

The Weekly Times

Victoria, Friday, July 5

THE NEW BRITISH GOVERNMENT.

Lord Salisbury has formed his government with what must be supposed was the best material at hand. Both the Conservatives and the Unionists appear to be satisfied with the arrangement of the ministerial positions, and there is nobody beside these whose taste has to be consulted. The elections came in a week or two, with every prospect of the new government securing a good working majority. The disintegrating and demoralizing influences which brought the Liberals to defeat in the house will in all probability cause their defeat in the country, and the Salisbury government is very likely to keep office during the life of the next parliament. The season of exclusion will doubtless discipline the Liberals in a wholesome way. During that term they will be pretty sure to free themselves from the hamper to use a nautical simile—that now cumber the party ship, and when the next contest comes it will be in much better trim for battle. There is of course no practical interest for Canadians in the political change experienced by the mother country. There is not the slightest reason to suppose that any change will be made in the treatment of matters in which Canada, or any other of the colonies, is concerned. The Rosebery government looked after our interests as efficiently as their knowledge would allow, and the Salisbury government need not be expected to do any more or any less. Mr. Chamberlain will probably prove an able and faithful colonial secretary; there is at least no other among the Conservative-Unionist group of politicians who could be expected to do better than he in that office. Apart from the fact that the majority of the Canadians sympathize with Liberalism in sentiment, the turnover in the old country's politics will possess but little moment for us.

NEW SOUTH WALES POLITICS.

Some days ago the announcement came over the cable that the New South Wales parliament had rejected the land and income tax bills which formed an important part of the fiscal reform scheme proposed by the new government of the colony. It was also stated that the government had decided to dissolve parliament and appeal to the people. This announcement seemed to afford some gratification to the Colonist, which moralized upon it in a jubilant strain. Unfortunately for our neighbor, it turns out that the bills were rejected not by the popular branch of the legislature but by the legislative council, an irresponsible body constituted after the manner of our own senate. Of the legislative assembly, which represents the people, 73 members supported the government's proposals while only 22 opposed them. Perhaps a knowledge of these facts will lead the Colonist to revise its jubilant muzzlings. The following paragraph from the premier's speech in introduction of the free trade scheme is respectfully commended to our worthy neighbor's attention:—"I look upon protection, as applied to agriculture, as a hollow farce. If, for instance, there had been a duty placed on wool 40 years ago we would now have protectionists confusing hazy free traders with the magnificent example of what protection had done for the great staple industry of Australia. The fact is, in the case of agriculture, as in the case of wool, we have such vast stretches of virgin soil and small population that in the shortest space of time the temporary, selfish and illusory advantage of protection disappears. The moment our local market is supplied all our farmers are exposed to the vicissitudes of the free-trade prices of the world. We propose in place of duties, which would, according to our estimate, give £555,000 of revenue in the next financial year, to find other revenue to take its place in the shape of a national land tax. The amount I intend to propose as a national land tax is a penny in the pound."

LAVISH EXPENDITURE.

In the House of Commons the other day the Hon. David Mills quoted some figures showing in a graphic way how heavily the present government contrive to load the Dominion with expense. He gave examples from every department of the government at Ottawa. For instance in 1877 the customs department employed twenty-three clerks receiving \$24,000, while in 1894 there were forty-six clerks. In the inland revenue there were twenty-three clerks in 1877 and fifty-four in 1894. The total salaries of both customs and inland revenue in 1877 amounted to \$73,000, while now, including the department of trade and commerce, which controlled the other two, the salaries were \$111,000. In the post office department the clerks employed in 1877 were ninety-seven. In 1894 it was \$21, and the salaries had grown from \$39,000 to \$232,000. The Indian branch, which employed eight clerks in 1877, now employed fifty-four, and the number in the department of the interior had grown from twenty-eight in 1877 to ninety-three in 1894 and there had been an increase in salaries from \$39,000 to \$171,000. These, says an Ottawa dispatch, were only a few of the many examples given by Mr. Mills in a speech displaying great industry and an intimate acquaintance with the conduct of the public service in its various branches. The Indian department furnished Mr. Mills with another striking example of wasteful expenditure, and particularly the management of the British Columbia Indians. In this province in 1885 the expenditure for officials was \$42,717, incurred to pay the Indians \$8,983. In 1887 official expenses were \$56,000 and the Indians got \$5,096. In 1894, after industrial schools had been established, we paid \$48,000 to officials to administer \$107,000. As a rule, almost every dollar of appropriation was eaten up by official expenses. Out of a total appropriation for British Columbia Indians of \$1,029,000, officials had drawn \$895,000. In the Northwest the government had, Mr. Mills declared, a political octopus stretching its tentacles all over the country under the pretence of administering the affairs of the Indian department. The minister had said that the Indians of the Northwest were progressing satisfactorily. Mr. Mills did not think so. He read figures to show the value of the average annual produce of an Indian's labor on the farm in the Northwest. At fishing and the chase he could still earn about six dollars a month, yet we employed form instructors and labor to help to earn about thirty cents a month on the farm. Turning to the general question, Mr. Mills said that the total expenditure for civil government, which had been \$800,000 in 1877, was now \$1,400,000, and he therefore moved "That this house declares that since 1880 the public expenditure has increased, is increasing and ought to be diminished." Of course Mr. Mills' amendment was voted down, the government being able to muster 87 "nays" to the 57 who voted yea. The figures presented by Mr. Mills will be apt, however, to command more attention from the people at large than they did from the hidebound government majority in the house.

The American Ship Builder says: There are only about 70 American full-rigged ships afloat, and as they are being lost, or sold for coal barges, etc., at the rate of nine to a dozen a year we shall have none left in seven years. No sailing ships are being built in the United States at present.

When Sir Hilbert Tupper in the commons was supporting the proposal to increase the salary of Chief Justice Davies as local judge in admiralty from \$600 to \$1,000 he adduced as an argument the fact that he cost of living is higher here than in the east. Yet the government of which Sir Hilbert is a member expects the letter carriers to get along on \$29.10 per month. Perhaps the ministers have an idea that chief justices and letter carriers are made up of different material.

The Comox News supported Mr. Jos. Hunter, M.P.P., who supports the government, which is responsible for the condition of things thus feelingly deplored by that paper:

"Blessed are the cities. They constitute all there is of British Columbia. The country is simply—Dirt. The laws enacted for the province don't apply to all live in the cities. The cities have county courts and their small debts courts. They are doubly blessed. But poor Union! If she wants anything of the civil courts she must go sixty miles to Nanaimo. She can't collect a \$5 bill without going that distance to do it and being subjected to an expense in time and money of at least \$25. And the lieutenant-governor and his council don't care a fig! If they did they would observe their official oaths and see that the acts of legislature were put in operation in every part of the province. The Dirt will be ignored for a season, but there will be a time come when it will be vindicated and avenged."

The insinuation that the lieutenant-governor and his advisers "don't care a fig" for their official oaths is probably a little too strong; but if it is true that the people of Comox have to travel sixty miles to get the advantages of small debt court, the situation is unquestionably one for strong language.

He doubtless is a good young man, as fine as ever you saw.

But he calls his mother "mommer," and he calls his father "paw."

Magistrate—The evidence shows that you threw a stone at the man.

Mrs. McDuff—Ah! it shows more than that, yer honor. It shows that I hit him.

Employer—I don't see why you should ask me to pay you more; you do no more work than I do.

Typewriterist—No, sir; but you see I have a husband to support now.

THE ANTI-MISSIONARY RIOTS

Loss of Life and Valuable Property—Lives of White People in Danger.

Japanese People Still in a State of Unrest—Collapse of Formosan Republic.

Tokio, Japan, June 12. (Per Empress of China.)—The anti-missionary riots in Szechuan province, occupy the exclusive attention of foreigners in China. Many deaths are reported, chiefly among native Roman Catholics, and the loss of property is estimated at five million dollars in the city of Cheng Tu alone. The French mission at this place was established one hundred and fifty years ago, and claimed thirty thousand converts. The four Protestant institutions were of modern origin. All have been destroyed, and their occupants, including several ladies, are said to be in extreme danger, though the authorities of Peking declare that measures will be taken for their protection. The French envoy professes to have absolute proof that the outbreak was directly instigated by the Sze Chun viceroys, Liu Ping Chang, who has been implacably hostile to foreigners during his nine years of vice-legal power. His term of office is just about to expire, and he has aimed to close his career with a crushing blow against the objects of his hatred. Copies of documents signed by him, and calling upon his subordinate officials to unite in the work of exterminating the missionaries have been discovered and sent to the diplomatic body at the capital. The reassuring statements of the central government are therefore received with suspicion, especially as no communication with the possible victims can be opened. Telegrams sent to Cheng Tu by their friends remained unanswered up to June 9th. Among the Americans and Europeans attached to the Methodist and Baptist missions are Mr. and Mrs. Hart, Dr. and Mrs. Stevenson, Mr. and Mrs. Endicott, Mr. and Mrs. Hartwell, Dr. and Mrs. Kilborn, Dr. Hare, Miss Brackbill, Dr. and Mrs. Parry, Mr. and Mrs. McCormack, Miss Wilson, Miss Hol, Dr. and Mrs. Camrigh, Mr. and Mrs. Peat and Mrs. Gady.

With the persistence of ill-tempered children, the majority of the Japanese people refuse to accept the government's assurances that no European complications now threaten the peace of the empire, and business remains as stagnant as during the last weeks of the war. By many financial authorities it is apprehended that the depression may continue until after the payment of the first Chinese indemnity instalment. Ministers of state, however, hope that confidence will be restored, before the meeting of parliament in November affords opportunity for an aggressive combination of the hostile political factions. Count Ito seems resolved to cling to office as long as his position remains tenable, and it is true that a premature announcement of dissolution might provoke agitations which the present administration is not strong enough to deal with. Though the cabinet does not work harmoniously, more than one prominent member having signified a desire to resign, it is felt by all that the impending changes must be cautiously and discreetly arranged, and that no pretext for domestic disorders be allowed to appear. But it is by no means certain that the programme can be carried out as designed. The Korean question also presents more difficulties than the government can readily dispose of. Count Inouye is believed to have entirely abandoned the task of regulating that troublesome province, which is fast getting itself up to Russian influences. If the lost ground is to be recovered, it must be by methods totally different to those which Inouye employed, and it is even doubtful if the Corps will now yield to any course of treatment prescribed by Japan. The Queen controls the police situation at Seoul, and her hatred of the Japanese is undisguised. The king has issued a proclamation authorizing an annual festival on May 8th, the day when the independence of his country was nominally guaranteed by the exchange of the ratified treaties between Japan and China, and has sent a message of thanks for the efforts of the former empire in behalf of the Korean autonomy. But neither the king's actions nor utterances have the slightest weight in determining the course of public affairs. Unless Japan is prepared to acquiesce in Russia's ambitious schemes in the peninsula, she must declare her intentions without further delay.

The farce of a Formosan republic came to an end as soon as the Japanese troops landed on that island. The self-styled president, Tang, fled from the capital, Taipei, pursued by Chinese troops demanding the pay of which they had been defrauded. As he was believed to have taken refuge on a ship flying the German flag, the disappointed Chinese sent a few shots from their forts promising only to Keelung harbor; in response to which a German gunboat bombarded the forts. Whether Tang escaped, or was killed by the mob is still uncertain. The Chinese emperor took possession of the northern seaports early in June, and on the seventh occupied Taipei, which had been almost completely destroyed by Chinese plunderers. Evacuation of communication were found, however, between Tainan and the viceroys at Nanking, showing that the attempt to resist the Japanese was instigated by high provincial officials, and probably encouraged by members of the Tung li Yamen.

The Emperor of China has again offended Japan by officially acknowledging the services of France and Russia in preventing the cession of the Manchurian province. The Peking government has also affronted the new Japanese envoy by proposing, before his arrival in China, that he shall not proceed to the capital until after he has settled with Li Hung Chang, at Tientsin, the question of giving back the unclaimed territory. The Japanese government has answered that no business of any sort will be transacted out of the diplomatic order, or before the legations are re-opened at Peking and Tokio.

The Chi Li provinces are suffering from a rice famine, and riots are feared in Peking.

The ships of war captured by Japan have been partially repaired at Port Arthur, and will all be brought over to Japanese dockyards before the end of June. Renewed efforts will be made to raise the Ting Yuen from the bottom of the Wei hai-wei harbor.

The great merchant steamship company of Japan, known as the Yusen Kaisha, is about to establish a regular line to Formosa.

The safe of the United States ship Oneida, sunk 25 years ago in Yokohama harbor, has just been recovered by divers. Gold and silver to the amount of \$3500 were found.

The torpedo defences have been removed from Vladivostok harbor.

Chinese residents are slowly returning to Japan. The total number on May 1st was two thousand three hundred and ninety-one, of whom more than one-half were in Yokohama.

The northern ports of Formosa are quiet, but the Chinese "black flags" are threatening Taiwan, the former capital, on the western coast, and foreign residents are flying to ships in the harbor. A Japanese force is rapidly proceeding to the scene. Tang, the fugitive president of the abortive republic, has reached Shanghai.

In consequence of the gloomy spirit of the Japanese people, the government has indefinitely postponed the proposed peace celebrations in the capital and elsewhere.

The parties opposed to the present Japanese government demand that an extra session of the diet be convened without delay. Their desire is to force a dissolution of the ministry while the popular feeling against Count Ito and his colleagues is at its height. Newspaper organs of the cabinet assert that the cabinet will not sanction any meeting of parliament before the regularly appointed date in November.

The Italian Duke of Abruzzi has been presented to the Emperor of Japan and is quartered in the detached palace at the Shiba Park.

Commander Barker and Lieutenant O'Brien, naval and military attaches to the United States legation in Tokio, were entertained at dinner on June 18th by the Emperor of Japan.

Anti-foreign demonstrations are now reported in all parts of Sze Chun province, and are extending to other interior regions. A general conspiracy under the direction of Viceroy Liu is apprehended. No direct news can be obtained from the imprisoned missionaries, but the Peking authorities assert that their lives are not in danger. Gun boats are pushing up the Yangtze river, to the scene of the disorder.

Li Hung Chang's son resigned all his offices on his return from Formosa to Shanghai, and retired in humility to his native province.

General John W. Foster received extraordinary attentions from all classes in Japan during his brief stay, and his early departure is universally regretted. During the negotiations at Hiroshima and Baku he won the unqualified esteem of the Japanese by the sincerity of his endeavors to establish a peace that should be just and honorable to both parties. The confidence in which he is held by the Chinese is attested by their proposal to intrust their foreign affairs permanently to his guidance. Liberal inducements were offered him to return and establish himself at Peking, but without avail.

THE BRITANNIA WINS AGAIN

Valkyrie Suffers Another Defeat on the Clyde—Oxford-Cambridge Bridge Athletics.

British Columbia Record Broken at Brockton Point-Gun and Wicket.

Hunter's Quay, Firth of Clyde, July 3. The Britannia, Ailsa and Valkyrie started to-day in the race for the Muir challenge cup in the regatta of the Mud Hook Yacht Club. The first round was completed as follows: Britannia, 12:48:30; Ailsa, 12:40:37; Valkyrie, 12:48:44.

During the first round the yachts maintained the order given above.

On the second round, off Kilmorie, the Valkyrie lowered her club topsails, the breeze being apparently too strong for her.

Following are the times for the three big yachts at the finish: Britannia, 2:56:37; Ailsa, 2:57:47; Valkyrie, 2:59:45. According to these figures the Britannia beat the Valkyrie by three minutes eight seconds actual time, and seven minutes ten seconds on time allowance. On the other hand the Ailsa beat the Valkyrie 1 minute 58 seconds actual time and 4 minutes 57 seconds on time allowance.

The course was as follows: From Hunter's Quay, passing between the commodore's yacht and No. 1 mark boat, thence to mark boat off Skelmorlie, thence to mark boat off Asog, Isle of Bute, thence to mark boat off Aldergun, thence to mark boat No. 1, twice around about 50 miles.

Valkyrie III allowed the Ailsa 2 minutes 58 seconds and Britannia 4 minutes 2 seconds.

The Valkyrie made a poor showing. She heeled over a great deal in a slight breeze.

The 20-raters started in the following order: Eucharist, Zanita, Niagara and Dakota with only ten seconds difference between the time which the first and last of these yachts crossed the starting line. On reaching back for the powder buoy Eucharist passed the Clocktelloch light ahead and the yachts were timed there as follows: Eucharist, 11:11:50; Niagara, 11:13:30; Zanita, 11:14:35; Dakota, 11:15:20. They completed the first round as follows: Eucharist, 12:24:05; Niagara, 12:26:24; Zanita, 12:28:38; Dakota, 12:30:30. The Dakota finished 20 minutes behind Eucharist, which won outright. Eucharist finished three minutes ahead of the Niagara, which was a little ahead of the Zanita.

The Valkyrie's failure to-day caused intense disappointment in yachting circles and at the club house of the Mud Hook yacht club after the race all the yachtsmen assembled looked very grim.

"There is no good sending her to America," better send the Britannia," was the general comment. Sufficient proof was given by her performance to-day that she has quite fallen short of all expectations. In no point of sailing did she show the least ground for believing that she can be a real aspirant for cup honors. In to-day's course there were 30 miles free reaching and about 14 miles of windward work. On both points of sailing the cup challenger was decisively beaten, not only by the Britannia, but by the Ailsa as well. The Valkyrie was unable to carry her immense spread of canvas. Never once during the race did she get into second place, and only once, about a mile after the start, did she succeed in drawing level with the Ailsa's lee quarter, and soon dropped back.

Waterloo, July 2.—The C. W. A. championships meet yesterday was not distinguished by any record breaking. The one mile, class B, was won by Angus McLeod, Sarnia, in 2:52. The half mile, class A, was won by A. F. Longhead, of Sarnia, in 1:07 1-5; five mile championship, class B, W. McIntosh, in 12:55; two mile, 5:40 class, John Willis, Toronto, in 5:22 2-5; one mile international, class B, Coulter, of Toledo, in 2:00 2-5.

BRITISH COLUMBIA RECORD. The British Columbia record for one mile was broken at the Brockton Point grounds by Charles F. Barker of Vancouver. He was paced by Hill and J. Deeming. Two watches caught his time at 2:22 and two others at 2:22 1-5. The latter went on record.

The other races for the meet were well contested. The one mile, novice was won by G. B. Johnson, of Westminster, in 2:52. The quarter mile dash was won by Hill, of Aberdeen, in 34 1-2, and the half mile by Barker in 1:23. In the one mile handicap J. Gray, of Nanaimo (95 yards), took first place; Emanuel (85 yards), second. The Deemings, Hill and Barker, on the scratch, were not in it. In the three mile handicap J. Deeming (scratch) won from 17 other competitors; Gray and Emanuel being second and third. In the team race between Wellington, Nanaimo and Vancouver, Wellington won, the Deemings taking first and second places.

THE TURF. PLANTATION STAKES. Newmarket, July 3.—This was the second day of the Newmarket First of July meeting. There were 12 runners for the Plantation stakes, including Mr. Richard Croker's Montauk, which, however, was not placed. Following was the result: Mr. J. Porter's Chinkara first, Mr. Douglas Baird's Donegal second, Lord Radnor's Longford Lady third.

MORE GOOD SCORES. Victorians were again very much in evidence in the trap shooting matches at Vancouver yesterday. In the 25 singles Dell Cooper took first money (\$25) with the straight 25 birds; F. S. MacLure and Captain Miner, of Seattle, divided second money (\$17) on a score of 24; and Churchill, of Seattle, won third (\$8) with 23. C. W. Minor made the possible at the fifteen singles, unknown traps; B. H. John securing second money on a score of 14; and J. C. MacLure, Dell Cooper, Captain Miner and Featherstone dividing third. In the final ten singles F. S. MacLure, Otto Weiler and C. W. Minor tied for first honors each with a straight score of eight. In the match between Seattle and Vancouver, Seattle won by eight points.

ATHLETICS. OXFORD-CAMBRIDGE. London, July 3.—The annual athletic games between Oxford and Cambridge universities began at the Queen's Club grounds at 4:40 p.m. to-day. The prospect of an international contest between the winning team to-day and a team representing Yale university are greatly increased by the interest taken in the meeting. The following are the events: One hundred yards dash, won by G. Jordan, time, 10 1-2 seconds. Watson, Cambridge, won the weight-putting contest with 37 feet 9 inches. G. A. Gardiner, Oxford, won the high jump with 5 feet 9 inches. The one mile run was won by W. D. Luytens, Cambridge, time, 4:23 2-5.

W. J. Oakley, Oxford, won the hurdle race in 16 2-5 seconds. The quarter mile run was won by W. Fitzherbert, Cambridge, in 50 seconds. In throwing the hammer, C. B. Robertson, Oxford, won 118 feet 7 inches. The score stands four firsts for Oxford and four firsts for Cambridge. The three mile run was won by F. S. Horn, Cambridge, who thus scored a victory for his university. The time was 14:50 2-5. The score at the end of the games was Cambridge 5 firsts and Oxford 4 firsts.

CRICKET. At Nanaimo on Dominion day the Athletics defeated the Nanaimos by 104 to 28.

The Navy defeated Vancouver on Monday by 229 to 124.