

THE PROVINCIAL CABINET.

Despite the repeated assertions that all is peace and harmony in the ranks of the supporters of the government and that there exists no good reason for changes in the personnel of the administration, there is a well-defined suspicion abroad that the majority of the members who for the time being are followers of Mr. Dunsen are clamoring for the fulfillment of the pledges made at the historical convention in Vancouver. The members from the Mainland will never rest until the remnants of Turnerism have been cast out, so that the efforts that are being made at present to induce them to let well enough alone lest a worse thing befall the country will assuredly come to naught. There is a very comfortable berth in store for Mr. Turner, and although we wish him no harm—for he has spent many years in the service of his country and is an exemplary citizen—our duty to the province compels us to state that certain events in his career not remotely connected with wild cat mining companies are not likely to make him a popular figure with the British investing public. If he goes to London it will be because the safety of the administration demands that he be turned out rather than because there is a probability of his proving a wise and efficient servant. It is hinted that Mr. Turner is not entirely pleased with this arrangement, insisting that the course of his administration has been fully vindicated by the results of the elections, and that he will stand or fall with the government.

It is not going to prove a light task to dispose of Mr. Eberts either. It is much easier to get a man in the government than to get him out. The Attorney-General has done good work for his party and he is not disposed to forego his reward. There is no office in sight which he considers worthy of the part he has played in the history of the province, and he cannot be converted into a private member without a rebellion, which would be a serious matter to deal with. Mr. Eberts has long been desirous of taking a seat on the Supreme Court bench. If "something had not happened," which was a blessing for the country, in 1896, he would have been there long ago. It is said a deal is being arranged to gratify his ambition, but its culmination depends on the defeat of the Liberals at the pending elections, and what is the use of discussing the effects of any event depending on such a contingency as that? One might as well look forward to Oom Paul again ruling over a Transvaal Republic.

A FAIR ANSWER.

The following letter from Mr. T. B. Hall appears in Friday's Colonist: "Prior to the last Dominion general election, the following appeared in the Times of this city: 'That having regard to the position of Canada and the United States, etc., etc., and that a fair and liberal reciprocity treaty would develop the great natural resources of Canada, would enormously increase the trade and commerce between the two countries, would tend to encourage friendly relations between the two peoples, would remove many causes which have in the past provoked irritation and trouble to the government of both countries, and would promote those kindly relations between the Empire and the Republic which afford the best guarantee for peace and prosperity.' Will the editor of the Times favor me with a business answer to the above, showing what the Liberal party has accomplished in the above direction, also giving figures to substantiate his arguments, omitting personalities, invective and ridicule."

We were not aware that Mr. Hall was an advocate of closer trade relations with the United States. All reasonable Conservatives are, like all sensible Liberals, and for the information of this seeker after the truth, we may say that surely Mr. Hall has not forgotten the meeting of the Joint Commission for the purpose, if possible, of adjusting all the international differences between the United States and Canada and arranging a treaty for the exchange of all products by the people of the two countries. The negotiations for the assembling of that important body were opened by the government almost immediately after it was called to office, and although the efforts of our commissioners to reach an understanding were abortive, every concession it was possible for Canadians to make was conceded. Some of our Conservative friends maintained the representatives of the government on that commission went too far; possibly Mr. Hall is of the same opinion. At all events, the American commissioners were of a different mind, and nothing was accomplished. Nevertheless good has been done, as the relations between the two peoples have been of a more friendly nature since the meeting of the Joint High Commission. Mr. Hall must know that his friends have repeatedly claimed the Liberals were too friendly to the United States, and that some of the more blatant of the loyalty shouters have always maintained they were annexationists at heart. It is true Sir Charles Tupper, and Sir John Macdonald in his time too, always professed to be anxious to secure a treaty of reciprocity of trade. On more than one occasion parliament was dissolved before the statutory time for the alleged reason that important negotiations of this character were about to be undertaken and the government desired a mandate from the people to proceed with the work. It was held by the Liberals that these dissolutions were secured under false pretences, and it was an undeniable fact that they always took place

at a time most propitious for the success of the Conservative cause. We mention these things for the purpose of showing that the Conservatives as well as the Liberals have ever recognized that the majority of the people of Canada were in favor of a reciprocity treaty if it could be secured on fair terms. We all admit now, Conservatives as well as Liberals, that at the present time there is no possibility of arriving at an equitable arrangement. Many of the leading papers on the other side recognize the fact that the United States would probably be a greater gainer than Canada by such a treaty, but the politicians are mainly after votes. They appear to think more would be lost than gained by having intimate dealings with Canada and we bow to their decision. But our trade with our neighbors has steadily gained in volume, the increase of imports being at the rate of 17 per cent. for the year 1899.

Finding the avenues of trade closed in one direction the government turned to the second project which they had in contemplation. The markets of Britain are open to all the world, and it is doubtful if even Sir Charles Tupper will be able to persuade the British workman to consent to the imposition of a tax on his food. But by winning his goodwill much may be accomplished, as has been proved by the results of the preferential tariff. In the Old Land a firm and enduring market has been established simply by the bruising abroad of the intelligence by the press that there is one colony which recognizes the fact that it owes something to the parent state. The London Times said of this policy when it was announced in the House of Commons by Mr. Fielding:

"The new departure is most gratifying to all who desire to see the Empire knitted more closely together. It is the most remarkable step yet made toward the fiscal confederation of the Empire. If every British colony should follow suit and the day comes that free trade exists from one frontier of the Empire to the other, it will be a mutual satisfaction to recall the circumstances of the first step in the initiation of that policy."

The Daily News remarked: "As patriots we welcome this significant display of attachment from the greatest of our colonies, and as Liberals we congratulate the leader of the Liberal party of the Dominion."

The same note of gratification was struck by all the great dailies, and we believe even Mr. Hall will admit that the tone of jubilation was justifiable when he considers the following table showing the manner in which his friends discriminated against instead of in favor of the Mother Country. This statement shows the average rate of ad valorem duty collected on goods imported for consumption from Great Britain and the United States for the years 1890 to 1896:

Year.	Great Britain.	United States.
1890	28.78	24.58
1891	28.08	25.96
1892	29.43	26.48
1893	29.80	26.73
1894	29.96	26.95
1895	30.06	26.73
1896	30.19	26.69

It is not surprising that under such an arrangement as this the importations from Great Britain steadily decreased while those from the United States showed a continuous gain. Perhaps Mr. Hall, like Sir Charles Tupper, does not approve of the preference because it has already changed this condition of affairs. The importations from both countries are still increasing, but the gain for the year 1899 for Great Britain was five per cent. more than that of the United States, and now that the preference has been increased to one-third no doubt the discrepancy will be still greater when the next returns are published. Now we know Mr. Hall dodges Grit literature as he would a pestilence, but as we believe we have him interested we shall close by calling his attention to the following remarks of Hon. Mr. Paterson at a meeting in Halifax.

"Hon. Mr. Fielding can stand upon this platform to-night in a prouder position than any Finance Minister ever stood who faced an audience before. What is the record of our foreign trade since we came into power? We can point to an extended trade, so that we have not only increased our trade with Great Britain, but with the rest of the world as well. How was it under the government of our Conservative friends? For eighteen years they were in power; for eighteen years the National Policy was in effect. What was the increase in the foreign trade of this country in the eighteen years they were in power? It was \$66,000,000—not \$4,000,000 a year on an average; that was all the increase they made. The Liberals came into power, and the government in carrying out the instructions given them in the Ottawa platform to arrange the tariff so as to permit freer trade with the world have increased our foreign trade by \$140,000,000 in four years. Thus we have an increase of \$4,000,000 on an average, of \$36,000,000 yearly in the four years since we came into power. Do you want to go back to the old policy?"

GOOD ROADS.

A good roads convention has been summoned to meet in Kamloops on the 27th of September and it is hoped before it disperses a Provincial Good Roads Association will be organized. It is hardly necessary to call attention to the importance of this movement to the province. In all parts of the world the same kind of an agitation is in progress, although in most countries and in all the provinces of Canada it has made greater headway and has accomplished more than in British Columbia. Probably the advent of

the delicately constructed machines that now traverse the highways and byways of all nations had something to do with the creation of the opinion that the day had passed away when any sort of strip of land over which a team could haul an empty wagon would do for the carriage of the commerce of the people. At any rate Good Roads Associations are in existence everywhere and are doing a great work in bringing about a revolution in the condition of the public highways of many countries. In the province of Ontario the organization succeeded in securing the appointment of an inspector by the government, and he advises all bodies under whose auspices the work of road construction is carried on, the result being scientific treatment instead of indiscriminate dumping of gravel and macadam down in places where they are likely to do more harm than good. In this province there is a very large sum spent every year in what is supposed to be the making and mending of highways. It is of the utmost importance that this money should be laid out to the best advantage, which it is asserted is not the case at the present time. This will be the chief matter to come before the convention at Kamloops, that if the convention referred to be correct an effort will be made to devise a scheme which will result in a radical change in the manner of laying out these road-making funds. All public men have been invited to attend, and all representative bodies are requested to send delegates.

FUTURE OF THE EMPIRE.

Mr. Kemp, president of the Toronto Board of Trade and a prominent Conservative, says he gathered from the convention of the delegates from Australia who attended the recent sessions of the Chambers of Commerce of the Empire that the future policy of the young Commonwealth will be protective, with a preference to British products after a time. That has been understood for some time. We agree with Mr. Kemp that Canada occupies a unique position on this question. It was this country that set the example to all the rest of the colonies, and such a policy had never been thought of until a Liberal government attained power. The trend of the protectionist propaganda could not be otherwise than towards disintegration rather than unification, and it is not at all surprising that the public men and newspapers of Britain were found to be pondering over the question of the usefulness to the Empire of the self-governing colonies. It is a fact that the action of Canada in discriminating in favor of British goods has placed the relationship of the outlying and central parts of the Empire on an entirely different footing and has opened the eyes of statesmen to possibilities in the future which had not hitherto entered into their calculations. There is no immediate prospect of Britain imposing duties which would discriminate in favor of her colonies, but it is impossible to foretell what the future has in store for the nation. With the foundations laid in the South Seas, in South Africa and in North America for great aggregations of people, under the British flag and with the hundreds of millions in India and Egypt as loyal to the crown as their white fellow-subjects, the trade of the colonies might assume an entirely different aspect. Instead of being merely a small fraction of the total dealings of the British people, it might assume such a preponderance as to justify the experiment of cultivating and encouraging it, and putting into effect an Imperial preference for colonial products. Also it seems to be a fact that the world is yearly becoming more hostile commercially to Great Britain. At any rate the protectionist idea is spreading and it is not improbable that as the years pass by the temptation to retaliation may become greater, or at least to follow the example which our neighbors are all setting at the present time of reserving the home markets for home products. But all these thoughts are merely speculative. There is not one British statesman at the present day who would dare to advocate the imposition of duties on wheat. Canadians have done their share in giving a preference to British goods, and what we have done we hope to see our cousins in Australia and South Africa do also. Let us take care that there is no turning back and we shall trust to time to bring us our reward.

It is said Sir Hibbert Tupper is displeased at the selection of Hugh John as heir-apparent to the leadership of the Conservative party. He has reason to be. He inherits many of his father's failings, it is true, but he is very much like him physically, and he is a man of ability. Having regard to all these things, why should a man with all his features calling for recognition be set aside for one who inherits only one family feature; be beaten by a nose, as it were? The young knight is not saying much; he is merely thinking what a sweet satisfaction it would be to put the nose of the leader from the prairies out of joint.

The Liberal leaders have always contended that a reduction of taxation would result in increased receipts, but they hardly anticipated such a complete verification of their predictions as has been furnished since they attained power. A surplus of over twelve millions in fourteen months! No wonder the Conservatives cannot conceal their rage and mortification as they think of the glorious possibilities, if they were in power, of

building up a campaign fund. Evidently no disturbing thought of the possibility of opposition success enters into the calculations of the business community.

It is pleasing to note that some of the American papers are beginning to realize that the traditional ally of their country, Russia, may have other than purely philanthropic designs on China.

Mr. J. B. McKilligan has been appointed Surveyor of Taxes and Inspector of Revenue by the Provincial government. The new official is particularly well qualified for the position, as all who are acquainted or have had business relations with him know. In this instance the government has made no mistake.

THE LITTLE GIRL WE DIDN'T WANT.

S. E. Kiser in Chicago Times-Herald. A little girl we didn't want Came unto us one day; We'd prayed the Lord that He might send A little boy our way. We thought we'd name him after me, Our plans were knocked away The day the girl we didn't want Came floating from the sky.

The little girl we didn't want Looked gravely up at me When we had closed her mother's eyes, And no one stayed to see— Looked at me from upon my breast And, trusting, nestled there, Not knowing she had shattered dreams That we had thought so fair.

The little girl we didn't want Has often sat with me Beside a grassy little mound No other stay to see, And often in the glad old days, With peaceful slumbers above, We've played along in pleasant ways, Filled with each other's love.

The little girl we didn't want Forsook me yesterday; Another came and won her love And carried her away! A little girl we didn't want Came unto her and me, And I've a broken heart and weep, Nor care who comes to see!

A BIT OF CATECHISM.

Montreal Herald. Q.—What is the total amount of the expenditures on capital account in 1897, 1898 and 1899? A.—\$13,006,000. Q.—What was the increase in the net debt of the Dominion in these three years? A.—\$7,776,012. Q.—So that nearly fourteen millions worth of public improvements were obtained for a debt increase of under eight millions? A.—Yes. Q.—What were the capital expenditures in the last three years under the Conservative? A.—\$10,344,970. Q.—And what was the debt increase in these years? A.—\$3,616,392. Q.—Then in this period of Conservative rule it cost nearly seventeen millions of an addition to the debt to procure ten millions of improvements? A.—Yes. Q.—How, then, do the records of the two governments compare? A.—The Liberals were six millions to the good; the Conservatives six and a half millions to the bad. A difference of twelve and a half millions in favor of Liberal administration upon a three years' record.

OVERDOING THE HERO BUSINESS. Ontario Times-Herald. "What are all those men lined up there for?" "They are heroes—all heroes, who have gained public attention during the past year or so."

"And what are they carrying under their arms?" "Bundles of manuscripts. You see that is a magazine office they are waiting to get into."

"Well, why are they kept lined up that way? Why are they not being entertained inside?" "Oh, the editor is probably writing a sonnet on 'Solitude' or negotiating with some young woman who has written a story with a fight in every paragraph. After awhile he will send the office boy out to distribute among them slips of paper containing a printed formula something like this:

"The editor regrets that it will be impossible for him to receive any of the heroes assembled. So many considerations enter into the hero business now that a sub does not necessarily imply a lack of heroism, and the hero who fails to get into one magazine office may be welcome at another."

SHOWED HIM UP.

Hamilton Herald. One British officer when Richard Harding Davis lunched in his war correspondence from Pretoria, has talked back and shown up Davis as a common liar. The fact is that Davis knew what sort of stuff was wanted by the American journals and magazines which he wrote for, and he supplied it. He is a professional writer of sensational fiction.

HUGH JOHN'S RECORD.

Toronto Star. When Hugh John gets started Laurier's finish is in sight—Woodstock Times. But do you forget that Hugh John entered Dominion politics once before, stumped the country with Sir Charles once before and was beaten—once before.

The Oscar is an accomplished whistler, and sometimes performs variations on national airs for the entertainment of his intimate friends.

40 RED-COATS

Put to Route an Army of Formidable Transgressors. Congestion, Dizziness, Pain Under the Shoulder Blades, Sick Headache, Depressed Feeling, Bloating After Eating, Debility and Innomia, Result from an Inactive Liver.

Dr. Agnew's Liver Pills, 40 little Red Coats at a cost of 30 cents will set you right in short order. Piles of testimony to prove it. Sold by Dean & Eliseo and Hall & Co.

Beauty's Hypnotic Touch



Is given to the complexion by vapor and hot air baths. Our Portable Bath Cabinets are just what is required in health. Cures Colds, Rheumatism, Obesity, Skin Troubles, Kidney, Liver, Blood and Nervous Diseases. Call at our store, or write for full particulars. We invite you to inspect our stock of Drugs, Chemicals and Toilet Articles.

Cyrus H. Bowes, CHEMIST, 98 Government St., near Yates, VICTORIA, B.C. Telephone, 425.

Searching Wreckage

Large Forces of Men and Boys Now at Work at Galveston.

Streets of City are Covered With Debris—Caring For Sufferers.

Galveston, Sept. 15.—A large multitude of men and boys were put to work today to clear away the great mass of debris piled along the beach front for a distance of several miles. They formed in squads, with police and deputy sheriffs in charge. It is hoped that a vigorous prosecution of this work will lead to the early recovery of the bodies still in the debris. There are still many of them there is no shadow of doubt. An Associated Press representative traversed the beach for some distance today, and the stench at different points was absolutely sickening. Everywhere little groups of men, women and children, some of them poorly provided with raiment, were digging in the ruins of their homes for what little household property they could save. In many cases those seeking their former residences were utterly unable to find a single remnant of them, so hopeless is the confusion of timbers and household furniture.

The exodus from the city was so heavy today that hundreds more, who were eager to leave, were unable to secure transportation. More hopeful reports were received today touching the water supply. Chairman McMaisters of the chamber of commerce has charge of the water relief work. The company was serving some of its customers to-day. The water continues to run, by gravity pressure. Assurances have been received from the railroads that they will do all in their power to re-open communication, and their present plan seems to be to concentrate all forces on the work of the reconstruction of one bridge.

Crews are coming down the Santa Fe railway from Arkansas and St. Louis with full equipments to restore the line. Repairing the Damage. Galveston, Texas, Sept. 14.—The city still presents the appearance of widespread wreck and ruin. Little has been done to clear the streets of the terrible tangle of wires and the masses of wreckage, mortar, slate, stone, and glass, that beset the town.

As a general rule substantial frame buildings withstood better the blasts of the gale than those of brick. In other instances, however, small wooden structures, cisterns and whole sides of houses have been plunged down in streets or back yards, squares away from where they originally stood.

Here and there business men have already put men to work to repair the damage done, but in the main the commercial interests seem to be unable to follow the lead of those who show faith in the rapid rehabilitation of the island city.

It is difficult to say yet what the ultimate effect of the disaster is to be on the city. Many people have left and some may never return. The experiences of others still here were so frightful that all will not remain if they can conveniently find occupation in other cities.

The bulk of the population, however, is only temporarily panic-stricken, and there are hosts of those who helped to make Galveston prosperous who look upon the catastrophe as involving only a temporary halt in the advancement of the city.

The steamships reported ashore in early reports are, saving two, the Norwegian steamer Gyller and the British steamer Norma, still high and dry. No examination is yet possible as to the condition of those still on the sand.

Apparently, Galveston has no immediate need for ships. The destruction of the bridges of all the railroads entering the city make it well nigh impossible to furnish outgoing cargoes. These bridges were each about three miles in length, and the work of reconstruction will be a stupendous undertaking.

One of the most serious results of the storm has been the wrecking of the electric light and street car plants. The city has been in darkness for several nights, and only a few concerns which operate their own service are enabled to do business. Nearly every residence has gone back to the primitive candle. The absence of street lights drives all who have no imperative business on the streets to their homes at nightfall, but the work of the patrol system is made more difficult thereby, and the opportunity for looting greater.

The motorman deserted their cars when the fury of the wind and the rush of the water made it no longer possible to operate them. Attempts are being made now to get the cars in shape again. The great destruction of live stock has eliminated carriages and cabs as a means of transportation, and the need of the trolley promises to become a most pressing one when rebuilding begins.

Amongst the worst sufferers by the disaster were the churches. Nearly every one of them felt the effect of the storm. Some of them are entirely wrecked, beyond repair.

The work of relief continues. Mayor Jones and his associates are bending every nerve to open a direct line of transportation with Houston, by which they may be enabled promptly to re-

ceive the great quantity of provisions which are now on the way to the city. "I wish to say, however," said Mayor Jones, "we have made such arrangements as will make it possible for us to feed the needy until we can get in our supplies. We are relieving every case presented to us. I think that within a day or two our transportation facilities will be sufficient temporarily to meet our needs. Galveston has helped other cities in their distress, despite her size, and we are consoled by the generous response of the country to our appeal."

The relief committee is striving to systematize its work, and there is undoubtedly distress here which is promptly to be relieved. Wizen-faced, bare-footed children were engaged yesterday in the streets in eagerly appropriating spoiled and cast-off stocks of food.

The committee have instructed the local drug stores to provide the poor and needy with medicine at the expense of the relief fund.

Nuns are Safe. New York, Sept. 14.—The Rev. J. F. McCarthy of Newark, N. J., assistant pastor of St. Patrick's cathedral, today received a special dispatch from Galveston to the effect that all of the 24 Newark nuns at the Catholic convent of the Sacred Heart at that place had been saved.

Burying the Dead. Houston, Texas, Sept. 14.—The Post today prints a list of 2,701 names of the Galveston dead, compiled from various sources, but believed to be authentic. There were hundreds of bodies buried in the sea and in the sand, where no identification was possible. Other hundreds were buried on the beach from the mainland, few of whom have been identified. Some bodies are still in the ruins of Galveston and scattered along the beach of the mainland and in the marshes, where they were thrown by the water. Some of these bodies have been sent 20 miles inland along small water courses by the rush of high waters. Taking all things into consideration, there seems no longer any doubt that the number of dead will reach beyond the estimate of 5,000, which has been made by Mayor Jones and other reliable citizens of Galveston.

About 1,300 refugees arrived here from Galveston last night, and are being cared for as well as possible. Four buildings have been set apart for the benefit of refugees, but of the 3,500 who have reached here so far not more than 800 remain a public charge, the remainder having gone to the homes of relatives and friends. The wires of both telegraph companies at Houston are overburdened with messages. Agents of insurance companies are passing through to Galveston, and say that there is certain to be much confusion.

THE STRIKE IN THE STATES. Indianapolis, Sept. 14.—John Mitchell, president, and W. B. Wilson, secretary and treasurer, of the United Mine Workers of America, today say they are highly pleased with the manner in which a general anthracite coal strike order has been received by the public. Mr. Mitchell says he regrets deeply that politicians are undertaking to make capital out of the strike. "I had hoped," said he, "that there would be no political significance attached to so serious a matter as this great strike, involving as it does the very living of 143,000 wage earners who have felt the merciless foot of capital for two decades."

PROTESTED HIS INNOCENCE. Butte, Mont., Sept. 14.—Daniel Lucr was hanged in the jail yard here at 11:08 this morning for the murder of Patrick L. Reagan. The two men had started for the Cour D'Alene together, and Reagan's body was found in the canyon next day. Lucr was caught at Victor, Colo., brought back and convicted on circumstantial evidence. It was the first legal hanging here in twelve years. Lucr protested his innocence to the last.

PRODUCE FOR BRITAIN. Ottawa, Sept. 14.—The department of agriculture has sent three agents to the old country, one to be stationed at Glasgow, one at Bristol, and one at London to look after the interests of Canadian fruit and produce, with a view to putting those articles of Canadian industry on the British market in the best of condition as regards packing and handling of butter, cheese and fruit packing.

MYSTERIOUS DEATH. Port Rowan, Ont., Sept. 14.—The stomach and other organs of James Caldwell, drug clerk, who died here on Tuesday morning from what appeared to be have been poison, have been sent to Dr. Ellis, government analyst, Toronto, for examination. The coroner's inquest has been adjourned for two weeks in consequence. The young man had only been married a short time.

TWO MINERS KILLED. Butte, Mont., Sept. 14.—Thos. Kelley and James Murray were killed in the Stewart this morning by an explosion of powder in the magazines in one of the lower levels.

S. Craig, of Nanaimo, is at the Verdon.

MALIGNANT GROWTHS. Cancers, Tumors, Rodent Ulcer, and many malignant growths that operations or other forms of treatment will not cure, are completely cured by our Constitutional remedy. Send 2 stamps for full particulars to Stott & Jurg, Bowmanville, Ont.