

## The Weekly Times

Victoria, Friday, February 15

## DISINTERESTED TESTIMONY.

Mr. Hugh Blain, the retiring president of the Toronto board of trade, in his annual address said: "Altogether, although the total amount of failures for the Dominion has been larger other years, I am of the opinion that, for purely trading concerns, with, perhaps, the exception of lumber and leather, the year may be regarded as the most unsatisfactory, if not the most disastrous, since confederation. It is impossible to give a reliable forecast of the future. The outlook is not encouraging. The best that can be said is that business can hardly be worse than now, and that any change must, therefore, be in the direction of an improvement." And again: "The present drain upon the savings of the country for interest on borrowed capital, while such immense sums of money are held unemployed by our own people, is a most serious feature of the situation." Mr. Blain is a supporter of the present Dominion government, but he is apparently unable to subscribe to Mr. Foster's report on the condition of the country.

## FOSTER'S FIGURES.

Minister Foster has proved to his own satisfaction that the country is prospering under the National Policy by showing that the volume of trade was greater in the year 1892-93 than in the year 1877-78. In the latter year the total was \$153,000,000 and in 1893 it was \$247,000,000. Look at that increase, shouts Mr. Foster, and say whether the country was not prosperous. It is hard to see how this furnishes proof of anything, unless it be of the fact that figures may be used to establish any sort of proposition. Mr. Foster calmly ignores the fact that the population of the country had increased between 1878 and 1893—though not so largely as it should. He is also careful to select two years that suit his purpose, one of them being at the close of a period of depression throughout the world, a depression much more severe and more widely spread than the present one. Why did not the finance minister select the years 1873 and 1893 for his comparison and thus embrace a period of two complete decades? In 1873 the total volume of import and export trade was over \$217,000,000, or \$59.37 per head of the population; in 1893 it was \$247,000,000, or only \$49.91 per head. Therefore in 20 years there was an actual decrease of \$9.47 per head. For the period 1874-78, when the Liberals were in power, the average of foreign trade per head was \$52.72. For the period of Tory rule and the National Policy, 1879-94, the average is \$45.25 per head, a decrease of \$5.47. When the year 1894-95 is added the average will be still further decreased. Mr. Foster also dishonestly ignored another fact, namely, that the increase in 1893 over 1878 was due largely to the increased export of agricultural and dairy produce, which nobody but a fool would say was caused by "protection." The finance minister cited the increase of railway mileage and traffic as another proof that the country had prospered. Everybody knows that this increase is largely made up of the Canadian Pacific railway, the building of which caused our public debt to increase some \$95,000,000. The remainder of the increase in mileage and traffic represents a proportionate sum of money borrowed privately. What has the result then to do with the National Policy? The same remarks would apply to the increased foreign and local vessel traffic which Mr. Foster talked about. Every ton in that increase represents so much money borrowed by the country or by private parties—in the former case to be applied to the canal enlargement and bonuses to owners, in the latter to the purchase or building of vessels. What, we may ask again, has the N. P. to do with all this? In short, Mr. Foster's hearers might well have exclaimed: "Figures won't lie, but liars will figure."

## CHIEF JUSTICE DAVIE.

Our Ottawa correspondent telegraphs important news in reference to the early appointment of a successor to the late Chief Justice Begbie. The mantle of the dead Hercules is to fall upon the shoulders of Premier Davie, and the order in council making the appointment will be passed in a few days. It has been evident for several months that Mr. Davie would soon retire from the strife of political life and seek peace and leisure and dignity—to say nothing of the emoluments of office—on the supreme court bench. The announcement, which we have reason to believe is semi-official, may not come as a surprise to any one, but it will, nevertheless, give a wrench to members of the bench and bar and disturb the equanimity of politicians.

His removal from the premiership would mean the abandonment of his policy at a critical time, for it is certain that there is no man in the government ranks capable of leading. As chief justice Mr. Davie would, for a time, at least, find himself in a most ungenial atmosphere, but he is not made of that fibre that would feel the frigidty of his "brothers" or the scoffs or jeers of the public. His determination and combativeness would enable him to live all that sort of thing down.

Of Mr. Davie as chief justice what can be said? A bad politician may make a good judge, but we are rather inclined to doubt it. Mr. Davie is said to be a good lawyer, and his friends claim that outside of the domain of politics he is judicial, unpartizan and unprejudiced. We sincerely hope that their estimate of the man is correct, for the honor of the bench, its incorruptibility, integrity and strict impartiality are above all things of first importance to the well-being of the community.

## THE LICENSE OUTRAGE.

Premier Davie's liquor license scheme was a little too strong for the Vancouver organ of the government to swallow, although the "thumbs-up" battalion "downed" the dose with great relish. It is seldom that the World undertakes to defend the public interest against the premier's attacks, and its effort on this occasion seems well worth producing. It says:

A proposed change in the license law which has been introduced into the legislature is not one which commends itself, after a consideration of the situation. As the matter stands at present the license is vested in the person who is actually running the business, be it hotel, shop or saloon, and irrespective of whether he is landlord or tenant. The proposal is to vest the license absolutely in the landlord, whether he personally conducts the business or not. This would make the license part of the premises, and there would be no restriction or safeguard left as regards the character of the person who would conduct the business. The landlord could put in the worst kind of a ruffian, and there would be nothing to control him. At present the seeker after a license must have his petition endorsed by residents in the vicinity of good character. Landlords here have already got too close to the idea that a license is a vested interest, as was shown not long ago when a transfer from one premises to another was sought. The plea was then set up that having bought the property when licensed the owner had a right to expect that it would always be licensed. It had weight, too, and a hotel license was let with the old place and a saloon license given to the new one. The World has always held that there should be no trafficking in licenses, and it still holds that when a man has shown himself unfit to run a hotel or saloon the license should be taken away from him, instead of his being allowed to sell it out at a big figure, as is now often done; putting a premium, as it were, on carelessness and incompetence, not to mention disrespectfulness. Another objectionable feature of the proposed change is the fact that it will give the landlord too much power over the tenant, and will remove all inducements to see in increased trade only the prospect of larger demands from the owner. Another thing in which every one is interested is that having the license permanently vested in the premises the landlord can snap his fingers at all demands for improvements or additions, and the community will be that much the loser. Let well enough alone!

The premier has graciously exempted Vancouver and New Westminster from the operation of the act. If any man had any doubt on the subject before, he may now feel perfectly certain that there is some special case—perhaps two or three—in Victoria which this obnoxious bill was designed to cover. A dangerous system is to be foisted on the whole community to oblige some of Theodore Davie's particular friends, and that is the sort of legislation which supposed representatives vote for like a lot of sheep at the premier's bidding.

## THE FREE LIST.

The protectionist organs when trying to mislead the people upon the amount of taxes taken from them under the national policy are fond of including the free goods with the dutiable. They figure upon the total amount of imports, and not upon the amount of goods entered for duty. The free list, which they praise so much, is of little or no benefit to the people. The benefits derived by the masses from the free list were scathingly pointed out by Mr. D. C. Fraser during the last session as follows: "House furniture and hardware are taxed 12 1/2 per cent., but we are soled with the fact that broom corn and ice come in free. Shovels and spades are taxed 35 per cent., but the man who uses the shovel and the spade has the great satisfaction of knowing that he can obtain arsenic free of duty. When he is almost driven to death with paying 35 per cent., he has the satisfaction of knowing that he can obtain arsenic free. Cordage for shipowners and fishermen pays 30 per cent., but locust bean meal, tortoise shells, bees and leeches come in free. Binder twine

pays 12 1/2 per cent., but then precious stones and cochineal come in free in order that the hon. member for Assiniboia and myself, who are fond of a little fun, may paint the town red. Coal oil comes in at 200 per cent., but then nux vomica, beans, sausage skins, uncleaned, catgut, fossils and rags come in free. The rags for the poor man, after he has paid his 35 per cent. on all these articles, come in free. Again, agricultural implements pay 20 per cent., but the farmer has the profound satisfaction of knowing that tartar emetic and grease are free. It will be a great satisfaction to the poor man, after he has paid his 35, 30, 27 1/2 and 40 per cent. on articles in daily use, which he must have, to feel that he can go to sleep with the heavenly satisfaction of knowing that at least sausage skins uncleaned and rags are free. That is the tariff of the honorable gentleman opposite, and these things by their contrast show exactly the character of the tariff." Further comment upon the free list is unnecessary.

## MANITOBA SCHOOL QUESTION.

A book which seems likely to be much read these days is one compiled by Mr. John S. Ewart, Q. C., of Winnipeg, and published by the Copp, Clark company, of Toronto, which has for its subject the Manitoba school question. Mr. Ewart has acted as counsel for the Manitoba Catholic minority throughout the dispute, and has therefore had exceptional opportunities for becoming acquainted with the history of the case. In the first part of the work he quotes the official documents relating to the question, including sections of the B. N. A. act, the Manitoba act, the Manitoba school acts prior to 1890, the school act of that year, which abolished the separate schools, and the act regulating references to the supreme court. Then he quotes the documents relating to the Barrett and Logan cases, including the judgments of the Canadian courts and the judicial committee of the privy council. Another chapter is devoted to the petitions submitted to the Dominion government and the action of the government thereon. This embraces arguments on the right of appeal to the governor-general in council and the judgment of the supreme court thereon, which judgment was recently overruled by the privy council. The judgment of the latter court is the only portion of the history of the case which the book does not cover, the decision being of course of too recent date to be included. Part II, gives a compilation of letters, lectures, addresses and newspaper articles on the question. Archbishop Tache's pamphlets and letters, Bishop Machray's addresses to the Anglican synod, Rev. Principal King's lecture in Manitoba college, letters and articles by Rev. Dr. Grant, Mr. Ewart himself, Dalton McCarthy and a number of others, are quoted in this part of the book. All sides of the case are therefore fully presented. In part III, Mr. Ewart gives a historical sketch of the events which led to the addition of Manitoba to confederation and the passage of the Manitoba act. There are chapters on early Red River history, the Kiel rebellion, the delegation to Ottawa and the final settlement of the trouble, practically by a treaty which was embodied in the Manitoba act. Where Mr. Ewart offers comments of his own he is of course doing so as an advocate for the minority, but he has apparently been careful to reproduce all the evidence bearing on the case, so that the reader may form his own conclusions.

## EDITORIAL NOTES.

Montreal Herald: "It would be well if we had a prosperity in this country which could be recognized with the naked eye. At present the country would regard itself as pretty 'hard up' were it not supplied by Mr. Foster with yards of statistics to prove the reverse. Figures may not lie, but those that arrange them do, at times."

The protectionist organs say: "There is no more high taxation under the national policy than there was sixteen years ago." The official returns, however, give the following figures: Customs and excise taxation, 1878, \$17,841,938 1893, \$27,579,202. Taxation per capita in 1878, \$4.37; taxation per capita in 1894, \$5.52.

A thin attempt is being made by the McKinley-McGreavy press to show that the national policy has not restricted trade by quoting the trade returns 1874 to 1879 and 1889 to 1894, which period shows an increase in the aggregate amount of trade. But they ignore the fact that while the per capita trade in 1874 was \$56.88 it has fallen to \$48 per capita in 1894.

Mr. Van Horne says the government will not grant any more subsidies to railways. How does Mr. Van Horne know? The Nakusp & Slovan railway received a Dominion subsidy only recently, and immediately afterwards the C. P. R. received the Nakusp & Slovan. That is not the sort of a subsidy that Mr. Van Horne objects to, however; it is the one that he cannot control.

It is to be hoped for the sake of the

The demand for a pair and tub that can always be relied upon as handsome, cleanly and indestructible has led to the making FIBREWARE.

Besides, it is as light as a feather as tight as a drum and has no hoops to rust or fall off.

E. B. EDDY'S INDURATED FIBREWARE.

Liberal party that the report is not true which represents Mr. L. P. Pelletier as ready to desert the Quebec government and range himself on Mr. Laurier's side. His defection from the Conservative ranks would be a significant circumstance, for Mr. Pelletier is one of those self-seeking politicians who always like to be among the winners, but his character suits his present surroundings so eminently well that it would be a pity to see him change.

A new process of extracting gold from ore by means of bromide has been discovered by Herr Larsen, says an exchange. The difficulty hitherto has been the cost. A solution of bromide of potassium is electrolyzed, giving an alkaline solution, containing hypobromite and bromate, which is capable of dissolving gold. The ore is treated with excess of this solution by rotating cylinders; the solution is then filtered, the gold precipitated by passing it over a mixture of iron and coal, and the solution, which now consists once more mainly of potassium bromide, is used again.

Nelson Miner: "Our dear old friend the Colonist, grandmother of B. C. journalism, is dressing up a nice bogey to keep all the naughty youngsters of the province in order. The old lady naturally believes in the goodness of all things that have been established for some time, and one of these is protection. But if the ancient dame will carry her mind back to her girlhood days and think of the boys who danced and flirted with her in the olden times, she will remember that in these merry times everything was free. But it is difficult to change old people's ideas, and it really does not matter much what they think. This bogey that is now being put up is the theory that if the free trade party has its way it will take the head tax off Chinese labor, and that consequently the Dominion will be flooded with cheap coolie labor. We hardly think it necessary to point out that this is not a part of the Liberal programme."

St. John, N. B., does not seem to have any reason to bless the N. P. The Telegraph thus describes the effects of the policy there: "The population of St. John within the limits of the old city was 28,905 in 1871; it was 26,127 in 1881, the great fire having taken place in the meantime and driven many of our people out of it altogether. During the same ten years, however, the population of Portland, which is now united to the city, increased from 12,520 to 15,226, so that there was no decrease of the population within its present limits as a result of the fire, the population being 41,325 in 1871 and 41,353 in 1881. In the latter year, therefore, the effects of the fire had been discounted and ascertained, and if the national policy had been what it pretended to be the population of St. John in 1891 would have been at least 50,000, which would have represented an increase of about 20 per cent. on the figures of 1881. Instead of that being the case the population of St. John actually declined by 2174 in the ten years prior to 1891, under the operation of the national policy, so that estimating the actual increase at two per cent. a year, at least 10,000 of our people were forced to desert the city of their fathers because the high taxation policy of the government, and the monopolies created under it, has destroyed the business of the city."

Relief in Six Hours.—Distressing Kidney and Bladder diseases relieved in six hours by the "Great South American Kidney Cure." This new remedy is of great surprise and delight on account of its exceeding promptness in relieving pain in the bladder, kidneys, back and every part of the urinary passage in male or female. It relieves retention of water and pain in passing it almost immediately. If you want quick relief and cure this is your remedy. Sold by Geo. Morrison, druggist.

"Tell me, honestly," said the novel reader to the novel writer, "did you ever see a woman who stood and tapped the floor impatiently with her toe for several moments, as you describe?" "Yes," was the thoughtful reply; "I did see one. Who was she?" "She was a clog dancer."

## FURTHER PROROGUED.

Parliament Will Be Further Prorogued Until the 25th.

Ottawa, Feb. 8.—The Canada Gazette to-morrow will further formally prorogue parliament until the 25th inst.

Ottawa, Feb. 8.—The dispatch pretending to announce the dissolution of parliament and fixing the dates of nomination and polling days sent out from Montreal yesterday is a pure fake. If the correspondent had chosen April he would have been just as near the mark. No definite announcement will be forthcoming until all the ministers return to Ottawa.

The department of agriculture received a report from Maple Creek from the veterinary inspector to the effect that the inspection by him of the districts in which the disease of sheep scab was found some months ago has shown that such localities are entirely free from it as a result of the efforts ordered to be made by the minister of agriculture for its extirpation.

## American News.

San Francisco, Feb. 7.—Capt. Colston, of the schooner Falcon, which arrived from Gray's Harbor with a cargo of lumber, reported passing the dismantled hull of a big double-decked vessel in latitude 48 deg. 58 min. north and longitude 129 deg. 40 min. west, on January 28. It was first seen as it drifted past the glowing red orb of the setting sun, which pictured it out clearly in the horizon. Glasses were brought to bear on it and the captain had no difficulty in making out the hull of a double-decker with only the stump of a mainmast. The wreck was about seven miles away, and as it was rapidly growing dark no marks could be distinguished about it which would give the identity of the vessel. The wreck was about west by south of Clayoquot sound and about thirty-five miles out from shore. In describing the distress signals he said his attention was attracted by a light in the sky that seemed to blaze up like a flash. It was impossible at the time for the schooner to go to the assistance of the vessel in distress, if vessel it was, as the seas were washing over the Falcon and it was all the crew could do to save the schooner. As soon as the captain's report was posted at the Merchants' Exchange all sorts of speculations were made as to the identity of the dismantled vessel, but none could be borne out by fact. No vessel is overdue at any of the coast ports that is not accounted for, and it is not probable that it can be the hull of one of the missing steam colliers that is floating about the ocean.

## Canadian News.

Toronto, Feb. 8.—Sir Charles Tupper, minister of justice, last night formally opened the new rooms of the Toronto Young Men's Conservative Club. With him were Premier Powell, Hon. N. C. Wallace, Hon. J. O. Patterson and Hon. J. B. Woods. The premier spoke briefly, explaining that the state of his throat prevented him from making a speech on the political situation. Sir Charles Tupper made an excellent eighting speech, replying to arguments of Mr. Laurier and Sir Richard Cartwright. In regard to the Manitoba school question, he stated that until the government had thoroughly considered the decision of the privy council they would maintain a strict silence on the subject, and while the task which had been placed before them was an extremely difficult one, they would meet it without flinching. In conclusion he said he believed when the time to speak had come, the Conservative leaders would be found ready to stand by the constitution and by what it teaches, and he was willing to abide by the verdict of the people.



Mr. J. W. Dykeman  
St. George, New Brunswick.

## After the Grip

No Strength, No Ambition

Hood's Sarsaparilla Gave Perfect Health.

The following letter is from a well-known merchant tailor of St. George, N. B.:

"C. I. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass.:  
"Gentlemen—I am glad to say that Hood's Sarsaparilla and Hood's Pills have done me a great deal of good. I had a severe attack of the grip in the winter, and after getting over the fever I did not seem to gather strength, and had no ambition. Hood's Sarsaparilla proved to be just what I needed. The results were very satisfactory, and I recommend this medicine to all who are afflicted with rheumatism or other ailments caused by poison and poor blood. I always keep Hood's Sarsaparilla in my house and use it when I need a tonic. We also keep Hood's Pills on hand and think highly of them."  
J. W. DYKEMAN, St. George, New Brunswick.

## Hood's Sarsaparilla Cures

Hood's Pills are purely vegetable, and do not cause pain or gripes. Sold by all druggists.

## ALASKA BOUNDARY

Considerable Excitement Northern Territory the Question

The Commissioners May Slightly Alter the Boundary of Alaska.

That the British government alive to the importance of boundary question and carefully to assert her claim joint commission meets to show by the statements of the center, editor of the Alaska Juneau, in an interview, Intelligence reporter, says Post-Intelligencer. Mr. C. is well and favorably known as a newspaper man situation about as follows: "There is considerable excitement about the boundary the people scarcely discuss. The Canadian Government Forty Mile Creek is in British and to make the claim thither two gold mines power to make a report in gold discoveries and also a gling of liquor into that general opinion of the mine of the Yukon river region Mile creek is in British (C) is a fact that it is very I had a talk with Engineer conducted the boundary United States government the opinion that the camp Alaska on American soil.

"If the claim set up by correct there is a prospect will come within the limits-ry claimed by the British interpretation of the description. This description absence of a mountain range line should be within the area of the coast line. The idea is that the line shall arderings of the bay and from William Ogilvie, who the Canadian surveying party was one of the pioneer survey Canadian government in part on the Yukon and its ten years ago, that the Dominion is now anxious to find real wealth of the Yukon a narrow gauge railway, from the coast to headwaters kon river.

"In the first part of S Ogilvie, with a surveying Canadian, selected with a ability to stand hardships, and skill in the use of snow out from Juneau for the Inlet. They were sent on a mission government to survey any survey and a topograp on the Taku route for the road to the headwaters river. In a talk with that a road could be con the head of salt water to Taku Inlet to the headwa kon river at Lake Tesslin distance would be only This road has easy grade struction of a road will deal of money. In case this year there is a steamer being piced on to meeting Lake Tesslin water creek, and other newly dis miles from Juneau to Fort to be made in seven days in open boats by route. The general opinion of Juneau, leaning out f ters, is that it is England through the Dominion governments, to secure Alaskan territory by improvements for internal to secure a seaport for a place to establish a station.

"The American citizens feel it will be an outrage land to steal so valuable the United States, still a country, in view of the fact congress in not listening of the residents for int ments and remedial leg deserving of the sympath dents if this loss is su statement is engendered by many of the most prosp the territory came from a strict in British Columbia opened to inland travel via the Stickeen river, situated wagon road an steamers to the mining.

"Among all classes of kn it is the universal of England succeeds in ge of territory from the Un emment it will be a steal ple and another victory. The people of Alaska American boundary surt been careless and neglig erations in determining line, by reason of failure ring parties into the int coast for a distance of feet, thus securing exac scriptions of the coast r elinity of the boundary r sations have been com of field glasses from the the United States survey terson and Hassell. The on boundary survey pat high coast range to the v the mountains, in many of the men to imminent dan hmb, in order to secure ating to the highest of peaks, the nature of the photographs of the imp