

The Weekly Times

Victoria, Friday, October 19.

TUPPER AND THE CANNERS.

The minister of fisheries has written another letter on the Fraser river question, this one being addressed to Col. Prior, M. P., and by him handed to the Colonist for publication. We are at a loss to know why the minister should go to so much trouble, for it is quite obvious that his effusions will result in no good to himself, to his department or to the government. If he cannot see his way clear to writing in a different vein he would do better to keep quiet. The Fraser river canners are like all men of independent spirit in that they are naturally averse to being converted. With a bludgeon, yet this is the method which seems to find favor with Sir Charles Hibbert. Abusing and sneering at the canners is a very poor policy for him to follow, and is undignified. The minister is comparatively young, but he has been in office for a period long enough to have taught any man ordinarily endowed with intelligence that a minister always suffers from a display of bumptious arrogance. If Sir Charles has sources of information out of reach of the canners from which he learns that they are all wrong in their contentions and demands, then there could be no objection to his politely instructing them, but it is a different thing when he starts out to insult them and sets their intelligence aside as an utterly worthless guide to the situation.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

A few weeks ago the Quebec government passed an order in council fixing a crown duty of 40 cents per log on spruce logs for paper pulp cut on the crown lands of the province, but allowing a rebate of 15 cents per cord when the logs were reduced to pulp in mills within the province. It seems to have been feared in Ottawa that this discrimination against mills in the States, though not due to the action of the Dominion government, would lead to the duty being replaced on Canadian lumber entering the States by way of retaliation. The Dominion government therefore suggested that the discrimination should be dropped, and the Quebec government has accepted the advice, making a uniform rate of 40 cents per cord without rebate.

Mr. Chamberlain proposes to introduce a bill at the next session of the British parliament to provide for the furnishing of state aid to artisans for the purchase of homes of their own, for the granting of old age pensions, for the limitation of the hours of labor in shops and families, for the restriction of pauper alien immigration and a new employers' liability act, embodying a contract-out clause. Mr. Chamberlain seems to take the British artisan for a bird that can be caught with chaff.

The Revelstoke Mail concludes that "West Kootenay should vote for the Liberals and free trade, or partial free trade, or anything that will help us to get out of the clutches of the C. P. R." There are weightier reasons than this for West Kootenay supporting the Liberal party, but the Mail's reason is a good one in itself.

A STUPID COMPARISON.

The character of a defence is an unerring index to the character of what is defended. No man finds himself under the necessity of defending truth by apology or of offering excuses for that which produces only good results. It is an old device of wrongdoers to seek to divert attention from their wrongdoing by attempting to pick holes in the coats of those who would expose it. Four years ago the Victoria protectionist asserted that though we did pay more for our goods on account of protection we got it all back again, and more too, in the increased prosperity which protection created. The logic of facts having completely established the falsity of this claim in the experience of the business men and working men of Victoria, our champions of protection are driven to the expedient of directing popular attention from the investigation of the evils resulting from protection to the consideration of representations of British protectionists in their efforts to disparage the effects of free trade. Finding it impossible to defend protection on its merits, they apologize for it by instituting a comparison between the condition of the farmers in England and the farmers in Canada. Recognizing that the failure of protection to benefit the Canadian farmer is established by facts which they cannot set aside, they seek to place free trade in the same category by asserting its failure to make prosperity for the British farmer, by the admission of protectionists themselves it does not make him pay a high price for the failure. The British farmer in prosperous times is not compelled to pay the price of high tariffs for making them, and if

hard times do come upon him they are not made harder for him by the burden of protective taxes in addition. Compared with the British the Canadian farmer is at the disadvantage—if protectionist reasoning be sound—that when he enjoys good times he must pay smartly for them in high duties or in profits to manufacturers; and when times are bad with him protection still demands its pound of flesh. After two years of the worst kind of times in Victoria and the surrounding country protection adds as much to the cost of goods consumed by the inhabitants as it did when times were at their best.

But the comparison made by protectionists between Canadian and British farmers is not a fair one. The vast majority of Canadian farmers own the land they till and should reap the revenue not only of tillers of the soil but of landlords as well. In Britain one set of men till the soil which another set of men own, and revenue from cultivation which in Canada goes into the pockets of working farmers, are in Britain divided between farmers who work and landlords who do nothing to increase their returns, and invariably the largest share falls to the latter. In Canada the whole revenues from cultivation and ownership are burdened with the support of only one class, and that an active one in production; in Britain these revenues are burdened with the support of two classes, by far the most expensive one of which is non-productive.

The expenditures of government which go to increase taxation upon the farmer are more numerous and of greater volume in Britain than in Canada. The expenditures of government to which the Canadian farmer is compelled to contribute in taxation are limited to a purely civil or commercial character. In addition to these the British farmer is taxed for the expenditures of a royal court and the pensioning of a host of royal relatives, the maintenance of large armies and the construction of vast fortifications in every part of the globe and the keeping in efficiency of a naval establishment of such a magnitude as the world in its past has not ever even dreamed of. Yet in spite of all these adverse conditions that free trade did promote the prosperity of the British farmer history abundantly proves, but in doing so in a country with a crowded and increasing population it induced a keen competition for a share in the farmers' prosperity which enabled the idling landlord to put up the rent of the working farmer to the utmost limit which the most prosperous years made possible. Under any trade policy or any system of taxation it is not possible that all years should be alike prosperous, and a high rent to the British farmer in the best years brought disaster to him in less prosperous ones, and as a natural consequence a demand for a reduction of rent. It is not in the nature of things that men enjoying fat revenues should relinquish them without any effort to save them, and in his dilemma the British landlord finds in the protective idea the readiest instrument for the perpetuation of high rents. If the handful of landlords who own the soil of Britain could induce a majority of the British people to shut out foreign grain or by protective tariffs to make their own bread dearer, the increased profits to be made in growing grain on British farms must in the end find their way into their own pockets, and the hearts of the kind of (landlord) "farmers" for which the protectionist press of Canada has so much sympathy would be made glad.

But the manufacturing and trading people of England are not so ignorant of economic problems as to make them an easy prey to the protectionist sophistry. They are beginning to discover the reason why the burden of direct taxation has fallen so heavily on themselves is that the landlords of Great Britain have not so far been contributing anything like their fair share. And thus it is that the agitation for the taxation of ground rents is assuming much more important proportions in Britain than that kind of bastard protection known to British politics as "fair trade." The next great fight between British free traders and their opponents will not be over the question of returning to a policy of protection, but over the question of placing the burdens of direct taxation where they properly belong. Any comparison between British farmers, taxed enormously for military expenditures in almost every country on earth and to meet the charges of a huge national debt contracted in useless wars of more than a century ago, and Canadian farmers, taxed only for expenditures within their own territory and almost exclusively for commercial improvements made in their own time and for their own advantage, could only be made by men who are ignorant of the value of argument or are in the desperate straits of having no sound argument to offer. Why do not protectionist editors compare the condition of the British farmer under free trade with that of contemporaries in protectionist countries of a like age and subject to similar conditions? Why do not they compare the British with the French, or Italian, or German, or Austrian, or Russian farmer? Perhaps it is

that the wretchedness of the French peasantry, the hopeless poverty which drives so many Italian cultivators to brigandage, the Austrian farmers' diet of black bread, or the starving, famine-cursed condition of the tillers of Russian fields, warns them of the exposures which are in store for those who look too closely into the effects of protection where it has the fullest sway and been longest in operation. But this policy of apology and hiding the truth will not save protection. As truth must eventually triumph over error and freedom over live tyranny, so must free trade triumph over restriction. "Times change, men pass, but that which is built on truth endures." INTRA MURS.

NANAIMO NEWS.

Water Works Company to Improve Their System.

Nanaimo, Oct. 12.—The Nanaimo Water Works Company have decided to put the works in a condition to meet the increasing demands of the city for many years to come. This is a wise decision and one that should please every reasonable person. No bonus will be asked of the corporation for the Commercial street enlargement which will be undertaken by the company at their own expense. The mains from the dam to Albert street and through Victoria Crescent and Commercial street, will be of 12 inch pipes so as to give a strong pressure in case of fire. There is no better water in the province and the supply is excellent for domestic purposes, but is not sufficiently strong for big fires.

One of the leading provision merchants of the city has been canvassing among other tradesmen with a view of organizing a combination to raise the price of certain articles.

W. J. Spears denies that an offer of 50 cents on the dollar has been made and expresses his intention of paying dollar for dollar.

Mrs. J. R. McManus has been appointed postmistress at Northfield in place of Mr. J. Crossan, resigned.

The death of Caroline Scott, wife of R. H. Scott, was announced yesterday. The deceased was only 19 years old and had been enjoying good health with a week ago. The funeral takes place on Sunday afternoon.

Nanaimo, Oct. 15.—The search party, consisting of Messrs. W. E. Webb, A. G. Horne and Chris Jacobson, returned early yesterday morning after an unsuccessful attempt to discover the whereabouts of the Allen brothers and Thomas Milburn. The search party left Nanaimo on Thursday morning by the steamer Esperanza. The first place of call was Lasquet Island, and then to the north of Texada, past Henderson marble quarry, keeping close to the shore in the hope that they might get news of the missing men. Then the course of the steamer was altered to Grunnet quarry, where there were plenty of men at work but on questioning them as to whether they had seen the canoe they replied in the negative. The party were informed that two sloops lay in a little bay further up the coast. The course of the steamer was again altered, but on arriving at the bay both vessels had apparently slipped their anchors. A little later on the sloop Falcon was spoken but no news could be obtained. A man came out of the bush and put off to the steamer, but like the others met with him he could give no information of any account. Captain Lewis' house was sighted at dusk and Mr. A. G. Horne and Chris Jacobson went on shore to make enquiries, as the missing men could not get to Gordon Lake without passing his house. Capt. Lewis was not home but three of his sons had only returned from the lake the day previous and they were positive that the Allen brothers had not been there and neither had they seen any sign of their canoe. They were also positive that no white men nor Indians were up there. Mr. Horne felt confident of any account. Captain Lewis would have been well treated as he had been to the white man's friend. The steam railway logging camp was next made and thence to Powell river where the canoes were supposed to be concealed, that the Allens employed on a previous occasion. The place was examined by the trio of searchers but no sign of the canoes could be discovered. The mission was next made but the priest being away, Peter, the Indian chief, informed the party that he had not seen any white men at the lake, but he volunteered the information that lots of white men had lately gone up to Bute Inlet. Finding it was now useless searching further, the steamer was headed for Nanaimo. On their way to Nanaimo they called at the lime quarry on Texada Island, and here they gleaned the information that the missing men had never been there, but that it was another party entirely. Indians were met with who had been fishing on the gulf for some time had not seen them. The steamer encountered a gale during her passage across the gulf. The party thanked Mr. Forman and R. Byers for the courtesy and assistance given them during the trip. Should a larger party organized the service of Mr. A. G. Horne will be invaluable as he is well acquainted with the whole of the country.

An inquest was held on the body of Caroline Scott on Saturday by Coroner Planta. The inquest was held at the instance of Dr. McKeechie who attended the deceased prior to her death. The husband of the deceased gave evidence of her sickness from vomiting and pain in the stomach and to the calling in of Dr. McKeechie. A box of "Rough on Rats" was produced which had been found in the house about a quarter full. Witness said it had been sent by him to poison mice and as far as he knew it had not been otherwise touched. Dr. McKeechie, in his evidence, said he was unable to give positively the cause of death but from a post mortem examination he had held, there was every appearance of some irritant poison in the stomach and bowels. Dr. McKeechie

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We have the Facilities.

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JAMES MITCHELL, - Agent, - Victoria.

was of opinion that a thorough analysis of the stomach should be made by an expert.

The jury found deceased came to her death from causes of which there was not sufficient evidence before them to come to any conclusion. The jury recommended that the public analyst make an examination of the stomach of deceased. The body was interred yesterday.

TO THE SCENE OF HIS CRIME

Sergeant Forbes of the Sydney Police Here After Frederick Bollman.

Prisoner's Regard for Truth—Part of Stolen Money Missing—Extradition.

Sergeant Forbes of the New South

Wales police arrived here on Saturday evening on the Arawa, armed with the necessary papers for the extradition of Frederick Bollman, who absconded from Sydney over two months ago, stealing \$6,000 from Hinckley & Co., a German hardware firm. The exact method that will be followed in formally transferring the prisoner to the representative of the Sydney police has not yet been determined, as the case is without precedent and the greatest care must be exercised to proceed legally. Never before has a province of Canada been called upon to give up a prisoner to an Australian colony, and the experience gained in such matters by the local authorities in their dealings with American cases are of no value. Canada and New South Wales are under the same ruler, are part of the same country logically, and the present case will be very similar to transferring a case from Ontario to British Columbia, or from Oregon to California in the United States. Sergeant Forbes is armed with a warrant properly sworn to before Magistrate Macrae can turn him over to Sergeant Forbes.

Robert Duff, governor of New South Wales, and sealed with the great seal of the colony. The question with the police is as to whether Magistrate Macrae can turn him over to Sergeant Forbes. The matter of the supreme court will have to make the order. The matter is being looked up, and by the time the steamship Arawa is ready to start south again everything will be in apple pie order. Bollman has \$2,300 hidden away somewhere or in the keeping of a friend. On the way up Mr. Forbes stopped at the Hawaiian hotel at Honolulu, and was told by the clerk that Bollman when there deposited \$70 pounds sterling, or about \$2,300, for safe keeping. He drew it a short time before he sailed on the Warrimoo, and it is certain that he did not spend it before he got aboard the boat. When arrested here he had only 117 pounds on his person, and with tears in his eyes told Chief Sheppard that a second thief had robbed him in Apia, Samoa.

"That man Bollman is a terrible liar," said Chief Sheppard, as he sat in his office this morning talking to Mr. Forbes and a Times man. "Yes, he is a fearful liar," said Mr. Forbes. "Why, that gold watch he said he paid \$80 for and the chain he said cost him \$30 were bought in Sydney on the credit of the firm and not paid for at all. I saw the bill for them the day before I left Sydney. I believe that Bollman had some travelling companion on the Warrimoo to whom he entrusted the money, for I know he had \$2,800 at Honolulu, seven days before he got here." Chief Sheppard said: "I tried him in every way, but he stuck to his story. Detective Lees of San Francisco had an idea that Bollman might have sent the missing money on by postal order or by a draft mailed to himself at Victoria, Vancouver

or one of the sound cities, but I have no hopes that this theory will prove correct."

The officers have little idea where the money is, and it is unlikely that it will ever be found.

Sergeant Forbes brings the news that Bollman had an accomplice in the robbery in the person of a man named Day, who was also in the employ of Henckley & Co. Day was arrested at Sydney and has been committed for trial. Bollman told Mr. Forbes on Saturday night that Day was innocent, but he may be lying about that. Bollman got away from Australia in good shape. He told his colleagues in the office that he was going to Germany with the firm's money. He gave a dinner party, and his friends saw him to the depot, where he was going to catch the train for Goldburn to catch the P. & O. steamship. The farewell was a touching one. His friends shook hands with him and wished him Godspeed to the Fatherland. He went up the line 80 miles, sneaked back through Sydney, caught the Mariposa as Frederick Elberhard, and was by New Zealand before the cable could catch him. He got away with all of the \$6,000, for he drew the money from the bank nearly all in gold. It does not appear how much money Day got, but Sergeant Forbes says that there is strong evidence against him.

Sergeant Forbes is a middle aged man, a native of England, and has lived in Australia for many years. He is an affable man and is a typical officer.

TOSSED BY A BULL.

John Sinclair of Cadboro Bay the Victim of a Mad Bull.

John Sinclair, farmer, of Cadboro bay, is lying in a rather critical condition at his home, suffering from what the doctors technically term a broken neck, but which fortunately is not as serious as a broken neck as understood by a layman. Yesterday afternoon Mr. Sinclair went to the pasture to drive in a young bull. The bull charged at him, but for a time he was able to keep it at bay with a pitchfork which he carried. Finally, however, he was tossed, according to Mr. Ohlsen, who was present, nearly ten feet in the air. He fell on the back of his neck, breaking a small bone that protects the spinal cord. He was completely paralyzed when picked up. He soon regained consciousness. Dr. Ernest Hall was called in and made the patient as comfortable as possible. He says Mr. Sinclair may live if inflammation does not set in. Besides the broken bone, Mr. Sinclair's back, where the bull struck him, was badly bruised. The bull has been a terror to the neighborhood for some time. Only a few days ago he tossed a Chinaman in the air, and this morning he came within an ace of goring a boy. The bull was destroyed this afternoon.

Inter-State Fair.

For the Inter-State Fair at Tacoma, the steamer City of Kingston has made a round trip-rate of \$6.70, including two admissions to the fair.

Tickets on sale every Tuesday and Friday, from August 14th to October 30th inclusive, with final limit of twenty days from date of sale.

E. E. BLACKWOOD,
Agent N. P. R. R. Co.

Hall Caine is planning to introduce a hero modelled on Gen. Gordon into his next novel. The popularity of his "Maximus" is rivalled only by "Tribby."

In the play in which Anarchist Johann Most is to make his debut as an actor he is required in one scene to go through the motion of drinking beer without any of the real stuff. A stroke is imminent—Philadelphia Ledger.

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