

The Colonist.

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THE SEMI-WEEKLY COLONIST

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THE PROPOSED DRY DOCK

Mr. Templeman made a brave effort to score a point in favor of his government because it has agreed to subsidize a dry dock at Esquimalt which is to be 999 feet long. So that we may not lay ourselves open to the charge of misquoting him, we will give his own words as reported in his own paper with all the emphasis that black type can give them. After speaking of the dimensions of the proposed dock he said:

If the dock were only to be occupied by mercantile vessels it would be hardly necessary to go to the enormous expense which the construction of a dock of those dimensions would entail. This is a naval dock, for use by vessels of the navy as well as by merchantmen, and the subsidy would not have been granted at the present time if it were not for the fact that Esquimalt is a naval station, that a portion of the Canadian navy is going to be stationed here, and that it was necessary that we should provide for the future. (Cheers.) The dock will be of sufficient capacity to accommodate two Dreadnoughts.

We fear that Mr. Templeman is not any more in touch with naval matters than with military matters. He seems to have been under the impression that the navy yard constituted the defences of Esquimalt and to have quite forgotten the fact that the Work Point Garrison and the fortifications were taken over by the government of which he is a member five years ago. He also seems to have been under the impression that Mr. George Phillips, who was in charge of the navy yard for the Admiralty, was in charge of the garrison and the fortifications. All this must have sounded very strange to the people of Esquimalt. He is equally unfortunate in his allusion to the proposed dry dock. He seems in this case to be under the impression that a 900-foot dock would be unnecessary for the use of the commercial marine, and would only be needed by Dreadnoughts.

Will Mr. Templeman regard it as an impertinence if we suggest to him what every one else in all the wide world is supposed to know already, that is that the only use there is for a dry dock 900 feet long and 100 feet wide is to accommodate the leviathans of the mercantile marine?

Will he also pardon us if we ask him to suggest some possible emergency in which two Dreadnoughts would be likely to seek a dry dock at Esquimalt at the same time?

May we remind him that his government has never so much as indicated the most remote intention of ever building even one Dreadnought anywhere, not to speak of two at Esquimalt?

May we also tell him that the whole squadron which the naval programme provides for this coast could be put in the proposed dry dock at the same time?

In view of the facts set out in these questions is it not absurd for Mr. Templeman to claim that the subsidizing of the B. C. Marine Railway to build a dock 900 feet long, which will not be a "naval" dock as he says, is a guarantee that naval vessels are to be built here, for the gravamen of the complaint against his government is that no ships will be built here? We asked him why his government has not taken the steps necessary to ensure the building of warships here, and he answered that his government has subsidized a private company to build a great commercial dry dock, which he seems to imagine is to be a naval dock.

We wish that Mr. Templeman had felt able to go further than he did in this matter and give the public something in the nature of a guarantee that the proposed dry dock will be constructed. He was very careful not to do this. We were not exactly promised, but were led to expect a shipyard employing the 4,000 men in building vessels for the Canadian Navy, we were asked to accept a dry dock to be built by a private company, a promise that has yet to be supplemented by action.

THE ELECTION.

It is stated that Sir Wilfrid Laurier welcomed the opportunity afforded him by the action of the Conservatives of appealing to the people with reciprocity as a campaign issue. Whether or not the Prime Minister is a statesman may be a matter upon which opinion will differ, but no one will dispute that he is an exceedingly astute politician. He watches the current of events as keenly as any one, and perhaps more keenly than most people. He realized that in the order of things there would have to be an election following redistribution, and that this could not in decency be postponed later than 1912. He knew that when that election came on he would have to face the very unsavory record of his party. He realized that without him his party would be leader-

less and would of a certainty lose Quebec. We can easily believe that he was afraid of an excuse for dissolution. He had to choose between almost certain defeat for the Liberals in 1913 and the possible chance of victory in 1911, when he would himself be able to lead them for what will undoubtedly be the last time, unless indeed there shall be a Liberal majority so small on the 21st Inst. that a new election will have to be brought on as soon as possible. He saw in reciprocity an issue that would divert attention from the various reasons that can be advanced against his return to power. Hence while he was forced to dissolve the House, he really wanted to dissolve it, so that his last stand might be made upon a question which might be used to obscure all other issues. The electors will be exceedingly unwise to fall into this ingenious trap. They will make a great mistake if they permit the imaginary benefits of reciprocity to blind their eyes to the fact that a Liberal victory on September 21st means a continuation for another Parliamentary term of the misgovernment which has marked the record of the Liberal party.

You may believe or not believe that reciprocity will be of some commercial benefit to the country. You may believe or you may not believe that closer commercial relations with the United States will weaken our Canadian nationalism. But whatever your views may be on these points they ought not to influence you in any way upon the other issues, which as voters you are bound to take into consideration. What these other issues are we shall present from time to time and we have already presented some of them. Today we shall only draw attention to one of them, namely, the Laurier policy in respect to imperial affairs. There is no doubt that the leading figure among the over-seas representatives at the Imperial Conference was Sir Wilfrid Laurier. Neither is there any doubt that it was his idea of imperial development that dominated the Conference. No person, who has kept track of what transpired at that gathering, will dispute the proposition that the influence of the Canadian Prime Minister was directed against everything that seemed calculated to make for any closer unity of the Empire than now exists. The return of the Liberals to power means the endorsement of the Laurier brand of Imperialism, and he himself has been careful to deny that he is an Imperialist at all.

INTERPROVINCIAL TRADE

Mr. R. B. Bennett, the Conservative candidate in Calgary, discussing the reciprocity agreement made the following very important statement in a recent speech:

We have an enormous business with British Columbia; a tremendous business goes there every day, our elevators are filled with grain, our oats find there a ready market. Well, what has that got to do with it? I tell you what it has got to do with it. Do you know this, my friends, in the State of Oregon and Washington there is produced this year over forty million bushels of wheat and twenty million bushels of oats. Those oats lie here side by side with the Province of British Columbia; they have easy access to the Great Northern and other railways; they have water transportation from Seattle to Washington; they have a cheaper method of transportation than we have, and that market has been built up by the farmers of Southern Alberta and in that prosperity this city has shared, but it will be gone for ever.

It will be urged by the advocates of reciprocity that if Alberta cannot compete with Washington and Oregon in wheat and oats. It is only right that British Columbia should get the benefit of it. This might be true enough if Washington and Oregon were parts of the same country as British Columbia and Alberta are, but we venture to believe that the people of this province have no desire to build up the agricultural population of those states at the expense of the people of Alberta. It is infinitely more important to British Columbia to have Alberta prosperous than it is to have Washington and Oregon increase in prosperity. We can hope to do business with Alberta by sending our products into that province and by shipping merchandise there. It is of enormous importance to the British Columbia seaboard that the largest possible trade shall be developed with the great interior. Therefore, anything that will have a tendency to divert our trade to Washington and Oregon will of necessity have a great permanent and prejudicial effect upon our own cities. The consumer will think of these things. He will reflect that he not only wants to have a possible chance of getting some articles delivered to the wholesalers more cheaply than they are now delivered, for he will know that this by no means guarantees that they will be delivered more cheaply to him at his home. But more than all this, he will want to know if a policy, the sole recommendation of which is an unfounded assertion that he will be able to buy some things more cheaply, ought to be adopted, when he knows that its adoption will be a severe blow at the development of his own country.

Every person who has invested a dollar in real estate in this part of the province is deeply interested in the

development of trade between the Coast and Alberta. The value of that real estate will not be enhanced by the building up of trade with Washington and Oregon. It will be enhanced by the development of trade with Alberta.

THE SITUATION IN MOROCCO

A Paris despatch of August 23rd said that war with Germany is feared, and that the semi-official note that has been issued is very much in the nature of an ultimatum. The note declares that no settlement will be possible unless the claims of France in Morocco are placed upon such a footing that they can never be hereafter called in question and that Germany reduces her claims to a reasonable basis in Congo. The despatch goes on to say:

The secrecy surrounding the whole of the Franco-German conversations is regarded as ominous, and it is felt on all sides that the country is very near to war. The announcement that the great army manoeuvres in September are to be curtailed, one corps taking part in them instead of two, on account of the "foot-and-mouth" disease now prevalent among "French cattle," is regarded as highly significant. The French public are even more skeptical regarding the pretext offered by the British government of a "water shortage" for the total abandonment of the manoeuvres this year. Both statements are considered to be mere excuses to hide the fact that the armies are being kept ready for instant action. Throughout the country the addresses of deputies and senators at the general councils of the various departments have been read with the greatest interest. All sound a note of extreme gravity, and urge the necessity of firmness.

A similar stand is taken by the press, only its tone is still more emphatic. All the newspapers declare that the country does not intend to stand on the sidelines of the total abandonment of Germany, and that it is time her claims as to colonies are settled once and for all. This attitude of the press and political leaders, which is endorsed by the public all over the country, broods the hush of impatient suspense.

The French press assures the Prime Minister of united support from all sections of politics. Apparently the situation is still difficult, but a telegram of yesterday encourages the belief that Germany will yield.

THE TENDENCY OF TRADE

The local Liberal paper said last night: "Under the trade pact the tendency of trade will be for the consumer to buy from the nearest producer of foodstuffs and the producer to sell to the nearest consumer regardless of the international boundary." The same paper argues that the cost of living will be reduced in this province because the farmers of Washington and Oregon can supply us with foodstuffs. These farmers must be the "nearest producers" whom it has in mind. Now here is a proposition for it to deal with: If the farmers of Washington and Oregon are going to be able to send their produce into our market so cheaply that the cost of living will be reduced, how can the farmers in British Columbia hope to send their products into the United States and compete with the farmers of Washington and Oregon in their own dooryards?

To state the case specifically: If an Oregon farmer can raise sheep and send them into Victoria and after paying the freight, sell them at such a price that their carcasses will cost the consumer in Victoria less than he can buy local mutton for, how can the local sheep-raiser hope to send his mutton into Oregon and compete with the mutton raised there?

Will the advocates of reciprocity tell us if they seriously contend that the farmers of Vancouver Island are going to be able to meet competition from Washington and Oregon by sending farm produce into those states and thereby offset the loss of the local market that they will be bound to suffer if the contention of our contemporary is correct? Those who favor reciprocity must surely take on side of the case or the other. If they contend that foodstuffs are lower in the United States and therefore they will be lower here, they cannot contend that we can send our higher products into the United States and sell them in competition with the cheaper products. We are neither admitting nor denying anything that our contemporary advances as to prices. That is a question with which we will deal in another way. We are now treating the argument advanced in support of reciprocity as quoted above, and we say that it answers itself.

We are being told that the provincial government has bartered away "thousands of acres of valuable timber to aliens." At last accounts the timber was yet in the province and cannot be removed from the province unless it is manufactured here. Meanwhile the people, who hold the right to cut the timber, are paying vast sums into the treasury of the province every year for the purpose of holding it. Not one acre of timber lands has been sold by the present provincial government.

Pleads Guilty of Murder

HOLLAND, Mich., Sept. 1.—Walter Hopper today pleaded guilty to the murder of Grace Lyons of Grand Rapids, whom he threw overboard from the steamer Furitan, in Lake Michigan, and was sentenced to life imprisonment. Hopper expressed himself in favor of death penalty either by hanging or by dropping himself into the lake beside the girl he loved.



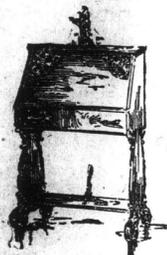
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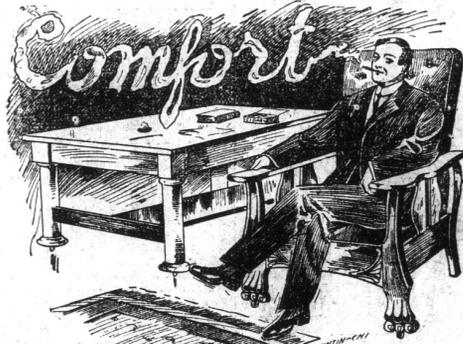
- Lady's Secretary—Golden finish, with drop top and pigeon holes, with shelf underneath. Price ..... \$6.50
- Lady's Secretary—Solid quarter cut oak, fumed finish, and shelf below and large centre drawer, drop top, pigeon holes and one small drawer inside. Price ..... \$20.00
- Lady's Secretary—Solid quarter cut oak, Early English finish, double drawers in centre and one large drawer below, pigeon holes and three small drawers. Very latest design. Price ..... \$32.00
- Lady's Secretary—Solid quarter cut oak, golden finish, drop head, with one large drawer in centre, pigeon holes and one small drawer inside. Price ..... \$15.00
- Lady's Secretary—Circassian walnut, with double drawer in centre and two small drawers on top, two small drawers and two pigeon holes, claw-shaped feet. Price ..... \$38.00
- In Circassian Walnut, all carved, magnificent in design. Price ..... \$75.00

- Lady's Secretary—Golden finish, drop top, with pigeon holes, book shelves below and above. Prices \$9.00 and ..... \$8.00
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- Lady's Writing Table—Solid quarter cut oak, Early English finish, with one large drawer, and letter pockets at either side, shelf below. Latest in design. Price ..... \$20.00
- Lady's Writing Table—Solid quarter cut oak, fumed finish, with two drawers on one side and cupboard on other side, with drawer in centre. Top two small drawers and seven pigeon holes. Magnificent design. Price ..... \$35.00
- Lady's Writing Table—Solid mahogany, one large centre drawer at top, pigeon holes and two doors to neat cupboard. Price ..... \$35.00

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"Why do you ask a correspondent any one knows space finiteness of space? but a logical inference locality. If we call the limit must separate which is not space pressed in language. Absence of space is the same as to infinity or an end."

There is not moving this line of thought there is a first Cause, Deity, or call it what in the Universe, it. The word Universe commonly employ things, and in a same thing as the "o" is pronounced means "the all." Latin "universitas from the words "verto" meaning "the earth all the time and in the same we see how the teple to the heaven."

But we are no apparent uniform stars, which we call with less all with telescopic apparatus. Ever since chell astronomers opinion that the moving in obedient which moves the stars and the great central orb of grandeur. Herschel's picture of the sun to one who could sit its motion; but ingressed far enough with definiteness of be established that planets are moving of about 12 miles goal of the journey in a straight line matter of surmise, motions as we are elliptical seems tion of the Sun an circular or elliptical.

But while it is space is limitless, shows that there are which stars are found in the sky in which find any indication. In other places the remoter distance that there may be are no stars. But speak with certainty could reach the scope with the able to detect, all to be a single star somewhere in the into which we look er than that upon. There seem to be the idea entertain number of the star efficient. If the number follow, even though their light would be we know is far before we may feel inconceivably numerous there is a limit to.

The position of visible Universe, be seen with even astronomy, seems. The Milky Way, all the stars really belonging to may be likened to sions are incompre up of all the stars distant nebulae for to question, but it well established, owners now think, to the Milky Way may be useful in the centre of Yates s where it intersect street. You will you seem separated further up the st know that if the enough they would end as a more or. You would know of the same system like the stella rows of light th tending in the sation was somewh the sides and ne you could disting dark spaces betw line of the lights and the whole ra would be a mass less brilliant. No in a great circle lights outside of "holes" or vacan