

Weekly Colonist

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WHAT OUR NEIGHBORS SAY: Mr. Hitt's proposals for Commercial Union between the United States and Canada are being discussed in the American newspapers.

THE OLD AND THE NEW: Nothing appearing in the Times in the nature of unfairness and distinction in dealing with any local political question, could be any possible surprise to us.

THE BUDGET SPEECH: The Budget Speech was clear and concise. The Provincial Treasurer did not cloud his subject with unnecessary words.

ADDITION TO THE FAMILY: On Friday afternoon, at Seattle, the steamship Walls, Walla, was loaded with \$13,000.

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concededly opposed to any such Commercial Union as the people of the United States would consent to.

It would be almost as good as having the lands themselves. Now, we protest against such action. It shows fraud upon its face so plain that a blind man ought to see through it.

It would appear that the enquiry into the management of the company that was carried on in Washington was little better than a sham.

He would remove restrictions to trade between the United States and Canada, but would have them the same tariff for protection to industries as we have against all other countries except the United States.

He would make our neighbors across the lake a Canada with American institutions—in short, we would annex them, virtually if not in name, and that he thinks a political union would follow a commercial union is pretty clear from the fact that he said the flag of the union would fly over the dome of the Capitol.

It is not to be expected that not only would commercial union weaken, if it would not altogether destroy, the connection between Canada and Great Britain, but that it would take from Canada itself the fiscal independence which it prizes so highly and of which it is so proud, and also reduce its government to insignificance, most Canadians when they have had time to reflect will, we are satisfied, prefer their present condition to that which this country would offer if the scheme advocated by Mr. Hitt and Mr. Butterworth were adopted.

Annexation is not on both sides of the line favor commercial Union as a matter of course, for they well know when it is consummated political union will not be far off.

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CABLE NEWS.

The Oxford Crew Stand a Good Chance of Winning the University Boat Race. The "Daily News" Attacks Lord Salisbury for His Recent Speech at Watford.

The Davager Queen of Bavaria Dying—Prince Alexander's Marriage to be Annulled. Articles of agreement were signed by Gen. Irvine of Ottawa and E. D. Shada, of Victoria, for a ten mile walking match (square heel and toe) to govern, to take place in the skating rink, Yates street, on Saturday evening, March 30th, for \$100 a side.

Comment on Lord Salisbury's Speech. The Oxford crew stand a good chance of winning the University Boat Race. The "Daily News" attacks Lord Salisbury for his recent speech at Watford.

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CAPITAL NOTES.

Prospect of Securing an Appropriation for a Drill Shed. The Victoria Council Decides a Site-Royal Assent Given to Twenty-Three Bills.

Loss of the Johanna Auguste. The German bark Johanna Auguste, lumberladen from Moodyville for Montevideo, has been lost, and her crew landed at Valparaiso.

Another Inspector Seized. Yesterday afternoon, Inspector Matson, of Port Townsend, seized a box containing six pounds of prepared opium. It was shipped through the Northern Pacific Express Company from Victoria to Sum Lee Yee, Spokane Falls.

C. P. K.'s Time Table. The attention of the travelling public is directed to the time table of the Canadian Pacific Navigation Co., which embodies important changes in sailing of the White Star Line, and other other daily service of the C.P.R. On the Vancouver route the steamer will leave Victoria daily, except Monday, at 4 a. m.

LOCAL AND PROVINCIAL. For San Francisco. The following passengers left for San Francisco yesterday per steamship Walls Walls: P. F. Wrenn, Mrs. McKoon, O. H. Goodwin, Capt. H. R. Jones, and ten steerage passengers.

Baptist Convention. There will be held a general educational convention of the Baptists of this coast at Sacramento, Cal., April 10th next. Rev. M. L. Rugg, the talented pastor of Calvary Baptist church, of this city, has been invited to give an address before the convention.

More Quartz Discoveries. The Nanaimo Courier says: "Quartz prospecting and mining by the recent discoveries on Texada have received such an impetus that every hill on the district islands in the Gulf bears evidence of the presence of the precious metal. A silver-bearing ledge has been discovered on Lasqueti Island, and it is also stated that the ore is as promising looking as any that has been shown elsewhere from Texada."

Protecting the Seals. The following is section 1,966 of the revised statutes regarding the protection of Alaska seals: "No person shall kill or other, mink, marten, sable or fur seal or other fur bearing animal within the limit of Alaska territory, or in the waters thereof, and every person guilty thereof shall be liable to a fine of not less than \$200 or more than \$1,000, or imprisonment for not more than six months, or both, and all vessels, their tackle, apparel, and equipment, shall be liable to seizure and forfeiture."

Little Locals. A pleasant social was held last evening in the school-room of the Pandora street ward. The evening was spent in a most enjoyable manner. Since the recent burglar case, many storekeepers keep their premises illuminated during the night.

THE CHARGE AGAINST THE WALLS WALLA. On Friday afternoon, at Seattle, the steamship Walls, Walla, was loaded with \$13,000. The hearing of the charge against the vessel will take place at Seattle on April 4th, at which the owners have been cited to appear and show cause why the steamship should not be condemned and sold in order that the government may recover the \$13,000 penalty for alleged violation of the statutes. It is alleged in the libel that the opium was placed on board at Victoria, and further, that the vessel was under the knowledge of Capt. Blackburn, the master of the steamship.

THE CHINA STEAMSHIP BATAVIA. The China steamship Batavia, for Yokohama and Hong Kong, left Vancouver Tuesday evening. The vessel was loaded with \$13,000. The hearing of the charge against the vessel will take place at Seattle on April 4th, at which the owners have been cited to appear and show cause why the steamship should not be condemned and sold in order that the government may recover the \$13,000 penalty for alleged violation of the statutes.

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PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.

Third Session of the Fifth Parliament. TWENTY-SEVENTH DAY. The Speaker took the chair at 2:15 p.m. Prayers were said by Rev. W. G. Vidman, PRYVILLE.

Mr. Allen rose to a question of privilege. He said he had a copy of the "Times" of March 18th which he had just received. It contained an article regarding the proposed bill for the protection of seals. He said that he had heard the minister of Education make some remarks regarding the bill.

Mr. Allen-I wish you had been here a week or two ago. Mr. Higgins-Well, I'm here now. What do you mean, Mr. Allen-I don't know what you intended to say, but you certainly did say "teach."

Mr. Allen-I protest. I did not. Mr. Higgins-You did not. Mr. Allen-I did not. Mr. Higgins-You did not. Mr. Allen-I did not. Mr. Higgins-You did not.

Mr. Mason presented the petition of 63 settlers of Chiloquin, Williams Lake, St. Joseph's Mission, and other places, praying for roads and mails. Last on the table.

The petition presented by the hon. member for New Westminster district, asking for road money out of the order, as it asked for an appropriation.

THE OFFICIAL STENOGRAPHER. Hon. Mr. Huggins announced by Mr. Semlin, that an order of his House had been granted for a return of the names, number, amount, in salary or otherwise, paid to the official stenographer for the purpose of constructing a line of railway from the outlet of Kootenay Lake, through or by the Selkirk Range, to some point on the coast of British Columbia.

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THE GRANVILLE WATER LOTS. Mr. O. R. Bole, seconded by Mr. Loder, stated that a select committee was appointed to enquire into the water lots in the city of Victoria. He said that the committee had held several sittings and had reported to the House.

Mr. Martin asked the attorney-general whether it was within the powers of the Provincial Government to issue bonds on any day within the twenty mile belt.

Mr. Loder moved the second reading of the bill to amend the act relating to the National Electric Tramway Bill. He said that the bill had been introduced in the House and that he had had the honor to receive the bill from the Government.

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