

A CRITICAL TIME.

Upon the result of the election in New Westminster depends the fate of the present government of British Columbia. If Mr. Brown be defeated Mr. Dunsinuir might as well resign without loss of time, for the action of the electors of the Royal City in such an event would crystallize into solidly the "convictions" of certain members of the House whose political predilections are rather unstable at the present time. Even a victory tomorrow would not lift the administration completely from the troubled waters in which it finds itself, but it would justify it in retaining the reins of power, choosing a Minister of Mines and meeting the House. With all the loose fish gathered into its net it might survive until the expiration of its allotted span. There always has been a sufficient number of "independent" votes in the British Columbia Legislature to hold the balance of power. As long as such conditions obtain there will be political uncertainty, and we believe all who believe in the maintenance of "principle" in our public men and stability in the governments which they support or oppose will agree with us that there will never be strong, progressive and honest government until the "loose fish" now swimming in our political waters are landed and assimilated by one side or the other in the name of one or the other of the great parties which at present rule the Dominion and the other provinces. We read much in so-called independent newspapers of the great wrongs that are perpetrated in the name of party. There is no such thing as an independent newspaper. A newspaper cannot exist without those responsible for its existence taking an interest in the affairs of the world generally and of its own country particularly. It cannot publish the news from day to day without having opinions any more than an intelligent man can go through life with his mind a complete blank. Even the London Times, which claims to be independent, is no more so than the Victoria Times. It has had its opinions ever since it became the fashion for newspapers to comment on public affairs. We hold that the evils which follow in the train of the party politician are insignificant in comparison with what British Columbia has suffered through the reign of the personal politicians who have ruled her for their own aggrandizement for many years. Any change which would insure continuity, progress and stability would be welcomed in the room and stead of the uncertainty and pettiness of the past.

The Times has not now, and never had, much sympathy with Mr. McBride. The ex-Minister of Mines was willing to swallow the pro-C. P. R. policy of Mr. Dunsinuir as long as he thought there was a chance of the government being converted into a Conservative one "pure" and "simple." He knew of the alliance with the opposition for the purpose of circumventing the designs of the "kickers." He was willing to accept of the services of Mr. Brown to force a policy through the House which the sentiment of the country was unmistakably opposed to; but he could not think of sitting down alongside of the member for New Westminster as one of his colleagues. His squeamishness, we confess, seems a trifle "far-fetched" and unreasonable. Perhaps now that his schemes to convert the government into a machine Mr. Brown has been defeated, Richard would be willing to become the head of a composite administration, Tory, Grit and Labor. That is a perfectly legitimate ambition upon the part of a Canadian public man, but it would have looked better if Mr. McBride had pursued a straight course in his career of conquest. He should have objected to the "unholy" alliance at the right time. He was told by his chief of it and he is too shrewd to have supposed that some of the opposition at least were not to be rewarded for their invaluable services at a critical time.

It would have been better for the reputation of Mr. Brown if he had been perfectly straightforward about the negotiations antecedent to his entry into the cabinet. It may be literally correct that he had no communication with the Premier. It was perfectly obvious at the last session of the House that the opposition to the general policy of the government did not proceed from the opposition side of the House. The thunders of McInnes, the cutting criticism which Mr. Martin has at all times at command and the denunciations characteristic of the member for New Westminster when he is in earnest in his opposition, were not all stilled without some sort of an understanding. The public cannot be gulled upon a point of that kind. It would be better for all concerned to be honest upon that point now that some of the events which were anticipated have transpired.

THE NEW POLICY.

The Colonist intimates this morning that the government has in process of incubation a "strong policy," embracing the construction of railways upon a plan which cannot but be approved by the people, the settlement of the agricultural lands, and retrenchment. All the parties and all governments which have appeared for support in British Columbia for the last dozen years have had programmes of the same character, but we are not much further ahead. The railways that have been built have unquestionably opened up the country and aided materially in the substantial growth which the population has shown; but we are bearing heavy interest charges on these accounts, while all the profits are falling

into the coffers of those who operate the roads. A policy which would stimulate railway building without adding unduly to our burdens would indeed be welcome. The government might as well understand, however, that there is a suspicion that the object it had in view when it promulgated its original railway policy was to prevent railway building rather than encourage activity in that line. This suspicion has received confirmation by the lack of results from the aforesaid original railway policy. The present public knows that monopoly cannot be perpetuated forever; that its successors will right whatever wrongs we may be compelled to endure because of the selfishness of corporations which have grown rich through the generosity of the Canadian people; but it must be apparent to the Premier that there is dissatisfaction in the country on account of the present state of affairs among people who would like to see British Columbia attain to some measure of the greatness which awaits her before they pass from the scene forever. The transportation business of the province, then, cannot be preserved for any length of time for one or two combinations of capital. Why not be guided by the advice of those who abhor monopoly, encourage competition and let the community profit by whatever benefits may be derived therefrom? As long as conditions remain as they are at present, as long as there are unmistakable signs that the brains at the command of a certain corporation are shaping the transportation policy of the government of British Columbia, there will be unrest and instability.

As to retrenchment, the public have heard propositions of that kind discussed so often that there will be a certain amount of incredulity manifested. The difficulties in the way are great. The fixed charges are heavy. The development of the province will increase the revenue and in that way only can a balance between revenue and expenditure be reached. Whoever possible municipalities should be made self-governing and responsible for their own local affairs. Thus will they learn the value of economy. The present system is cumbersome and wasteful. It should be curtailed to the utmost extent possible.

The way to encourage farmers to take up and work lands in British Columbia is to place them in communication with the markets of the mining regions—the best in the world. As long as the transportation charges eat up all the profits this important industry will languish. If some of the best lands available for the agriculturist, handed over by previous governments to men who now hold them at extravagant values for speculative purposes, could be placed upon the market at reasonable figures, another evil which has a very detrimental effect upon the progress of British Columbia would be remedied. There is a white ripe harvest awaiting the sickle of the honest reformer in this province.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT'S POLICY.

President Roosevelt has retained all the advisers of his predecessor in his cabinet and has announced that he will work strenuously to carry to fruition the policy of Mr. McKinley. The task which the new ruler chiefly has in view is to check the growing foreign hostility which has become so pronounced of late and which will surely result in action unless the American policy of conciliation be put promptly in force. Republican papers like the Seattle Post-Intelligencer see no cause for the alarm or necessity for haste in this matter. The nation is prosperous, it seems to argue, why not render it more independent of a hostile world rather than by action admit that threats of tariff reprisals have brought it to its knees? Mr. McKinley plainly told the people before he passed away that no nation could keep on forever selling a great deal to and buying little from its foreign customers. Experts have their theories about the ebb and flow of trade, but the late President had not these theories in mind when he spoke. He was probably thinking of the hard facts of German hostility, shared by all business Europe except Great Britain. Even if the theories of exchange discussed so learnedly by men who have no practical knowledge of business, we correct, trade which is not reciprocal will in the end arouse the hostility of the party which appears to be getting the short end of the bargain. Great Britain and her colonies by from the United States more than all the rest of the world put together. They take the goods not because existence would not be possible without them, but because they are a convenience, the apparent discrepancy between what is bought and what is sold being adjusted satisfactorily by the theorists through the cost of carriage, interest, insurance and various other ways which need not be entered into at the present time.

The question of interest to the best customers of the United States at this time when the party of the trade wars has been reached if the Republican party will let the President and his advisers have their way, is where will they come in under the proposed reciprocity arrangements? There are no duties on American goods entering Great Britain, while in Canada the tariff is so arranged that we buy from our neighbors more than three times as much as we sell. In Europe, which is hostile and is comparatively an insignificant customer of the United States, by forcing a treaty to be permitted to enter the markets of the republic under more favorable conditions than the United Kingdom and her colonies? If so, the advantages would appear in this connection to be on the side of the protectionists, for their policy

has not only brought the United States to an understanding of the error of its ways, but has forced open the long-closed gates. Probably the most-favored nation clauses of treaties will prevent discrimination of the character which seems to be possible and will avoid an overturning of political traditions which would be little short of revolutionary. United States goods cannot get more favored treatment in British markets than they receive at the present time, therefore there is no necessity for the negotiation of reciprocity treaties as far as the republic is concerned. To avoid retaliation preferential arrangements may be entered into with Germany, Russia, France, Austria and Italy, and the products of these countries, which may still continue to levy duties of a considerable amount upon American goods, will enter the United States upon more favorable terms than the wares of British merchants and manufacturers, although the government of the United Kingdom sees fit to open its ports to almost everything Americans have to sell. That would be an anomalous state of affairs.

It is extremely unlikely that the policy of the President will be carried out to the letter, resulting in such a culmination as we have depicted. But it is a possibility. Like Blaine, Roosevelt has his reciprocal eye on South America. The Latin-Americans are not a very industrious people, and their competition will not seriously inconvenience their northern neighbors. Canadians are different and must be kept at a proper distance. We doubt very much if the Republican party, behind which the trusts are marshaled, would result in the practical promotion of trade. The steel trust would be shaken to its foundations if it were brought into competition with the manufacturers of Great Britain and Germany. It will probably be found that the views of the Republican newspapers will prevail and that the negotiation of treaties acceptable to the United States Senate will be impossible.

ANARCHISTS AND PLOTTERS.

What shall we do with the anarchists? is the chief subject of discussion in the United States just now. While reproaching the deed of the wretch who compassed the death of President McKinley, it may be as well to point out that these anarchists will be found very slippery gentlemen to deal with. It is also a fact that they have received encouragement in the United States which has always been incomprehensible and that it is possible the results of that encouragement may be yet more deplorable. It is particularly noticeable that those who hold the same views as Most, Goldman and Czizogors are not at all abashed at the fruits of their teachings. Algeid, who was elected Governor of Ohio and pardoned some of the most desperate criminals in the state prison, including men connected with the Haymarket tragedy in Chicago, boldly proclaims that the republic is reaping what it has sown and that more victims must fall before the cause of the people triumphs. His sayings and the utterances of other incendiaries are published in the papers and spread broadcast over the country. These people's doctrines cannot be suppressed nor can the anarchists be rounded up and deported. It may be possible to deal with those who are violent in their utterances, but they are not the ones who do the actual mischief. They are the inciters to violence. Even if they be suppressed others will rise up and take their places and the printing press is at the service of all who have dollars to spend. Our neighbors have been indifferent to, if they have not actually encouraged, plotters against the rulers and the peace of other nations for a great many years, and it looks as though they were about to check the growing foreign hostility which has become so pronounced of late and which will surely result in action unless the American policy of conciliation be put promptly in force. Republican papers like the Seattle Post-Intelligencer see no cause for the alarm or necessity for haste in this matter. The nation is prosperous, it seems to argue, why not render it more independent of a hostile world rather than by action admit that threats of tariff reprisals have brought it to its knees? Mr. McKinley plainly told the people before he passed away that no nation could keep on forever selling a great deal to and buying little from its foreign customers. Experts have their theories about the ebb and flow of trade, but the late President had not these theories in mind when he spoke. He was probably thinking of the hard facts of German hostility, shared by all business Europe except Great Britain. Even if the theories of exchange discussed so learnedly by men who have no practical knowledge of business, we correct, trade which is not reciprocal will in the end arouse the hostility of the party which appears to be getting the short end of the bargain. Great Britain and her colonies by from the United States more than all the rest of the world put together. They take the goods not because existence would not be possible without them, but because they are a convenience, the apparent discrepancy between what is bought and what is sold being adjusted satisfactorily by the theorists through the cost of carriage, interest, insurance and various other ways which need not be entered into at the present time.

The men and women who in Europe have had their hearts filled with venom towards all form of government by injustice and oppression find but little difference when they land in the United States. The gulf between the rich and the poor is even greater there than in Europe, and the struggle for a livelihood is keener than in countries where the stream of life flows along in greater placidity. The wages are better, it is true, and the standard of living higher, but these things induce immigration and render the competition for work keener. The whole combination plays into the hands of the capitalist whose products are protected in the home markets. It grinds the faces of his workmen and extracts dividends upon many times the amount of capital actually invested from the consumers who must take his wares and none other. Millionaires are turned out by the score every year. They reap where they have not sowed. By the

legitimate fruits of their own industry they could never have attained to such affluence in the course of one natural life. They have appropriated the fruits of the labors of other men and profited illegitimately from the exploitation of the natural resources of the country. Families in Great Britain which have been in one line of business for generations have not been able to lay by such stores of wealth as men have done in the United States in a few short years. It is not possible for a British manufacturer to multiply his capital invested by two or three with a stroke of his pen and tell his managers that dividends on the increased amount must be extracted from consumers of and workers who create the goods. The foundations of anarchy on this continent are laid upon the United States fiscal system. In this young, free and richly endowed country there should be no place for such pernicious teachings.

Conservatives in the East are in a deep state of perturbation over the possibilities of the redistribution measure which will be introduced by the government before another general election. They are afraid Ontario will be gerrymandered. Viewed from the present position of the constituencies, any measure, no matter how fair, will look like a gerrymander in Tory eyes. They stand to lose a great deal if the present arbitrary boundaries be eliminated and the natural divisions be restored as far as possible. There is one county which now returns four members to the House. As a whole it is Liberal in sentiment by more than a thousand votes. Yet it elects three Conservatives and one Liberal. It is all a matter of scientific arrangement. The political map of that country is unlike anything that was ever before drawn by a skilled partisan. There are many other constituencies which have been similarly treated. The whole province was fixed so as to return the maximum of Tories with a minimum of Tory vote. It is of the utmost importance that the political opinions of all sections of the country should be faithfully represented in the House of Commons. The new redistribution bill will effect that object. The Tory senators will have no excuse for interfering this time. For these reasons our opposition friends are terribly disquieted.

The Duke and Duchess of York have commenced their pilgrimage across the continent and the address reader has attained his voice to the occasion. We do not like to interfere with his felicity of mind, but we consider it our duty to point out that the man to whom the address is addressed has already read it and has his reply stored away in the recesses of his mind. The people to whom it would be read cannot hear the words of the reader even if they were worth listening to. For these reasons we consider the suggestion of a contemporary that all addresses should be taken as read worthy of the most serious consideration. Of course our advice will not be heeded.

President Roosevelt thinks he can guard his own person. He will have no bodyguard. Teddy is a bold chap. Besides the anarchists are probably satisfied now that the foundations of the republic cannot be removed by the sacrifice of individuals. Government is of the people, who are not in a gentle mood at present and are disposed to deal summarily with those who so much as whisper the doctrines of anarchy.

The Glasgow exhibition paid off all its liabilities some time ago and has already accumulated quite a tidy sum to help the next show on its way. They have a knack of making things pay their way in the Scottish metropolis, which says a great many things for the business shrewdness of the people. The cost of running an exhibition of such dimensions in America would exceed the receipts by millions.

Sir Charles Tupper never felt the real bitterness of defeat until he read of Sir Wilfrid Laurier accompanying the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall across the continent and acting as escort on public occasions to Her Royal Highness.

DAIRY INSTRUCTOR'S TOUR.

Outline of Points to Be Included in Trip of Experts Through Province.

The Dominion dairy commissioner, J. A. Riddick, arrived from the Mainland last night, coming here for the purpose of arranging for a tour of central points of the province, spending a short time at each place lecturing and giving instructions to those anxious to learn how to make butter. Mr. Riddick, on his former visit to British Columbia, gave an impetus to dairying throughout the province by establishing creameries and delivering several lectures. This time, however, he brings with him a staff of competent teachers who will make a systematic tour of the province, staying for a week or so at each point teaching the art of making butter and lecturing on dairy matters.

This morning he conferred with J. R. Anderson, deputy minister of agriculture, and together they formulated the following programme for the proposed tour: The instructors will visit the following points in the city hall from Monday, Sept. 23rd, to Friday, 27th. On Saturday, the 28th, they will attend the Spanish fair and will be brief in their remarks. The Comox will be the next point at which a stop will be made. At the Agricultural hall a public meeting will be held at 2 p. m. Saturday, October 5th. Classes of instruction will begin on Monday, October 7th, and end on Saturday, October 12th. In the city hall, New Westminster, on Saturday, October 19th, a public meeting will be held at 2 p. m. All those interested in dairy matters are invited. Classes of instruction will be conducted from Wednesday, 17th of October, until Wednesday, 27th. On Saturday, October 6th, in the Agri-

culture hall, Enderby, a public meeting will be held, at which addresses will be given. The meeting will open at 2 p. m. in the afternoon. Classes of instruction will be held from Monday, October 28th, to Saturday, November 2nd. This will be the last point to be taken in by the instructors in their tour.

It may be stated that these points were chosen as they are considered to be the most central of the province. The different places which will be visited are widely separated, and although in some cases a little travelling might have to be done to reach the points and some inconvenience experienced in this way by those wishing to attend the classes, yet it was thought absolutely necessary to do this in order to cover the whole of the ground.

The work, while under the superintendence of the commissioner, Mr. Riddick, will be in charge of J. E. Hopkins, who has had a large amount of experience in dairy work in all its branches. He will be assisted by C. W. McPherson, butter maker, and a graduate of Guelph dairy school.

The hours for instruction will be: Mornings, 9:30 to 12; afternoons, 2 to 4:30. A full equipment of apparatus, including cream separators, milk testers, churns, butterworkers, etc., was brought out from the East by the party of dairymen, and will be used in giving instructions. Students will be expected to do practical work under the direction of the instructors.

Milk will be supplied, and although any person may attend for any number of days, it is hoped that all will remain for the full course. The superintendent will give short addresses every day before the instruction commences.

Arrangements will be made for the accommodation of spectators during each afternoon of each course. As these classes are being held under the provincial department of agriculture and the local Farmers' Institute, any further information which may be required can be obtained by communicating with J. R. Anderson, deputy minister of agriculture.

Mr. Riddick while here will aid in judging the dairy products at the New Westminster exhibition, while J. E. Hopkins, his assistant, will judge at the Victoria show.

Many birds which fly to perfection, swallows, for instance, have all their large bones solid.

What for? If you ask her she will tell you she doesn't know. She just feels nervous, that's all. A man is apt to have very little sympathy with this condition in his wife. He can't see any earthly reason why she should cry. She has plenty to eat, plenty to wear, and he does everything he can, he thinks, to make her happy; and in spite of that, she sits down and cries softly to herself, apparently without any cause or reason. But there is a cause, and that cause is some disorder or disease of the delicate womanly organism. Unhealthy drains have taken away the vital force. Inflammation is fretting the nerves of the whole body. If women did but understand the intimate relation of the general health to the local health of the delicate womanly organs, they would realize that the quick way to establish the general health is to cure the local disorders. Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription dries the drains that enfeeble women, heals inflammation and ulceration and cures female weakness. It is a medicine that can absolutely be relied upon to make weak women strong and sick women well. It contains no alcohol, and is entirely free from opium, cocaine and all other narcotics.

Women suffering from disease in chronic form are invited to consult Dr. Pierce, by letter, free of charge. Dr. Pierce, assisted by his staff of nearly a score of physicians, has in a little over thirty years treated and cured more than half a million sick and ailing women. All correspondence is strictly private and absolutely confidential. Address Dr. R. V. Pierce, 663 Main Street, Buffalo, N. Y.

COULD SCARCELY WALK. "For the sake of poor, suffering women, I feel it my duty to inform you of the great benefit your medicine has given me," writes Mrs. C. E. Bowles, of Watts, Fredrick Co., N.C. "I was in a miserable condition when I wrote to you. I had a terrible disease so bad I could scarcely walk and suffered such dreadful misery I hoped to be relieved by death. You wrote to me to take your 'Favorite Prescription' and I have taken eleven bottles of it, and two of your Pleasant Pellets. I am entirely well and feel like a new woman. I feel thankful to God and to Doctor Pierce for his kindness and mercy. I have a fine, big boy, two months old and never got along as well in my life. I can't praise your medicines enough."

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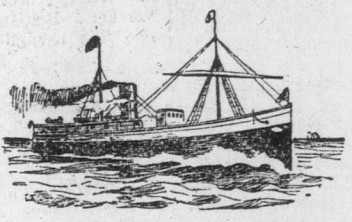
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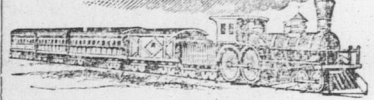
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