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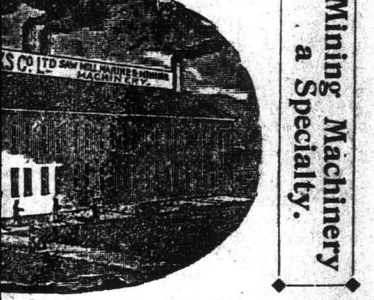
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BRITISH CONFERENCE.

Aid Proposed for Voluntary Schools—Christians and Mohammedans Fighting in Crete.

Sugar Syndicate in Germany—Trouble in Uruguay—Italian Possessions in Africa.

LONDON, Feb. 1.—Hon. Mr. Chamberlain replying in the House of Commons to Mr. J. F. Hogan, anti-Parnellite, promised to consider a suggestion to profit by the presence in Great Britain of the Colonial premiers upon the occasion of the celebration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

The French chamber of deputies has adopted the article of the sugar bill fixing a surtax of five francs on sugar refined from raw sugar and ten francs on refined sugar.

Three Uruguayan generals have been imprisoned for attending a meeting hostile to the government.

Considerable uneasiness has been caused in St. Petersburg by telegram received from the Admiralty to the effect that forty English warships, including eleven of the first-class battleships, are hovering between Belek bay and the Dardanelles.

The Journal de Bruxelles officially denies the reported engagement of Princess Louise, daughter of King Leopold of Belgium and wife of Prince Philippe of Sax-Coburg and Gotha, brother of Prince Ferdinand, with the daughter of an Austrian captain of Hussars.

Sir Thomas Spencer Wells, Bart., M.D., is dead. Sir Thomas Spencer Wells was the eldest son of late Mr. Well, of St. Albans, Herefordshire.

After adopting today the article of the sugar bill fixing a surtax on sugar imports, the French chamber of deputies adopted a clause authorizing the government to abolish the surtax when other foreign countries agree to arrange for a similar reduction or abolition of the bonuses paid on sugar production.

A dispatch to the Times from Athens confirms the reports of conflict between Christians and Mohammedans in the Heraklion district of Crete.

The Paris correspondent of the Standard learns from private sources that great alarm is felt in Constantinople in consequence of the approaching Ramadan, the great annual feast of the Mohammedans.

The result of the election held in far-farshire, Scotland, on Saturday for member of parliament to succeed Mr. J. M. White, Liberal, who recently resigned his seat, was the election of Capt. Thomas Bayard, the U. S. ambassador, confined to his home with a severe cold.

The Rome correspondent of the Daily News says that as a result of negotiations with England for the cessation of Italian possessions in northeastern Africa to Egypt it has been agreed that Italy is to temporarily retain Kasasala.

Thirty representatives of 161 sugar factories, in a convention held in Berlin, have formed a trust, to be known as the German Sugar Syndicate.

ARBITRATION TREATY.

Comments of the English Newspapers on the Prospects of Its Adoption.

Disappointment Expected in View of McKinley's Silence and the Senate's Attitude.

LONDON, Feb. 2.—Commenting editorially upon the Anglo-American arbitration treaty and the prospects of its adoption by the senate of the United States, the Times this morning says: "It would not be civil to associate ourselves with the vigorous language employed by the New York papers with reference to the treaty, as amended by the foreign affairs committee of the senate of the United States, but few Englishmen, however, will care to dissent from the substance of their remarks. Our faith in the treaty has been sorely tried of late years, and should they succeed in replacing this treaty by an empty sham it would be all the more to be regretted because it would retard the general adoption throughout the world of the principle of arbitration."

WASHINGTON, Feb. 2.—The treaty between Great Britain and Venezuela for the settlement of the long pending Venezuelan boundary dispute was signed at the state department at 4:30 to-day by Sir Julian Pauncefote, the British ambassador, and Senor Jose Andrade, Venezuelan minister. Notice was received by cable this morning from London that the privy council had finally confirmed the selections made. The four arbitrators are understood to be Chief Justice Fuller and Justice Brewer of the United States Supreme court, and Lord Hesketh and Sir Richard Henry Collyer.

The fifth arbitrator, in the case will be named by King Oscar of Sweden. By the terms of the treaty the agents of the two governments, Great Britain and Venezuela must deal with the cases at Paris, where the arbitration tribunal will meet within eight months. Three months additional is allowed for the submission of counter cases, so the entire arbitration will probably occupy a year and a half.

THE ALASKAN BOUNDARY.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 1.—The new treaty relative to the Alaskan boundary, was sent to the senate to-day. Several senators said that the Alaska treaty settled none of the real questions at issue, and that it left a large area of unsettled territory. The Globe remarks that this agreement excludes every question of real importance and leaves the treaty meaningless. The most serious question for the senate to pursue would be to declare that the treaty had become worse than useless and decline to ratify it.

INTERNATIONAL MONETARY CONFERENCE.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 30.—By the decisive vote of 46 to 4, the senate yesterday passed the bill for the appointment of commissioners to attend an international monetary conference.

NEWS OF THE DOMINION.

OTTAWA, Feb. 1.—Official opinion is strongly in favor of a new route for the railway on the Hull side of the city.

OTTAWA, Feb. 1.—The official report of the accident on the Intercolonial last week attributes the derailment to the work in which an express car was loaded with seven tons of copper coil just received from England.

OTTAWA, Feb. 1.—An extra of the Canada Gazette was issued to-night, bringing into effect from to-day the cattle quarantine regulations recently agreed to by Hon. Mr. Fisher, minister of agriculture, and the United States authorities at Washington, two or three weeks ago.

WINNIPEG, Feb. 1.—It is thought that twenty men of the Royal Canadian Dragoons stationed here will go to England to participate in the Diamond Jubilee.

HAMILTON, Feb. 1.—The trouble between the Sandford Manufacturing Co. and the garment makers of the city, numbering 3,500, over the proposed cut in rates is growing. A mass meeting of workmen was held to-night and addressed by Edward E. Powell of Pittsburgh, organizer of the Flint Glass "Blowers' Union of the United States and Canada, M. J. Keogh, of Troy, N.Y., organizer of International Iron Molders' Union, A. H. Jury, of Toronto, and others.

WINDSOR, Feb. 1.—The Canadian Typograph Company notified its employees residing in Detroit that in case the alien labor bill becomes law in the United States they must move with their families to Canada or forfeit their positions.

NEWS OF THE PROVINCE.

Mass Meeting at Vancouver Asks for Railroad Connection with the Kootenay Country.

Travel on the C.P.R.—The Automatic Can Factory—Nanaimo's Monthly Statistics.

VANCOUVER, Feb. 1.—The mass meeting of citizens in the market hall on Saturday evening was well attended, and the audience were unanimous upon the subject of the need for a direct road to the Kootenay country.

WESTMINSTER, Feb. 1.—Society Armstrong has recovered from his recent illness, and will, he hopes, be able to attend to the duties of his office in a day or two.

The new buildings of the Automatic Can Factory are nearing completion and a force of men is busy installing the machinery in the main building. The two buildings are each 90 by 200 feet and the wharf is 290 feet by 31 feet wide.

WESTMINSTER, Feb. 2.—The river is now clear of ice and the steamers have resumed their regular trips.

The Sons of England Society will give a dance on Wednesday evening at St. Barnabas hall.

The customs collections for the last month were \$9,947.11. The total imports were \$42,754, and the exports \$97,353.

Mr. E. T. Fletcher died early on Monday of a gripe after an illness of three months. Mr. Fletcher was eighty-one years of age, was born in Canterbury, England, but early in life came to Canada, where he practiced as a land surveyor, and was long employed in the Victoria department of Quebec.

The finding of a corpse in McAlpine's drug store some time ago is still furnishing matter for talk and newspaper correspondence. There is a strong feeling that an inquiry of the fullest nature should be made into the circumstances.

Travel on the C.P.R. is very heavy at present, many passengers leaving every day for interior points.

Mr. Justice Drake has handed down his judgment in the important case of G. D. Scott vs. Parks and Pinchard, which dismisses the plaintiff's action with costs and refuses the injunction asked for.

Ernest H. Roome, of Vancouver, has issued a very neat pocket edition of the British Columbia mining laws for 1896, which was compiled by J. H. Brownlee, C. E.

G. D. Scott, who is largely interested in mines in the province will permanently locate in Victoria next month. Mr. Scott's offices are being fitted up for him on Fort street.

SPREAD EAGLEISM.

Boston, Feb. 1.—A protest against the excessive taxation in Ireland and the adoption of resolutions in favor of having the report of the royal commission on British financial relations carried into effect, were the principal features of a mass-meeting which crowded Faneuil hall here to-night.

At a meeting of the Consolidated Sable Creek Mining Company, held yesterday, it was decided to place another allotment of stock on the market at 10 cents for the purpose of further development work on the properties of the company.

VANCOUVER, Feb. 2.—H.M.S. Imperieuse and Wild Swan will remain a week in port, and the men have been given a 36-hour lay-out. The bargeboats are covering themselves with mud and glory in trying to ride the "dike" on the asphalt.

The Capilano has brought in on her seventh trip 45 tons of ore. An officer of the police force has been suspended for one month for being drunk while on duty. The men have been warned that in future any officer drunk on duty would be summarily dismissed.

Mr. Hardy, of Kamloops, and Mr. Deane, of the Inland Settlement, are in the city. They both predict a big boom for Kamloops in the near future.

Alphonse XIII, the young King of Spain, was born May 17, 1859, not quite six months after the death of his father, Alphonse XII. He is, therefore, in his eleventh year, and according to the constitution will be of age at 16.

ROYAL BAKING POWDER.

Highest of all in Leavening Power.—Latest U.S. Gov't Report ABSOLUTELY PURE

far is of great richness, and the mine itself promises as much as any mine in British Columbia.

The duties collected at the port of Vancouver for January total up \$31,568.67. Imports \$70,568, and exports \$77,715. The duty collected shows a decrease under the same period last year of \$2,083.

There was much and varied business before the council last night. The Midland Sampling and Ore Co. of Cripple Creek, Colorado, and Mr. Evans, of Rhyol, North Wales, both wanted to know what bonus might be expected for a smelter, and Mr. John Clark, of Victoria, wrote desiring a bonus of \$15,000 for building a marine railway, capable of repairing ships of 2,500 tons.

The finance committee of the council, at the request of the Agent-Governor will consider how best to aid the Indian relief fund.

A bill is being passed through the council to enable the borrowing of \$70,000 for new city schools. The vote will be taken on February 27.

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A NEW INSTITUTION.

Proposal to Establish the Victorian Order of Home Helpers—The Dominion Rifle and Artillery Associations.

OTTAWA, Feb. 1.—The Countess of Aberdeen to-night explained to the press representatives her scheme for establishing the Victorian order of Home Helpers.

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