

The Weekly Times

Victoria, Friday, September 8, 1893.

MR. DAVIE IN CARIBOO.

The Hon. Theodore Davie—Premier and Attorney-General, as the organ, with muchunction, is pleased to describe him—left Victoria on Sunday morning for Cariboo. The visit has a two-fold object. Ostensibly, Mr. Davie is wanted in Cariboo to attend to the law business of the crown; in reality his presence, at a time when the election of a member of the legislature is to be held, is required to reconcile the conflicting claims of friendly candidates and to ensure the success of a supporter's cause. The zeal of the Premier is commendable. As the leader of a government representing a minority, he sees that it is necessary if he is to remain in power, to hold the vantage ground he now occupies in the outlying and thinly populated constituencies. It would be a serious blow were Cariboo to return an Opposition candidate, or even an Independent, which is an Oppositionist in thin disguise. The Premier has none of the qualities of leadership, save pertinacity of purpose and fighting proclivities of a decidedly ferocious character. These are not very high qualifications, it is true, but they are better than none at all. Were Mr. Davie not a "fighter" he would not have gone to Cariboo. The leaders of both parties have been content hitherto to confine their efforts to the narrow precincts of their own parishes, with the result that to-day there is no organization of their "followers," no cohesion or unity of action. Provincial politics have degenerated into local rivalries, subordinated only, at the by-elections in rural constituencies, to the general demand for increased appropriations from the Provincial treasury.

We are not finding fault with Mr. Davie for visiting Kootenay and Cariboo in the capacity of a missionary. Leading politicians of the other two parties might follow his example with advantage to the province. The old plan of giving attention only to the cities won the Opposition side a majority of the people, but the government, by "cultivating" the small boroughs, retained a majority of the constituencies. We think, therefore, that it is unfortunate that an Opposition speaker did not accompany Mr. Davie in his electioneering tour, for it is absurd to suppose that the Premier will place the political issues fairly before the electors. Besides, if the Opposition cause is worth fighting for, and we believe it is, it should be fought for in every constituency in the province.

ALD. BAKER RESIGNS.

After practically disfranchising the ward which elected him for some time, Ald. Baker has at last resigned as an alderman. It is stated that Mr. Baker will divest himself of his interest in the Adams contract and seek re-election, but it will be a serious reflection on the electors of the ward if they should allow a man to be elected who, while occupying a seat in the council, supplied large quantities of brick to another carrying on a contract with the corporation to construct a sewer. We often hear comparisons between American officials and those of our own country to the disparagement of the former. Recently a councillor in Spokane, Washington, was arrested for being interested in a sewer contract with that city. Here in Victoria Mr. Baker has the audacity to again seek to become a member of the council.

Mr. Baker should bear in mind that if he is disqualified and obliged to resign, the fact of re-election will not relieve him from the pecuniary penalties he may have incurred by voting and sitting in the council since he began to supply bricks to the sewer contractor, Mr. Adams. Any raterpayer can put the law in motion.

Some aldermen consider that Messrs. Coughlan & Mayo did wrong in moving to unseat disqualified aldermen; but we are convinced that all right-thinking citizens will say that they have done the city a service in exposing the whole matter to the public.

CONSERVATIVE ALARM.

We observed a couple of letters in the Colonist of recent date from alarmed Conservatives, urging organization of the party before the general election, which will come within the next two years. Reading between the lines one could not help feeling that the writers—who are probably office-holders or pap-receivers—are beginning to realize that the current of public opinion in British Columbia has turned in favor of the Liberal cause. There are signs everywhere—in the columns of the Conservative press and wherever men discuss public affairs—that a great Liberal renaissance is at hand. The Conservative party, since the death of Sir John Macdonald, has been going to pieces, slowly but surely. Its policy of high taxation is in disfavor in every province of the Dominion. The corruption of its leaders, as shown by the scandals of the last two years, has alarmed honest Conservatives, and we see in the defection of able men like McCarthy the certain signs of an impending disruption. Instead of organizing to assist the cause of a party that ought to be destroyed, the Conservatives of British Columbia should combine to "turn the rascals out." Our people followed the old "chieftain" in his lifetime because they thought that his railway policy was better for the

province and the dominion than the policy of Mr. Mackenzie. They never believed in the protective tariff. But the railway issue has been dead for a decade—the robber tariff, like the poor, we have always with us. The next election will be fought on the policy of the Liberal party, which has declared for taxation for revenue only. The talisman of a successful name has been lost to the Tories forever. The cry of the "old flag" will not again blind the people. The square issue must be faced—the policy of high taxation on the one hand or of low taxation on the other. On that issue there is no doubt as to where the people of British Columbia will stand. They are too unit in favor of the policy enunciated by Mr. Laurier at the Ottawa convention. Why then should the Tories organize at all? To re-elect Col. Prior and Mr. Earle? Is it not more incumbent upon the Liberals to consider the welfare of our country and band themselves together in an organization that will be powerful enough to give effect to the views of the people? Honest Conservatives will assist them. The office-holders, the wire-pullers, the electioneering agents who fleece the government candidates, will still stick to their idols, it is true, but they are a miserable minority in comparison to the respectable men who gave their support to the government candidates, blindly it is true, but disinterestedly. The Times is in favor of the organization of a Liberal Association, with a broad, patriotic platform, on which the business men, the farmers, the workmen and the professional men can find common standing ground. With such an organization in existence, a Liberal triumph, all along the line, in Victoria, Vancouver, Yale, New Westminster and Burnaby, is assured.

THE PEOPLE AT FAULT, NOT THE SYSTEM.

If there is any fault in our municipal system—if the aldermen elected last year to govern Victoria are not representative of the people, or if boodling or what is very near to it is beginning to obtain a foothold where only the highest integrity should be found—it is because the people as a whole do not take enough interest in civic affairs. The system is all right if wisely and honestly administered. Only the other day we heard a Government street property owner declaiming against the law that permitted men possessing real estate worth only \$500 over incumbrances to sit as members of our city council. He would, he said, increase the property qualification to \$5,000, when only citizens who had "something to lose," and who, consequently, would be deterred from increasing taxation, would be eligible for election. A mistake that our friend makes is in believing that the possession of real estate to the value of \$5,000 qualifies a man personally for government, while the less fortunate individual, who owns houses and lands to the value of \$500 only, is unfitted to discharge the duties of an alderman. This is a piece of ancient Toryism which crops up whenever civic business is supposed to be getting into a tangle, and especially when the rate of taxation is increased or the pinch of hard times makes the payment of taxes more difficult than usual. The possession of money does not give a man brains.

Municipal reform is a subject which has been much discussed in the pages of British and American publications during the last two years. Among the latest contributions is one in the September Forum on the experiences of Brooklyn, N. Y., under a reformed system. Municipal politics in many of the large cities of the United States had brought to the front the boodlers and party bosses, all of whom were not poor men, and as a result enormous corruption prevailed. Brooklyn was one of the first cities to adopt a reform, and for years that city's charter has been looked upon as a model one. Its mayor is vested with almost absolute power and is responsible for the government of the city. The head of the finance department (called the comptroller) and the auditor are elected, but the heads of all other departments are appointed by the mayor, who can suspend any official pending an investigation. He has also the right of veto, subject to a two-thirds majority. This new ordinance came into force in January, 1882, simultaneously with the election of an excellent mayor, who had the courage and integrity to administer the law in the spirit in which it had been conceived. For four years, up to 1886, the administration of the charter was in thorough harmony with the charter itself, and all over the United States Brooklyn had the reputation of being a model city. Their case indifferent and worse than indifferent mayors, and to-day this writer in the Forum feels compelled to defend the system against the charge of failure and to explain the decay in the municipal respectability of the city. He says:

"In the interest of political science at large, it is important that there be not drawn a false conclusion as to the working of the capital feature of the charter of Brooklyn. For that feature is of the first importance in the progress of municipal reform; it is probably an essential condition of the reform. The praises of the charter of Brooklyn, which were so unstinted when Seth Lowe was mayor, are no less deserved to-day than they were then. The charter has not broken down, as some seem to suppose. On the contrary, it is working to-day with an almost perfect success. A city

is not administered by its charter, but by its mayor and other officers under its charter, which, except as they use it, is quite useless. In such a paper instrument, the power for harm which, under its charter, is possessed by the chief magistrate unworthily subservient to secret and dangerous influence. In that demonstration is made perfectly plain the corresponding power for good under the charter which belongs to a chief magistrate who will not betray the authority confided in him in trust. It is the merit of the present charter of Brooklyn that it enables its citizens with almost entire certainty to fix the place of official responsibility for bad administration, to single out the guilty, and, if they will, to reform the administration and punish the culprit easily and promptly. Among a free and intelligent people surely no higher praise can be awarded to the mere framework of government."

As a contemporary, the Winnipeg Free Press, says, "any system of municipal government will answer if honestly administered." The Brooklyn system, which gives almost autocratic power to the mayor, will be successful just as long as the mayor is honest and competent. In short, it comes to this, that no matter what system prevails, it still remains for the people to do their duty by placing men in office who are able and honest, it matters very little whether they are poor or rich. A wise autocrat, like the first mayor of Brooklyn under the new charter, will administer public affairs in the best interest of the community, but can a city obtain a wise autocrat always? The failure of Brooklyn is evidence that mistakes will be made, and when, as is the case under that city's charter, extraordinary power is placed in incompetent hands, the worst may be expected.

DANGEROUS AND DISGRACEFUL.

Public dissatisfaction with the condition of Government street, owing to the continual presence of hacks and carriages for hire on that thoroughfare, and the very unpleasant consequences that result therefrom, is daily becoming greater. The press has repeatedly drawn attention to this matter, but the only notice taken of these protests was one feeble but ineffectual attempt to cleanse the street of its sickening accumulations. Since that time, several weeks ago, nothing worth mentioning has been done to purify the spot; it has relapsed into its former condition of offensiveness to the olfactory and visual organs of all who traverse the street. If it be true that "cleanliness is next to godliness," strangers who visit Victoria and behold Government street reeking in all its glory, must carry away desperately poor impressions of this city's moral condition. If there is one evil in Victoria that calls aloud for remedial measures it is the equine cess pits on Government and Yates streets. The people have the abominable odors of it thrust under their noses every hour of the day; they complain, but nothing is done. The condition of the soil underlying the upper stratum on this street must be frightful. The liquid filth is not all, or nearly all, dried up by the sun, or absorbed into the surrounding atmosphere. A great part of it permeates the soil; saturates it for a considerable depth. Dangerous germs of disease are bred, fostered, set free to do their work of evil. There can be no gainsaying the fact that these inhuman conditions have their effect upon public health. Flagrant violations of the commonest rules of hygiene, not to mention public decency, carry their own punishment. The city authorities are responsible for the protection of public health, and in tolerating for an hour the noisome "midden" for it is nothing else, on the main street of this city they are assuming grave responsibilities. There is something rotten in the state" when month after month, year after year, so gross a blemish upon the city's reputation, and so grave a menace to public health, is allowed to exist. Ald. Anton Henderson, who was lately elected to the council board, has here an opportunity to render the city a benefit of a most substantial kind. Ald. Henderson is interested in the Victoria Transfer Company, and it is a fact that the carriages of that company compose the majority of those that daily stand on Government street. To be instrumental in sweeping away this nuisance calls for great public spirit, magnanimity and a willingness to make secondary in importance private to public interest. What a chance for Ald. Henderson. It is said that the smaller municipalities should, in so far as circumstances warrant, follow the example of the larger in matters concerning the proper management of the city. This same cab stand nuisance has engaged the attention of the corporations of the best governed cities in the world—Birmingham and Glasgow for example. In these towns the hacks and cabs are relegated to some street near the great thoroughfares, but not so near as to interfere in the slightest degree with general traffic. The spot where they stand is paved with square granite blocks, the cleaning of which takes place regularly every day, and is an easy matter. Everybody knows where the cab stand is, and there is no difficulty in obtaining a carriage.

The Bradford Courier says that Toronto is the worst governed city municipality in Canada. Possibly, but the Bradford scribe has no authority to speak for British Columbia cities. Discussing the proposed changes in the department of marine and fisheries, the British Columbia Commercial Journal concludes by saying: "British Columbia has had too much Tupper, too

much Smith and too much Wilnot, and the fervent prayer of all its people is: 'From all such, good Lord deliver us!' It scarcely need be said that the marine and fisheries people must pay more attention to the requirements of this province than has been their custom."

In the divisions on the repeal of the Sherman act every member of the United States House of Representatives took part. All of them voted in some of the divisions. The House consists, when full, of 356 members. There are 354 vacancies, by death. The whole 354 members were present. The largest number to vote in any one division was 352. This beats the record.

The Hamilton Spectator refers to the Irish village at the World's Fair as an "ostentatious anti-British aggregation of Fenians and Clan-na-Gael cut-throats." The Spectator is not a humorous paper; it is a good Conservative organ, intent on furthering the party's cause. The Governor-General, a Liberal, is one of the "cut-throats."

The official return of the voting in Toronto on the Sunday car question is: For Sunday cars, 13,128; against Sunday cars, 14,101. The majority of 973 in a city like Toronto is a very narrow one. It is lamentable to learn that there are so many sinners in Toronto.

The Central Trades and Labor Council of Montreal recently voted on the future of Canada. None voted for Imperial Federation; seven voted for the maintenance of the statu quo; only four for annexation, and all the rest for independence.

ENCOURAGING RESULTS.

An Expert Speaks About Harvest and Hop Possibilities.

Professor Saunders, superintendent of the Dominion Experimental Farms, was in town yesterday accompanied by Mrs. Saunders. They returned to Vancouver last evening, it being Professor Saunders' intention to visit the hop fields of Washington State and observe the process of culture and the manner of gathering and shipping the product.

In an interview with a representative of the Times yesterday afternoon, Professor Saunders said he had come through from Ottawa by easy stages, visiting the farming districts of the Northwest and Manitoba. The experimental farms at Brandon, Edmonton and Calgary were found in capital condition, the crops being excellent in every respect. Everything throughout the great Canadian wheat belt was looking well. The grain had not suffered from the dry weather. The hay crop was very good in Manitoba, but still better in the Territories. One effect of the drought was that the hot wind had made the grain kernel rather smaller throughout Manitoba; this was not so noticeable in the Territories. No such effect had been produced at Edmonton, where everything promised a good yield. Aside from these small points, the general appearance of the country was very encouraging, both in Manitoba and the Northwest—in fact, the best outlook in several years. So much of the grain has been cut that the crop is practically safe; harvesting is almost over. There had been two days' frost, but this was not disastrous in its results. The railway companies had provided ample transportation facilities, and there is now plenty of accommodation for the storage of grain in the many elevators lately erected, so that there will be no difficulty in handling this year's crop.

After leaving Calgary Professor Saunders visited Agassiz, and found everything there blooming. A most interesting experiment in hop cultivation has been made at Agassiz. Two hop yards, comprising five acres of some of the best land on the farm, have been set apart for the raising of hops, and Professor Saunders said the crop was the finest he had seen anywhere. The experiment showed the great possibilities for developing this hop culture. He thought that when the people of British Columbia fully realized the importance of this industry the province could soon outstrip any competitor, because soil, climate, and other conditions were perfectly adapted to it. The average yield from a hop patch in the province was astonishing; 1,000 to 1,200 pounds an acre was not at all extravagant. Of course the culture of hops requires patient care, intelligent work and some experience to achieve the best results, but no more than any cereal crop requires. Professor Saunders was confident that hop growing was destined to become one of British Columbia's important industries, and with a great field for export thrown open by the new line to the Antipodes and the facilities of transport to the Orient there could be no doubt that the hop grower had every circumstance to encourage him in his endeavors. Professor Saunders will remain some time among the great hop fields of Washington and collect data which will be of use in fostering the industry in Canada.

Several very interesting individual or private experiments, if it is not too late now to so describe them, have been made in hop growing in the province. One gentleman whose ranch is at Aldergrove, on the Fraser, secured wonderful results, and made enough hard cash out of the "experiment" to prove to him that he was on the right track. Over and above the financial result, there was the gratifying assurance, sent from the eastern consumers, that the hops were the finest they had ever used.

What no Fellow Can Find Out. Four men may eat green fruit with impunity, but a fifth may try the experiment and an hour or so later be tied up in knots with cramps and dysentery. Who the fifth man will be is one of those things no fellow can find out, and consequently all should take time by the forelock and prepare for such an attack by keeping on hand a bottle of Perry Davis' Pain-Expeller, which is a safe, quick and infallible cure for diarrhoea, cholera, cramps, or indeed, any disorder of the stomach. This excellent medicine can be bought at any reputable drug store. 25 cents will purchase the Big Bottle, New Size.

VERNON VIEWS.

The Sale of the Commonage—The Farmers a Want Mill—High Land Rent.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Vernon, B. C., Sept. 6.—Residents of Okanagan are not unmindful of your efforts to have the commonage near Vernon thrown open to settlement, but it seems now that the movement is doomed to failure. The government announces its sale by public auction on 12th prox., in 40-acre tracts, to the highest bidder. As no requirements of settlement or improvement are demanded, it is safe to predict that every choice tract will be bought up by non-residents and the balance not sold at all. How this will injure the "public benefit" (as definitely promised by Mr. Vernon) we are at a loss to determine. Extensive tracts in the interior are reserved from sale, and as these include some of the best grazing land we can only imagine that the whole scheme is in the interest of capitalists and stockmen. It will be interesting to note how the government will be fully informed—by its officials and government friends on the coast obtain rumors of purchasers pretty near the head of the government coming up to bid therefor. In view of Premier Davie's remark (Times, Sept. 1st, page 14) that "land monopoly was the curse of the west and his government was determined to do away with the evil" by "taxing the monopolist out of existence," we must infer that the Premier and Commissioner of Lands and Works do not pull together by any means.

Mr. Price Ellison is busy threshing and hauling his grain to Enderby mill. The yield is about the average, with slightly increased acreage, but the price, \$16 per ton, is discouraging. It is a certainty that the farmers will put up a grist mill at Vernon in time for next year's crops, as it will be a paying investment and will keep the immense sums now paid out for flour and feed at home, instead of in the pockets of a non-resident firm as now. The project was agitated last spring, but action was deferred until too late this year; the dissatisfaction even at last year's price of \$24 being a cause of ill-feeling between grower and miller. A site and power is offered and a bonus from the city council assured.

Owing to dissensions among the officials of the agricultural society—about which an unsavory scandal is about to be ventilated—no show will be held this year in the Okanagan. The race meeting, however, will be held the first week in October, over \$700 already being subscribed for prizes. Several of Calgary's flyers will be present, as well as from Kamloops, Nicola and the south. Posters will shortly be out.

Vernon's "knickerbocker" club is likely to die a-borning. The large building erected as its quarters, in rear of the government house, has not been taken over from the contractor; it is suggested that the caravanserai be used as a hospital. Messrs. Stuart & Harber, the founders of the Vernon News, will shortly re-enter the publishing field. Mr. Stuart being now on route from the old country where he has spent the last 12 months recuperating. The job printing business of W. J. Harber at Vernon will be merged in the new concern.

San Francisco, Sept. 5.—John Austin, postmaster at Agua Caliente, Sonoma county, was arrested to-day for opening other persons' letters, and also detaining them in his office instead of delivering when called for by owners.

New York, Sept. 5.—A special from Washington to the Daily American says that the president will ask congress to authorize the coinage of silver billion in the treasury. This amounts to \$22,000,000. The coinage of this would be sufficient to make good the deficit that now threatens the treasury.

Rodding, Cal., Sept. 6.—Quite a heavy shock of earthquake was felt here this morning about 8:15. It lasted about 4 seconds. The vibration was east and west.

Chicago, Sept. 6.—Cornelius Vanderhill's two sons arrived last night to spend a week at the fair. During their stay here they will live in their private car.

New York, Sept. 6.—Judge Lacombe's circuit court this morning decided that five Chinamen who recently arrived from Havana, but who had been detained by immigration officers, are entitled to land. The Chinamen claim to be merchants.

Washington, Sept. 5.—Germany's first ambassador to the United States, Baron von Sauerma Jeltzsch, presented his credentials to the president yesterday. The ambassador was accompanied by the secretary of the German embassy, Baron Kettler. The two diplomats were resplendent in gold lace and both carried swords.

AMERICAN NEWS NOTES

Daily Chronicle of Events in The Great Republic.

Tionesta, Penn., Sept. 6.—The second annual reunion of ex-prisoners who have been rescued by the Keeley treatment was inaugurated here to-day with a monster basket picnic, the participants being graduates from all parts of this state. The reunion of the national organization will be held in Chicago next week and most of the delegates to the present gathering will also represent their local clubs in the World's Fair city.

St. Louis, Mo., Sept. 6.—The tenth annual St. Louis exposition was opened to-day with impressive ceremonies and will continue until October 21. The present exhibition is the most elaborate and extensive that has been held since the series was inaugurated, and in connection with the illuminations and other attractions of the exposition, the association is expected to be no mean rival of the World's Fair.

Laporte, Ind., Sept. 6.—Bishop Noyes to-day convened the annual meeting of the Northwest Indiana conference of the Methodist church. Besides the transaction of routine business, the gathering will be addressed by many speakers of national reputation, and plans will be laid for an energetic campaign of home missionary work during the coming year. Among the celebrities already present are Chaplain McCabe and Dr. Payne of New York, Dr. Spencer of Philadelphia, J. C. Hartzel of Cincinnati and D. H. Moore, editor of the Western Christian Advocate.

Chicago, Sept. 6.—The annual competitive literary and musical festival of the Welsh race, known as the Eldested festival, was opened to-day in Festival hall, and will continue for four days. A short business session was held yesterday. The first competitions took place this morning, and were participated in by the London Cyro-Torian Society, the Grand Bardic Order of Great Britain, and the National Eldested Association.

San Francisco, Sept. 5.—Claus Spreckels starts east to-morrow, first going to Chicago and thence to Washington city. In an interview to-day he states that he intends to do all he can in Washington city against annexation at present. He is in favor of a protectorate which might ultimately lead to annexation.

Jersey City, Sept. 5.—Bacteriological examination having proved that Mrs. Josephine Smith did not die of Asiatic cholera, Crowe's case stands the only one so far known in the city. The quarantine was raised at midnight. No new suspects or developments. It is unknown where Crowe contracted his fatal attack, but the disease is genuine.

San Francisco, Sept. 5.—The bark Colusa, sugar laden from Kahului, is now out 41 days and is 20 days overdue. Her cargo is worth \$200,000. There is considerable uneasiness about her non-appearance.

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General Dispatches.

San Francisco, Sept. 5.—The Pacific Mail Company's steamer Barroco, commenced discharging her cargo of coal yesterday. The cause of the recent explosion will probably be revealed to-day. Some say it was dynamite, others that coal gas was the cause.

Washington, Sept. 5.—The treasury department yesterday purchased 150,000 ounces of silver for the counter offer was 75.50. The purchases thus far for this month amount to 487,000 ounces.

San Francisco, Sept. 5.—The new cruiser Olympia, on her official trip around the bay, has developed a speed exceeding 20 knots, and Captain Goodhill, who commands her, expects her to break the 21-knot record of the cruise of New York when the official trial takes place.

Queenstown, Sept. 5.—The United States training ship Monongahela arrived to-day, all well. She will proceed to Cadiz on Sept. 11th. The flagship Chicago, of the American European squadron, sailed for Havre this morning from Southampton.

New York, Sept. 5.—Stocks opened irregularly; part of the list was a fraction higher, others lower to a similar extent. Coal cargo gas was especially weak, 1.5-8 lower.

Cowichan and Salt Spring Island Agricultural Society

Annual Exhibition

Will be held in the Society's Grounds.

AT DUNCAN'S

ON—

SATURDAY, September 23, 1893

For the Display of Agricultural Produce, Stock, Etc., Etc.

W. H. ELKINGTON, ALEX. BLYTH, President. Secretary.

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AMERICAN

Opening of the Medical Congress

PRESIDENT CLEVELAND

Received by the Board of

Many Stand Up to Him—He Looks

That Story About Only a Tooth-Pain

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