's Times would like contributions from women writers in Victoria. Short articles on all topics of interest to women, short stories, sketches of local character, jokes and poetry will be available. All matter must be concise and bright. Send manuscript to Box 279, Victoria.

TARIFF TAXATION.

In its issue of this morning our contemporary says: "A good deal has been said of late about excessive taxation. Those who make this complaint do not seem to know that the taxation of the Dominion has been lowered considerably of late years. The returns for 1894 show that the revenue for customs was less per capita than it was in 1875." It proceeds to quote the following from the Montreal Gazette, "which has become an authority in matters of finance."

The relief granted the people by the remissions of taxation in the last four or five years has been most substantial, and if a deficit in the revenue now appears its source is to be found in the fact that it is not an increase of the public expenditure. Per head of population the amount of customs duties paid has been as follows:

1874 \$3.77 1890 \$5.01
1875 3.95 1891 4.29
1882 3.95 1892 21.85
1883 5.23 1894 3.86

The percentage of duty on the value of goods entered for consumption has been also diminished. In 1881 it amounted to 20.19 per cent., in 1890 to 21.85 per cent., in 1892 to 17.56 per cent., and in 1894 to 17.13 per cent. The Canadian people are paying to-day, under the revised tariff, fully \$1.25 per head less in 1889, and 20c per head less than they paid in 1883, and 20c per head less than they paid in 1885, when a tariff for revenue only was in operation. To speak, therefore, of an excessive and grinding taxation under the National policy is to pervert the facts.

Perhaps the richest bit in the above morceau is the announcement that the "Montreal Gazette has become an authority in matters of finance." Now let us see how this great "authority in matters of finance" arrives at the figures. This cannot be made clearer than by submitting the following from the St. John Telegraph:

"The government every year publishes long columns of figures which are intended to show how light taxation is in Canada as a result of the tariff. This year the figures of the fiscal year 1893-4 are published, and, according to them, the amount per head collected as duties on imports in Canada during the year was only \$3.86 against \$5.01 in 1890. These figures are arrived at by calculating an increase in the population of Canada from 4,789,028 in 1890 to 5,021,467 in 1894, a statement the accuracy of which cannot be proved. The duties on imports in 1890 were \$24,014,908, while in 1894 they had fallen to \$19,379,822. It is, however, a fallacy to assert that the amount of duty collected represents the burden of the tax. Let us suppose that Canada imports under a revenue tariff of 17.12 per cent. \$10,000,000 worth of a certain class of goods, cotton or woolen, as the case may be. The amount of duty collected on these goods is \$1,750,000, and this represents accurately the burden imposed on the people by the tariff. But a change of policy takes place, and for the purpose of creating infant industries, the rate of duty on this line of goods is increased to 35 per cent. The importation of these goods is presently reduced to \$1,000,000 a year, paying a duty of \$350,000. In such a case could the government claim that the burden of taxes on these goods had been reduced from \$1,750,000 to \$350,000? As a matter of fact the burden instead of being reduced had been greatly increased, for the price of the \$1,000,000 made in Canada would be increased by the amount of duty. The government would only receive \$350,000 in duties, but the people would pay \$3,500,000, of which \$3,150,000 would go into the pockets of the manufacturers. This illustration fits the case and proves the fallacy of the claims of the government that the taxes of the people have been reduced. The New York Herald some time ago proved by a series of elaborate calculations that for every dollar of duty collected by the government \$10 went into the pockets of the manufacturers, and the same calculation will apply equally well to Canada."

Under the fiscal policy which the Liberals intend shortly introducing the moneys collected from the people will go into the treasury and not into the pockets of the manufacturers.

The statement of the Province in regard to Mr. Bostock's views on the trade question has not been plain enough for the Colonist. That is just what we expected. It would take a very plain statement indeed to overcome the organ's "omnipotence."

It is not unnatural that the Nicaraguan populace should be incensed against the British, since they are too ignorant to be able to look below the surface. If they were more intelligent and more local their anger would be turned against the jingo papers and politicians of the United States, who were the means of leading the Nicaraguan rulers astray. Jingoism is an unpleasant breed, wherever found, but the American specimen

seems to be a few degrees worse than even his British congener.

The Globe: The workers in the Cornwall woollen mills have discovered how the National Policy affects wages, or at least they will before the strike is over. The higher prices lessen the demand for woollens, and consequently the demand for their labor. They submitted quietly to a cut of 10 per cent., but are striking to restore the old scale.

Minister Foster evidently intends to make a very large proportion of his retrenchment apply to the public expenditure in British Columbia. At the same time the people of this province will have to keep up their disproportionate share of the revenue. There is a good opportunity now for the British Columbia members to enter a decided protest.

The Colonist used up a great many words in making a virtual admission that the Australian colonies suffered most from depression at the time when their tariffs were at their highest point. A little circumspection used in that way is better, however, than striving to gain-say a fact which is within the knowledge of all who know anything of the subject.

The New Denver Ledger gives the returns of ore shipped out of Slovan by way of the Nakusp & Slovan railway. From September 13th to the end of last year the quantity shipped was 2,151 tons and the value \$215,100. From January 1 to March 31 the quantity was 3,125 tons, valued at \$312,500. This makes a total for the season of 5,276 tons, valued at \$527,600—a very good season's work.

It is satisfactory to observe that more Norwegian immigrants are coming into the province, for they make good settlers, being industrious and orderly. The addition of a few hundred of this class of immigrants to our agricultural population would make a wonderful difference in the amount of agricultural products in the province. The time must come, it is to be supposed, when the farmers of British Columbia will produce enough to overstock the local market, and as no outside market is available for a large proportion of the articles, up will come the question of surplus and prices. Those who talk "protection" to the British Columbia farmer should keep that day in mind and be on the watch for a remedy.

SASKATCHEWAN BRANCH.

Foley Brothers Say They Have Made a Contract to Build It.

St. Paul, Minn., April 26.—Timothy Foley, of the railroad contracting firm of Foley Bros. & Guthrie, of this city, returned from Ottawa to-day, where he completed arrangements in connection with the contract to build the so-called Hudson's Bay road. Mr. Foley left to-day for Milaca. While in the city he confirmed the report that his firm must build 125 miles of the road this season, according to the contract, which covers a total of 220 miles. The line is to be built along the Saskatchewan, but the original route may be changed somewhat, requiring a new survey in considerable territory. Work will probably begin in about a month. When asked how the Hudson's Bay is expected to pay for it, one member of the firm replied that he did not know, and admitted that such a project could not receive such government support as it has in money and lands in this country. He thought that the road is expected to pay for itself by introducing some new transcontinental lines.

A MEAL AND A BED

The New Salvation Army Food and Shelter Home Opens Next Monday.

In three or four days the new food and shelter home of the Salvation Army will have been finished. Captain Archibald, assisted by a small force of men, has been at work putting on the finishing touches. The popular captain showed a Times man around to-day. On the ground floor there are a kitchen, pantry, dining room, and reading room, all well equipped, and there is also a smoking room for those who use the weed. The walls and the ceilings have been painted with light tints to give the place as cheerful and homelike an appearance as possible. On this floor is also a fumigator, arranged with a patent of Captain Patterson's, where the thousand-strong clothes of the poor unfortunates are picked and where they undergo a process of purification. Baths, with hot and cold water, have also been fitted up. On the first floor is the dormitory and the apartments of Captain Patterson and Candidate Maria, who will be in charge of the home. The dormitory is nicely laid out and has 40 beds, arranged bunk fashion. The ventilation is of the best, and the thoughts of the occupants are sought to be directed Godward by numerous pretty pictures of Biblical subjects. An office has been equipped on this floor and is fitted up in an exceedingly neat but unostentatious manner. A programme is being prepared for the day of opening, Monday next. The place will be thrown open to public inspection in the morning, and in the afternoon Mayor Teague will preside at a formal opening.

Dr. Buchanan Rescinded. Albany, N. Y., May 1.—Governor Morton has granted a respite of one week from to-day to Dr. Buchanan, the murderer confined in Sing Sing.

MILK GRANULES WITH CEREALS.

A perfect food for Infants and Invalids.

The elements that make up this excellent food are the constituents of Pure Milk of the best quality and carefully selected Barley, specially treated to render the food easily digestible.

If your grocer or druggist do not keep it send direct to The Johnston Fluid Milk Co., Montreal.

THE CHINA-JAPAN TREATY.

Japan Will Shortly Reply to the Russian, French and German Protest.

United States Will Form no Alliance Involving European Complications.

London, April 30.—The Times publishes a dispatch to-day from Kobe saying that the Russian and German ministers left Tokyo for Kobe yesterday. It is supposed that they intend to seek an interview with Count Ito, the president of the Japanese council of ministers, and with Viscount Matsui, the Japanese minister of foreign affairs. The French minister is also expected here at the same time. The Mikado has arrived at the Yakoto from Hiroshima. The Times correspondent in conclusion says: "I learn that Tuesday's big celebration of the 1100th anniversary of the founding of Yakoto has been postponed ostensibly on account of the illness of the Mikado. Evidently the situation is grave."

The Associated Press learns on good authority that Japan will reply to the Russian, German and French protests within a few days.

The Times also prints the following dispatch from its correspondent at Hong Kong: A British warship will visit the Pescadore islands, which are at present in the hands of the Japanese. It is supposed that the Japanese wish to hide the massacre of the Chinese garrison here, because they have shown anxiety to prevent foreign warships from landing since the capture of the islands.

Washington, April 30.—The attitude of the United States in the Eastern war troubles has been clear to the various powers interested. In brief, it is said that the unvarying policy of this country is not to form alliances which may involve it in complications with the countries of Europe or Asia. It is a re-assertion of the policy of isolation, except in so far as the United States may be able to exercise a kindly or advisory influence toward the adjustment of trouble involving Eastern nations. The foregoing is now accepted by diplomats here as the policy which will guide the United States in the pending European complication over the China-Japan settlement. At one time within recent days there was a prospect that the United States might co-operate with Great Britain and Italy in trying to effect a solution of the Japan-China trouble and the belligerent protest of Russia, France and Germany. Such action, if it had been taken, would not have been in the nature of assistance to Japan, but merely an exertion of joint influence to persuade China to ratify the peace agreement. It is said by diplomats that as Japan has already ratified the agreement, similar action by China would make it effective, while, therefore, Russia, France and Germany were protesting at Tokyo, the desire of the other powers was to bring to bear their influence on Peking. It is known positively that Italy's policy is that of a neutral, but that it favors the execution of the Japan-China agreement as already made, and to this extent its sympathies are with Japan. This will not, however, go to the extent of opposing the Russo-Franco-German alliance. It is understood that Great Britain's course is along the same line, and so far as the United States is concerned there will be no co-operation, as already stated, except in such kindly way as may seem for the interest of all concerned, but always short of an alliance.

Yokohama, April 30.—The Mikado is suffering from a chill. The date of the departure of Count Ito, president of the Japanese council of ministers, for Chefoo to ratify the treaty of peace has not yet been determined upon.

Berlin, April 30.—The North German Gazette, semi-official, says May 8 is the day fixed for the ratification of the Japanese-Chinese treaty of peace. The ratifications will be exchanged at Chefoo. The paper adds that Japan can derive no advantage by insisting upon the ratification within a stipulated time, as the objections of France, Russia and Germany will remain in force.

The same paper defends the policy of Germany in the far East, and accuses Great Britain of inconsistency in having at the beginning of the war supported China, while Germany throughout counselled Japan to act with moderation. The fact that Germany finds herself in harmony with France and Russia, the paper adds, is a matter of congratulation, as a step in the honorable and open policy of peace which she pursues in Europe.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

Six Weeks' Sealing Nets a Half a Million Dollars.

St. John's, Nfld., April 30.—The sealing season just ended has been one of the most successful on record. Two

thirds of the steamers engaged did remarkably well, while the rest made enough to pay expenses. The value of the catch is estimated to be \$500,000. This will prove wonderfully beneficial in the way of bringing about the recovery of the colony from the recent commercial disasters. The movement against a union with Canada is spreading rapidly. Petitions opposing confederation are receiving a big number of signatures throughout the colony. The opponents of confederation are organizing to contest the question in the coming general election. The disruption of the government is probable.

THE CUBAN REVOLUTION.

Campos Actively Engaged in Suppressing the Insurrection.

Havana, April 30.—All the orders given by Capt. General Martinez Campos since he assumed control in Cuba would lead the ordinary observer to believe that there was great laxity in the administration of the department by Gen. Calleja, the captain general whom he superseded, and who is now on the way back to Spain. Even the sanitary service, so essential in time of war, suffered greatly from neglect. It is believed that Campos will discern that the rebellion could have been prevented if the proper precautions had been taken in time. The activity of the new captain general in the direction of a general plan of campaign against the insurgents will, it is expected, soon produce a beneficial result.

Havana, April 30.—Government troops under General Salcedo have won a great victory over the insurgents commanded by Gen. Maceo. Many of the latter were killed and wounded. The rest dispersed and are taking refuge in the mountains. Gen. Maceo's hand has been routed with great loss in killed and wounded. Nearly all of the remainder of his band surrendered.

LATE CABLE ADVICES.

The Capture of Shere Afzul and Six Hundred Followers.

London, April 30.—A dispatch from Sebastopol says the Russian warship Penderkilla, of the Black sea fleet, came into collision yesterday with the Russian mail steamer Kotzebue near the Takinut lighthouse. The Kotzebue filled rapidly. Most of the passengers and crew were taken aboard the Penderkilla from the Kotzebue's decks. Others were picked up after she went down. Five men sank with the ship and were lost. The warship was damaged below the water line. She is an ancient vessel nearly twenty years old.

A dispatch to the Times from Hong Kong says that serious disturbances have broken out on the island of Formosa. On April 23rd the Chinese soldiers killed their general. The governor's body guard attacked the mutinous soldiers, and thirty men were cut to pieces and fifty wounded. The Chinese artillery threaten to fire on any vessel leaving the island with treasure. The savages are coming down from the hills to attack the Chinese, and the position of the whites on the island is critical. In the elections on Sunday for members of the Greek parliament, ex-Premier Tricoupi, leader of the opposition, was unseated by 115 votes. Only about ten of his supporters were elected. On the other hand M. Delyannis and party received three-fourths of the votes cast. Delyannis is the present prime minister. All of the members of the Tricoupi cabinet, which went out of office on January 22nd last as a result of the popular demonstration against the government's taxation proposals, have been unseated.

Shere Afzul, who, after the murder of his nephew, the Mestaf of Chitral, usurped the throne and besieged Dr. Robertson, the British agent in the Chitral fort, was captured Saturday, together with his brother and six hundred of his followers. They are now in prison.

A dispatch from Paris says the French government have promised to supply the American ambassador with testimony in the court martial proceedings against ex-Consul Waller. It is learned on the highest authority that France, Russia and Germany believe the United States is supporting Japan. The French government is anxious because this belief may effect the outcome of the joint protest to Japan concerning the acquisition by her of Chinese mainland territory.

The cabinet held a meeting to-day and discussed the situation respecting the Japanese treaty. The minister of the interior announced that he had no anticipation of disorder on May day.

Indigestion.

You have tried everything for it and found no help. We are no doctors, but we can offer you a prescription that has cured many, and it might cure you as well; it will cost but a quarter dollar, and can be had at any druggist—Ask for Perry Davis Pain-Killer. The New Big 25c. size.

Nicaragua Will P
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Excitement Prev
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London, April 29.—Managua says that evening President Zelaya has telegraphed from Washington that Great Britain would not from Corinto and pay days in which to grant, if such proposition is believed, will be terms outlined in the

Further advice Zelaya and the cable \$75,000 demanded by don within fifteen days further condition, the first taken out of into. This preliminary insisted upon on account of feeling in the country might render the ultimatum even form, impossible. The request has not

Washington, April an minister was again department and command and afterward

The nature of the known, but it is thought looking to the British troops from

payment of the indemnity will follow money is paid before leave the harbor is informed circles he against England grow while quiet prevails

element exists in other of the republic. The suspended, and while is generally popular party in the republic

again succeeded to and any surrender to time would be playing the Granada party.

Seventeen years ago came involved in a to that which the England. The German rested for indulging but his identity being released. Germany's

and an indemnity central German men of Corinto, but the G permit the troops paid the indemnity excitement prevailed.

London, May 1.—In ment which emanated foreign office saying

no change in the attitude towards Nicaragua day that Great Brit the proposed settlement with Nicaragua if the indemnity is guarant

the British fleet will withdrawn from Corinto known what guarantee

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Washington, May 1 the payment of the indemnity as required by be made in the ample

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The final proposition between Nicaragua a will therefore be as fa

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agrees to pay \$15,500 days from the sailing

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