

# The Weekly Times

Victoria, Friday, February 15.

## EVERYWHERE DISCREDITED.

These days there is coming forward altogether too much testimony to the beauties of the N. P. fiscal system to suit the tastes of the Dominion ministers and their supporters. Strenuous efforts are made to prove by statistics that the country is highly prosperous; but unfortunately statistics do not light on the actual press of hard times, nor feed the thousands of idle men and their families. In 1878 the Tory leaders went up and down the country howling about the "soup kitchens" which they alleged the rule of the Liberal government had necessitated. There is much great need for soup kitchens to-day than in 1878; and it does not appear that the Red Parlor men, who are allowed to grind the faces of the poor, contribute very liberally to the charities for which their much-loved N. P. is responsible. Hamilton is a city supposed to be exceptionally favored by the system of protection, yet the following remarks from the Hamilton Times show how utterly it has failed there:

"Before 1879 Hamilton manufacturers had pluck and heart. They enlarged their foundries and factories and built new ones. Now nobody thinks of starting a new factory in Hamilton. Existing concerns are very well satisfied if they can hold their own. Splendid buildings, like the James Stewart foundry on MacNab street, the Wanser sewing machine factory on Barton street, and the Zingsheim furniture factory on Mary street, stand empty and idle. In despair of any encouragement from the N. P., the citizens of Hamilton have actually voted more than \$100,000 to set up smelting works in the township of Barton, away beyond the limits of the annexed district. The workingmen who has steady employment, even at low wages, is considered to be in great luck, and skilled mechanics are ready to grab for any \$400 a year job that possesses the element of permanence. Is it any wonder that the N. P. candidates can only expect defeat in the coming elections?"

"Of course there will be a struggle. The half dozen men who have made money by the help of the N. P. duties will try, as formerly, to scare their employees and other wage earners by threats that a change of tariff will take away even the half loaf that now remains. That scheme worked in 1887, and saved the cause of the monopolists at the eleventh hour. But men who are out of work half the year can hardly be frightened into voting against their convictions by threats of injury, for with them any change must be an improvement."

Other schemes besides that of frightening the wage earners have "played out," and the N. P. will stand before the electors in the coming contest in all its hideous nakedness. Nor is there a master mind left in the party now to devise new methods of deceiving the people. There is not a single section of the country on which the government can depend to endorse their old, discredited and worn-out policy.

## THE SLAUGHTERED CATTLE.

A great deal of hardship has been inflicted on farmers and dairymen in the vicinity of Victoria whose cattle have been slaughtered because of their being affected with tuberculosis. In some instances practical ruin is the result to the unfortunate owner. It is a principle fully recognized in both Great Britain and Canada that the slaughtering of animals in such cases is for the protection of the community, and that the owner should therefore not be called on to bear the whole loss. An act passed by the parliament of Canada provides that the Dominion government may compensate the owners of animals thus slaughtered in the interest of the public. Where the disease is contagious the compensation fixed is one-third the value, provided that third does not exceed \$20; and in the case of non-infectious disease the compensation is three-fourths the value. The compensation thus provided for is certainly none too great. If there ever was a case where it was fully due it is due to the owners who have been visited in the neighborhood of this city, for we believe there is no charge made that the owners were responsible through negligence or in any other way. It seems there is some complication caused by the fact that the provincial government's officer ordered the slaughtering, one government refusing to be held responsible for another's act. We sincerely hope no red tape proceedings will be allowed to stand in the way of compensation to the men who have suffered such serious loss. Compensation is clearly due, and should come promptly from one source or another.

## A CONVERT INDEED.

The bill introduced in regard to the British Pacific railway introduced by the premier is far from fulfilling the promises made by and on behalf of the government at the time of the elections. Citizens of Victoria were then encouraged to believe that the success of the government would mean the inauguration of some plan whereby the building of the

road would be commenced in a short time; but it is needless to say that there is nothing of this desirable consummation foreshadowed in the measure now before the house. In the absence of the government's promised action it is so far satisfactory to notice that the government's Vancouver organ has seen fit to change its views in regard to the British Pacific. The World was once pronouncedly hostile, and hardly ever referred to the subject without a sneer. Now it speaks as follows:—

"The British Pacific railway enterprise should not be mixed up or associated with the Armstrong one. The former is yet but in its embryonic state. Its promoters are sanguine of success. That they have difficulties of a gigantic nature to overcome they readily admit. They realize a fact that is one thing to build a line on paper and an entirely different matter to construct and operate it. Like every large undertaking it requires grave consideration, and the perfecting of all plans—especially those of a monetary character, before a start is even made. The Canada Western, or British Pacific, as it is now called, has been before the people of this province since 1880, and in the period that has since elapsed the headway made has not been as satisfactory as would have been the case were the financial situation throughout the world different from what it is at present, and has been for the past three years. A few prominent residents of this province have much faith in the ultimate success of the scheme that they have made heavy investments therein. These men are not made of straw or stuff—they are amongst the most enterprising, progressive and wealthy of our fellow citizens; men whose names alone add strength, stability and security to any venture in which they embark or may be associated with. However imprudently some of our countrymen connected with the affair may act the heavy men, in a moneyed sense, will wait till the tide takes a turn in the world's market ere they proceed with the work. During the present session of the legislature the company will ask for an extension of time wherein to make a start and complete the next great colonization movement in British Columbia. Whilst there are a few in the assembly who are opposed to the idea—as they are to everything which tends to deplete our resources and territory—the majority of the members will cheerfully agree to what is to be asked. An increase in the acreage in the land grant may be requested, but beyond that nothing which in any way would hamper the province, or harass the taxpayers, will be demanded. This being so, every patriotic citizen will be glad to learn that there are in our midst those whose foresight, shrewdness and courage lead them to risk their capital—all of their own making—in an enterprise which, if completed upon the lines laid down by the promoters, will be of immense advantage and profit to British Columbia, since it will open up for settlement nearly 90 per cent. of a country whose possibilities are practically limitless. What the Canadian Pacific has achieved for that section of the province lying between the 49th and the 52nd parallel will be repeated when the new colonizer traces the immediate track ranging northward of the 56th parallel, and which is regarded as the El Dorado of Canada. When the complete plans of the company are made known it will be found that much misapprehension, opinion, and misrepresentation has been indulged in among those who are hostile to any movement that will not bring grist to their mills, no matter how much neighbors may suffer. Unopposed, what is the use of the vast empire tributary to this city, which ought to be peopled with thousands enriching the land, making it populous, and contributing to the general welfare?"

## EDITORIAL NOTES.

In the famous Cranbrook estate prospectus, Government Agent Cummings was quoted as an authority on the value of land owned by Col. Baker in Kootenay. He gave \$12 per acre as a fair average price. An examination of the assessment roll reveals the fact that most of the land which it was proposed to sell for \$12 per acre is assessed at 75 cents per acre. The prospectus either lied or the minister's property is grossly undervalued by the government assessor.

Conservative papers that want to "boom" the N. P. are suspiciously fond of sticking to the figures relating to the fiscal year 1892-93. Perhaps it is a little cruel to call their attention to the fact that in the first half of the current fiscal year the foreign trade of the country fell off by the very large amount of \$11,000,000, the exports decreasing \$15 million dollars and the imports six million dollars. By selecting two years that suit their purpose the advocates of restriction seek to deceive their readers as to the facts. A similar trick was played by the Colonist the other day when it asserted that sugar was on the free list. Refined sugar is not on the free list, a fact which the organ is careful to suppress for a purpose.

## GUATEMALA AND MEXICO.

Nothing Definitely Settled—Outbreak of Hostilities Unlikely.

City of Mexico, via Laredo, Tex., Feb. 13. —Telegraphic news from the state of Guatemala, is that Miles Rock, chief of the Guatemalan commission, was suddenly called from the border to the city of Guatemala in connection with an arrangement with Mexico. It is believed that Mr. Rock's opinion is required on a delicate point of policy, and that the news is of a generally peaceful tendency, but the El Universal of last night warns its readers that it is still possible for serious difficulties to arise.

## EMPRESS OF CHINA ARRIVES

She Had an Uneventful Run From Hong Kong—Peace Envoys Were Aboard.

The Attack on Wei Hai Wei Began as She Was Leaving Yokohama.

The steamship Empress of China, Captain R. Archibald, R. N. R., arrived here from the Orient this morning. She was reported by the operator at Carmanah Point at 1:30 o'clock, and was at anchor off the outer wharf at 6 o'clock. The Dominion quarantine steamer, *Kan*, with Dr. McNaughton Jones, was alongside a little later, and the tender *Maude* at seven o'clock. The ship had an uneventful passage of thirteen days. She left Yokohama on February 1st and expected to reach the 28th local time, to the 100th meridian. From thence to Victoria, strong easterly winds and head sea with occasional fog were met. No vessels were sighted on this side of the Pacific. She brought very few passengers in the cabin, the list only including the following: Mr. Drew, Admiral Dupuis, W. G. Hockridge, Dulany Hunter, Hon. M. Johnson, Frank Leyburn, Frank B. Woodruff, Mr. Woolsey.

Admiral Dupuis left the French fleet in the Orient on leave, and is on his way home to France. Dulany Hunter is attached to the American legation at Shanghai and is returning to his native land. Mr. Woolsey is a resident of Portland and was met here by his wife and son. Mr. Drew is in the Chinese customs service, and is on his way to England. There were four intermediate passengers and 85 in the Asiatic steerage. Of the latter 20 Chinese and 15 Japanese came ashore here. The ship has a full cargo of freight made up of Oriental products. She left for Vancouver at 8 o'clock.

The Empress of China carried the Chinese peace commissioners Chang and Lai and suite of fourteen from Saang-hai to Nagasaki. The officers saw considerable of the party on the way up to Japan. Chang himself, although he does not speak English or Japanese, had considerable experience in diplomatic etiquette and was probably added to the commission as the confidential agent of Li Hung Chang, who has been his steady patron for many years. He is an open-minded and clear-headed man. He knows the real state of contrast between Japanese and Chinese arms, and was under no delusions as to the actual facts of the military and political situation, and this is something. Another member of the party was Sata Yulen, who has had considerable experience with foreigners, having been in Russia at the negotiation of the famous treaty which allowed the cession of Khabarovsk during the seventies. The Mail says: "A recent issue of the *Pekin and Tientsin Times* made a strong protest against his appointment on the ground that at the beginning of the present hostilities, he, acting as the governor of Formosa, offered a price for Japanese heads. This, if true, seems to me a pretty poor recommendation for a man to be sent here as a final bar to the success of the mission, and it is very difficult to understand how the Chinese government can have appointed a man of such antecedents for so delicate a negotiation; some of our local Chinaphobes in this city, which ought to be peopled with thousands enriching the land, making it populous, and contributing to the general welfare."

The news of the attack on Wei Hai Wei had not reached Yokohama when the steamship left there, although it was generally known that the army and navy were ready for the attack. Fighting had in reality begun long before the reports that effect had not yet been confirmed. Matters were rather quiet in Japan and the two things most talked about were the passage of the budget without opposition, something unprecedented, and the difficulty experienced in framing financial legislation to meet the needs of the country. The latter was before the house.

There was an earthquake in Japan on Jan. 18, and immense damage was done. An official report from Ibaraki prefecture concerning the damage shows that the shock was very severe in that prefecture. In the town of Mito nineteen houses were damaged, three houses destroyed, seven persons killed and twenty-five injured. In the town of Maebashi, seven houses were damaged, one man killed and four men and five women more or less severely injured. Some twenty dwellings were damaged at Tsuchiura, and thirty-four houses, one hundred and twenty-seven persons, were injured. In the town of Maebashi, seven houses were damaged, one man killed and four men and five women more or less severely injured. Some twenty dwellings were damaged at Tsuchiura, and thirty-four houses, one hundred and twenty-seven persons, were injured. In the town of Maebashi, seven houses were damaged, one man killed and four men and five women more or less severely injured. Some twenty dwellings were damaged at Tsuchiura, and thirty-four houses, one hundred and twenty-seven persons, were injured.

The Slocan Times is published in New Denver, a point not selected by the N. P. and Slocan railway company for the terminus of their road, hence the rumor of that famous journal and the writer which prompted its brilliant editor to write the article that caught the eye of the editor of the Times.

The Inland Development and Construction Company have issued no spirit-

feature. Some 106 cracks were made in cultivated ground, and thirteen in roads, thirteen breaches being made in embankments. In consequence of the earthquake a portion of the foundation of the Yokohama harbor works, measuring 150 feet in length, was damaged. During the gale of the 25th this portion of the breakwater collapsed.

The latest dispatch from Corea states that the Peninsular government has decided to send a hundred Korean youths to Japan to finish their education. They are to be sent to the Non-Commissioned Officers' school, the medical college, the law college, and other schools of practical importance.

The Japan Mail, speaking of the strength of the Japanese navy, says: "Now that the Izumi Kan has been added to the navy, the total number of Japanese warships is 81. In addition to these, writes the *Nippon*, there are 29 torpedo cruisers. Additions to the navy to be effected this year are as follows: A second class cruiser now in process of construction at Yokosuka is to be finished within the next fiscal year, as are also the two torpedo cruisers in course of building in the same place. Though not directly connected with the increase of the naval strength, the construction of a dockyard at Sasebo, to be finished this year, may be mentioned in this connection. Other warships in process of building are a third class cruiser at Yokosuka; and a first class dispatch vessel in Kure. The two iron clads of over ten thousand tons each, which are being built by the Armstrong company for Japan, will most likely be added to the navy in three years, as the government has asked the diet's consent to shorten the period of completion by two years. The diet will doubtless be agreeable to this."

It is freely stated in Yokohama and Tokio that Japan will as a first condition of peace demand a slice of Chinese territory.

Appended is the oath, recently taken by the King of Corea at the tombs of his ancestors: "Hearken all, nobles, of this people! I have chosen a day of favorable auspices, and now declare these, my solemn oaths, before the shrines of the founder of my house and my royal predecessors. You, my people, stand before me on this day of solemnity. The power to govern depends upon you. The independence of the state rests upon you. The safety of your lives and property is essential to the welfare of my kingdom, and I shall protect and maintain them in security. Except by action of the law you shall not suffer death, nor injury to your persons. Except through the law no taxes shall be imposed upon you. From unjust extortions you shall be free. Exert yourselves, my people. Unless the nation rises to prosperity, and guards itself firmly, liberty and independent government are idle words. I hereby avow my fixed purpose to strengthen the institutions of the state, with the view to preserve its integrity and autonomy. Let all hear me, and let me hear you. My country shall no longer languish in feebleness, but a new era shall be opened from this day. May the spirits of my ancestors uphold my oath!"

An ancient Japanese custom was carried out in connection with the death of Prince Arisugawa Taruhito, the Emperor's oldest child, which occurred at Meiko on January 15th. In feudal times it was often thought necessary to conceal the deaths of important personages until all arrangements for the succession were completed, and the heir firmly established in his domain. Apart from questions of rightful descent, it was considered desirable that the heads of great families should die in their own homes; and in case of a death happening elsewhere the announcement of it was delayed until the body could be carried to the family mansion. Prince Arisugawa being a member of the imperial house, he was moreover essential that the religious forms and ceremonies of his obsequies should be understood to begin when he ceased to live and continue uninterrupted to the time of his burial. It was therefore assumed that he did not expect until his arrival in Tokio, on January 24th. Honors and dignities were lavished upon him, as if he were still living, while the body was lying enshrouded at Meiko. The fiction was maintained until the remains were safely deposited at their destination. Then five days of general mourning was decreed, and the functions of the court were suspended for three days. A provisional funeral took place on January 29th, with imposing formalities, an appropriation of twenty thousand yen having been granted by parliament for the purpose. A second interment will be arranged after the return of the Emperor to the capital. Prince Arisugawa was 62 years of age. His position as chief of the general staff will be filled by Prince Komatsu, hitherto commander of the imperial guard.

## INLAND DEVELOPMENT AND CONSTRUCTION CO.

To the Editor:—Last week the Evening Times thought fit to publish in their editorial columns an extract from a paper called the Slocan Times, reflecting (to put it mildly) severely upon the methods pursued by the Inland Development and Construction Company, a company incorporated to construct the Nakusp & Slocan railway. I happen to be a shareholder in the Inland Development and Construction Company and profess to know something of its financial condition and its business transactions. If the Times had before reproducing a slanderous and libellous article, taken the slightest trouble to ascertain the facts, it would have found that there was no foundation for the malicious attack made upon the company.

The Slocan Times is published in New Denver, a point not selected by the Nakusp & Slocan railway company for the terminus of their road, hence the rumor of that famous journal and the writer which prompted its brilliant editor to write the article that caught the eye of the editor of the Times.

The Inland Development and Construction Company have issued no spirit-

ous checks, or any checks which remain unpaid unless not presented at the Bank of British Columbia.

The C. P. R. company did not refuse to take the road over until the pay rolls of the company had been received. The company is not swamped with its indebtedness.

With the exception of a few accounts which require adjustment and the engineer's certificate, the company owe nothing. Every laborer and employee has been paid in full although the road has only been finished six weeks.

I observe that the Province also has been endeavoring to make political capital by giving credence to these slanders and published an article based thereon. If the proprietor of that journal, when he fires of being being by the "Pulling Society" and finds it advisable to wind up and liquidate his obligations, does so as honorably as the Inland Development and Construction company, after a heavy loss, are doing theirs, he will deserve credit; hence I would advise him to refrain from adversely commenting on other people's affairs, without first ascertaining the truth of such labels as he may read in other publications.

JOHN IRVING.

Victoria, Feb. 12.

## THE JOHN BIGGS PETITION, 1895.

To the Editor: Your readers are aware that I have time and again tried in the highest court of our own land to get a hearing, namely, the legislative assembly, being almost compelled to the step I now take, by the structures of the gentlemen who are asked to form a committee of inquiry—who certainly cannot have had any comprehension of the matter in a fair and impartial sense. I am acting in asking the local house to investigate this matter in accordance with the recommendation of one of our worthy judges of the Supreme Court whose advice was to take the matter to the local legislature—the highest court in the province. Now, I have followed this advice. I never possessed nor knew the correct decision of the Supreme Court in this matter until the 14th December last, when for the first time in my life a copy of the decision was procured for me by one of our local law firms.

In the Supreme Court of British Columbia: John Biggs, plaintiff and respondent, vs. John Lewis (defendant), John Biggs, claimants and defendants, Tuesday, 6th October, 1895.

This plaintiff coming on to be heard by way of appeal from the decision of the learned judge of the County Court of Nanaimo. It is ordered and adjudged that the decision of the judge of the said court be reversed, and that John Biggs is entitled to the possession of the cattle seized by and in violation of the writ of execution issued in the above action, and it is further ordered that the plaintiff do pay the appellant the costs of this appeal.

J. H. GRAY.

(Extract in full from "Common Law Order Book, vol. 2, folio 216.)

My attorney at that time wrote to me stating that the court had decided in my favor with costs and asking whether I would accept realization of cattle with costs. If so to send down the costs, or whether I wished to sue the high bailiff for damages.

In reply I sent costs and acceptable price with instruction if not paid to sue. My attorney wrote the bailiff refused payment, and when I wrote to proceed by suit I received the gratifying reply that he would not sue for me any further, as he was acting for the said bailiff, and though I have tried most strenuously to employ a solicitor to conduct the case ever since I have been excommunicated in every sense. I have repeatedly asked the hon. members of our legislature to at least give me a fair hearing and to look into the matter impartially and decide this matter and finally end the case; but no, they have so far refused to do so. The request is not mine only but that of upwards of 300 of Nanaimo's most influential citizens. I would have had no trouble in obtaining 1000 signatures in Nanaimo on said petition had I worked for it. I firmly believe those petitioners were actuated by an earnest desire to see me get a fair hearing in this matter, which has been refused in the face of a Supreme Court decision, something so far of no value to me in any sense a decision which carried no weight, as it could not be enforced by any effort of mine. When I found out the real effect I still am as powerless as before I obtained the knowledge. The highest court of the province says the house is the proper place to bring the matter up in, while the said house says it should be taken to the courts, as that is the proper place for it. I would like to know of what name an appeal is made, if it is in accordance with British justice to ignore said appeal while suit pending. And is not the appellant when judgment is entered against him, favored any better for the judgment because a high official has, through apparent stupid ignorance, acted against him in a common sense and reason. From an equity point the action was wrong, also from a moral point. While the appeal was not unheard the matter should have rested in statu quo.

I have asked for nothing more than an enquiry why my cattle were sold for another man's debts while I had an existing appeal, set to come up before the Supreme Court of the province. Is that justice? Not to mention the name of British in connection therewith? Are such actions right if not and no one has done otherwise than console with me for the serious loss? Does lapse of time make it right? I think not, and I am of the opinion that the sooner such inglorious actions are exposed throughout the world the quicker may it remove the glamour from the eyes of those contemplating a residence in a province where law demands one thing and the officials of the country can, with impunity, act contrary to good in the name of law. Pray what good is the Supreme or any other court decision under such circumstances. Probably I might have dropped the matter had it not been for the discovery of last December. I must thank the gentlemen who have assisted me by the petition, etc.

Nanaimo, February 9th.

JOHN BIGGS.

## WASHINGTON WIRING.

The Ubiquitous Currency Question Still Unsettled.

Washington, Feb. 13.—The ways and means committee has agreed to report a resolution authorizing the issue of sixty-five millions dollars of three per cent. gold bonds, payable in thirty years, providing none of the proceeds of such bonds shall be available for the payment of the current expenses of the government.

Washington, Feb. 13.—The ways and means committee has agreed to report a resolution authorizing the issue of sixty-five million dollars of three per cent. gold bonds, payable in thirty years, providing none of the proceeds of the sale of such bonds shall be available for the payment of the current expenses of the government.

## THE REBELS TO

Four of the Ringed Hawaiian Revolt So Executed.

Ex-Queen Lili is to be Treason as an Army Rebel.

The Honolulu correspondent of the Press forwarded a batch of correspondence Saturday, Feb. 2. There is a lull in the quiet will probably reign in the court, now sitting, as any cases are yet to be decided. There are three weeks' findings had not been given to the court by a prominent official.

The six leaders were: William H. Rickard, William H. Rickard, William H. Rickard, William H. Rickard, William H. Rickard, William H. Rickard. The last two cases were as both men having been born in this country. The only one of the four to the protection of the is William T. Seward. has been set for the only important case in military court since the Australia was that of. He is charged with misprision.

The military commission findings in 24 cases. names are: R. W. Wilcox, H. C. Bertelman, Carl H. Greig, Louis M. Lane, J. C. Lane, C. T. Rickard, W. T. Seward, Thomas Poole, J. Kalanui, J. W. Biplane, W. Clark, D. Kanuwa, W. La Kiakahi. Of the four he and J. Kalanui were others were all found guilty. The sentences were: five years of not less than \$500.

A batch of twenty named with treason, is now retention of the court. Under the court, the last communication to him is a request that if he imposed in the cases of the court, the extension of his term. The British case made a similar request two men who claim Marshall, charged with a charge of treason. Great interest is attached to the case, coming trials to have evidence to convict her punishment will be a case will probably come. She is charged with charge reads: "Treason in open rebellion against Hawaii, by attacking the Hawaiian government and destroying war against adhering to the enemies of Hawaii, giving the fort within the Hawaiian Islands, and procuring others to commit treason in open rebellion against Hawaii and to arms to overthrow the Hawaiian government, and to adhere to the enemies of Hawaii, giving comfort in the Hawaiian Islands." There are in the charge.

The steamer Daisy purchased by the Hawaiian government on the coast of 25th. She proved a total loss for \$35,000.

F. M. Hatch, the man affairs, may resign shortly. San Francisco to resign. He will probably be W. N. of the New York.

To obtain a decision of the C. Jones, a proholder under the republic. Willis yesterday to test whether he is still subject to the American government.

## HAWAIIAN

Appropriation Made by Senate on 8.

Washington, D. C., 25. A vote of 36 to 25 voted to inaugurate the cable from the Pacific. An amount of \$500,000 for beginning the cable and authorizing the tract for the entire cost \$3,000,000. This result coming from Hawaiian debate, last year, and renewed in the proposed cable. The few days has shown division were practiced those heretofore exist over Hawaii, the Republic closer relations ultimately by annexation.