

Australian Naval Board Is Now Very Discontented

Dissent has already involved the Retirement of Three Important Officers—Copper Mine Closing is a Calamity—
Earl Grey's Interesting Trip to Far Off Australia.

Sydney, N. S. W., July 15.—For some time past the Australian Naval Board has been simmering with discontent. Press representatives time after time have had inkblots that things were not quite right with the Naval Board, but the great majority of the Australian public little dreamed that there was anything the matter. Thus when the retirement of Capt. Onslow, R. N., was announced the whole story came out.

It was announced then that the Minister for Defence would reconstruct the Board with new appointments, but the appointments have not been made so far. Australians were told plainly (and we do not mind things in Australia) that the relations between various members of the Board were such that they did not even speak to one another. Of course this could not go on. And even with Capt. Onslow out of the way the matter did not end—on the other hand a deadlock was reached. The secretary of the Board resigned, and the officer in charge of the Naval College did the same.

It must come as a startling piece of news to the outside world that since the arrival of the Australian Navy last October there has been such dissension, involving the retirement of three of the officers of the governing Board. It shows to what a lamentable state of affairs we are drifting in a branch of the defence scheme, of which we had such high ideals. And the Government has been forced to admit that it cannot as yet do anything. Australians are not likely to mind matters, and they will demand that something is done, and in quick time, too. We have thrown out governments for less than this in Australia, and Australians are not likely to wait till a Government makes up its mind what it is going to do, if that period of time is likely to be overlong.

Closing Down the Great Mine.

I saw a report in the London cables the other day stating that it had been decided to close down the Great Cobar Copper Mine in New South Wales. It has been rumored for some time past that such a calamity was likely to happen since the ore was deteriorating and there appeared to be signs of exhaustion of the sulphides. Some years ago when I was at Cobar they were producing one ton of copper from about 40 of ore. I am not sure if they have to treat over 50 of ore to get the ton of copper.

It will be a national calamity if these mines are closed, as the signs in this locality fairly teem with minerals. Of course it is low grade stuff, but mixed mining should be profitable. At present the town of Cobar depends on these mines for its existence, and the closing of them means the death of the town, since all money earned at the mines are expended locally on account of the isolated position of same. This is to be very much regretted, and it is to be hoped that, if all else fails, the Government will move in the matter.

Imported State Governors.

When the proposal to federate was placed before the Australian people for sanction, nine out of every ten who voted for Federation did so in the belief that the office of State Governor would be abolished. But we are still importing governors for our states. The matter has been brought up for discussion at conference time and again. The Government of West Australia, which is intensely Labor, even went so far as to write the Home Government on the matter, and received a reply that until the people of Australia showed by agitation that they did not really want State Governors the condition of affairs would not be altered. The whole matter was again brought up at the Premier's Conference at Melbourne last week.



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and received short shrift at the hands of the delegates.

Only W. Australia was in favor of the abolishing of the post. Thus Governors who are sent here from England may again breathe freely, since they are to have another lease of life. I suppose, however, the day will come when we will do away with the office of State Governor and, like Canada, elect State Governors from our own people. This would be well if we could rely on getting non-party men, but if we get a Labor Party enthusiast as Governor and a Government absolutely pitted against anything in the shape of Labor party legislation, the result would be disastrous.

Earl Grey Leaves Australia.

For some weeks past we have been honored by the presence of Earl Grey, Lady Grey and their daughter. No one can accuse Earl Grey of just peeping in at our city and going off again and reading about the country from a guide book and thus giving his experiences of the country. He came and thoroughly travelled our lands. He peered into everything, took delight in asking questions, gave addresses on knotty matters, and made himself very pleasing in every way. We are pleased he came to us thus, for being extremely democratic we are apt to call a spade a spade, and like others to do the same when they come amongst us.

Earl Grey and his family left us the other day, but before going he unfolded himself and gave us a good idea of what he had seen since he was with us. At which we are very pleased. He did not forget to tell us of our magnificent resources. We are somewhat prone to discount our wealth in this direction since we are on the spot and seriously do not appreciate them to the full extent.

Earl Grey can speak in the Home land when he returns with some authority on Australia for he has been to the very root of the subject. He tackled whole days of hard roughing in the bush. And he candidly told us that we did not realize the amount and variety of wealth waiting to be garnered in our country districts. If he tells the story in England he will do a great service to Australia. He also had something to say regarding the efforts of the Liberals. In Australia we are perhaps too hard on that gentleman. Most of us regard him as a kind of double harrier, and he told us that Earl Grey said is well worth repeating. "Don't be afraid of letting men make money. Give them every opportunity for every £1 they make for themselves, they will make £10 for the state." This is candid, but all the same it is horse sense.

On the whole, Australians are mighty glad that Earl Grey came to see them. What we want here is visitors of his stamp to visit us and point out any shortcomings on our part. We will learn much in this way. And Earl Grey's journey among us will do us more good when he returns home and tells the people of England what he saw here, of our immense natural resources, and the opportunities that the combined efforts of a ton of literature and an army of immigration agents.

Whatever else may be said of West Australia and its Government, there are two matters that will stand to her credit. They are the cheapening of the meat supply and the producing of analyzed milk for the hospitals. I have had some experience of West Australia, and the honest quality of the meat is what it was a land of "sin, shame and sorrow, sore eyes and shikier."

At that time it suffered from the panicky effects of a gold rush, and everybody seemed obsessed with the idea of making money in the quickest possible manner, regardless of the effect it had on the life of people. For that reason living was very dear, while not much regard was paid to the welfare of the child in the cradle.

When the present Labor Government came into power they made a bold attempt to grapple with the situation. Among other things they opened butcher shops. The object of this was not one of profit, but to break up the monopoly that had existed there. Contrary to expectations, the state shops made profits, but they did a greater service to the state and to the people.

They reduced the price of meat down by 2½d to 3d. per pound. These Government shops are to be kept going, not with the intention of running private enterprise out of the business, but as a means of regulating the price.

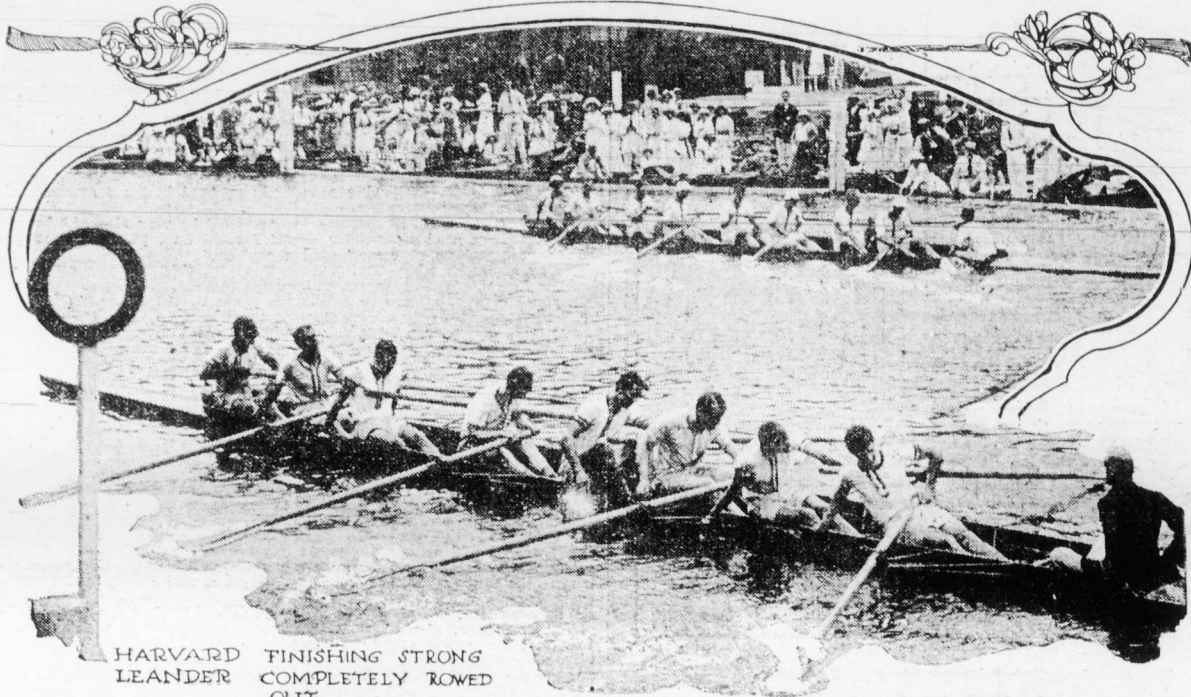
When the Government took a hand in the fresh milk business for the hospitals, founding homes and other like institutions, they bought a dairy farm, have a large herd of cows, grow the feed on the premises, sterilize the milk, and take it by motor to the various institutions. Last year they made a profit of over £1,000 and they had the satisfaction of knowing that the newly-born child received fresh and pure milk. According to the state health officer, many a child's life was saved by this scheme. The price charged for the milk is 12d. per gallon, but it is anticipated that as time goes on it will be supplied at a cheaper rate.

ALWAYS THORN IN FLESH.

Martin a Trouble If He Goes or Stays in Britain.

London, July 15.—Joe Martin, M. P., who proved a thorn in the flesh to his party, will cause further trouble even by quitting the British House of Commons. Basil Peto will ask the Premier whether, in view of Mr. Martin's departure from England, the seat will be declared vacant, and if not, why. Much comment is being made upon the action of the member for East St. Pancras, whose expressed intention is not returning and yet retaining his seat means that his division is disenfranchised, though the member draws a salary at the rate of \$2,000 per year.

How the Harvard Defeated the Leander Crew



Shown above is the first photograph received in this country of Harvard's splendid victory at Henley on the Thames. It shows in the foreground Leander, rowed out, and in the background Harvard, with plenty in hand, cheering the beaten crew.

ITALIAN PEASANT MURDERED SEVEN

Satisfied Old Hatreds, but Killed Others Apparently Without Motive.

Bergamo, Italy, July 15.—A peasant of the village of Carnerata Cornello, Simone Pianetta by name, today killed seven persons, presumably to satisfy old hatred in the case of some of them, and then took refuge in the mountains, where carabinieri are hunting him.

Pianetta appeared in the neighboring village of San Giovanni Bianco armed with a gun. Coming upon the village physician, Dr. Morali, he shot him dead. He proceeded to the house of the parish priest, Father Paleni, burst into a room where the priest was sitting at the bedside of his step-mother, and killed him before the eyes of the sick woman, who is dying from the shock.

Pianetta's next victim was Signor Glodice, the secretary of the local authorities, and he also shot to death Glodice's daughter, Valeria. On leaving Glodice's house, Pianetta proceeded towards the open country and on his way killed two men. He closed his list by shooting a laborer as he was digging in a field.

Not An Old Man Yet.—"Weel, weel," said a Bailie to the Assessor, when a youth was brought up before him for some trifling offense. The best we mauna be over hard on the puir fellow! We were laddies since ourselves, and I suppose I was as big a fule as any o' them when I was young." "And you're not an old man yet, Bailie!" remarked the Assessor blandly.

Adult fruits should never be prepared with a steel knife. The best preparing tools are nickel or silver knives.

WHITE MOB HANGS A NEGRO WOMAN

Crowd Assails Carolina Jail and Drags Out Prisoner Who Beat Girl to Death.

Orangeburg, S. C., July 15.—A mob of white men today took Rosa Carman, a negress, from the jail at Ellorree, near here, and lynched her. The woman had confessed to beating to death the twelve-year-old daughter of D. F. Bell, of Ellorree.

Efforts on the part of county authorities to save the woman were without avail. They forced their way into the jail and took the woman out. The lynching followed.

Everything is quiet here tonight and no trouble is feared. The killing of the child of Mr. Bell was one of the most atrocious crimes in the criminal history of Ellorree. The negress became angry with the little girl and seized a piece of wood, with which she beat the child to death. She was arrested soon afterwards and confessed.

When news of her confession became known an angry crowd gathered before the little jail and demanded the woman's life. It was impossible to spirit the prisoner away to a place of safety, and when the mob had swelled to one of large proportions an assault was made on the jail building. The woman, crouching in fear of the mob, was found in a cell and dragged out. The mob dragged her through the streets to a tree and hanged her there.

Joseph C. Drabble of Leicester captured a young eagle Sunday morning near his farmhouse. It is as large as a good-sized hen and gave little trouble when caught.

Australia's Tariff Commission Is Proving Great Success

A Lesson for the Liberals Who Opposed the Establishment of a Similar Institution for Canada—The Australian Commission Taking Evidence Both Publicly and Privately.

Australia has established an Interstate Commission to collect information upon various trade questions and upon the operation of the Australian tariff. This Commission is proving a success.

It will be recalled that when the Borden Government, in fulfillment of a promise to the electors, introduced legislation for the establishment of a Tariff Commission, the Liberals fought the proposal from the start, and had their friends in the Senate kill the bill. One of their oft repeated objections was that the Commission would be taking evidence of a confidential character. That is just what the new Australian Commission is authorized to do.

The work of this Commission began at the first of the present year and is taking evidence, both publicly and privately, for the purpose of submitting a report to Parliament on a proposed revision of the customs tariff. Applicants for tariff changes are required to fill out forms, giving certain information in detail, and must accompany these forms with statutory declarations. The information so given is treated as confidential.

Dealing first with the Commission's judicial powers and duties, these may be shortly stated as covering all trade and commerce matters, interstate or external, brought before it in which questions arise as to the non-observance of the provisions of the constitution, or of the laws of the Parliament relating to foreign or interstate trade and commerce. It will be the duty of the Commission to hear complaints and to grant relief whenever there is a contravention of any such existing law, and amongst those laws will be included the Interstate Commission Act itself, which, in certain sections, prohibits all rates charged by common carriers for passengers or goods and whether by land or water, if such rates are not reasonable and just, or if they give undue preference to any state, person, locality or traffic.

Powers Given Them.

The Commission is empowered to adjudicate upon the justice and reasonableness of such rates, and in order to insure conformity with the law power is given to the Commission to prescribe maximum or minimum rates which may be charged for any such service. Similar powers of control exist with regard to any common carrier's rules and regulations for the movement of traffic, and a consequential power is conferred upon the Commission to declare void state regulations which lead to a contravention of the Act or the constitution.

The Tariff Question.

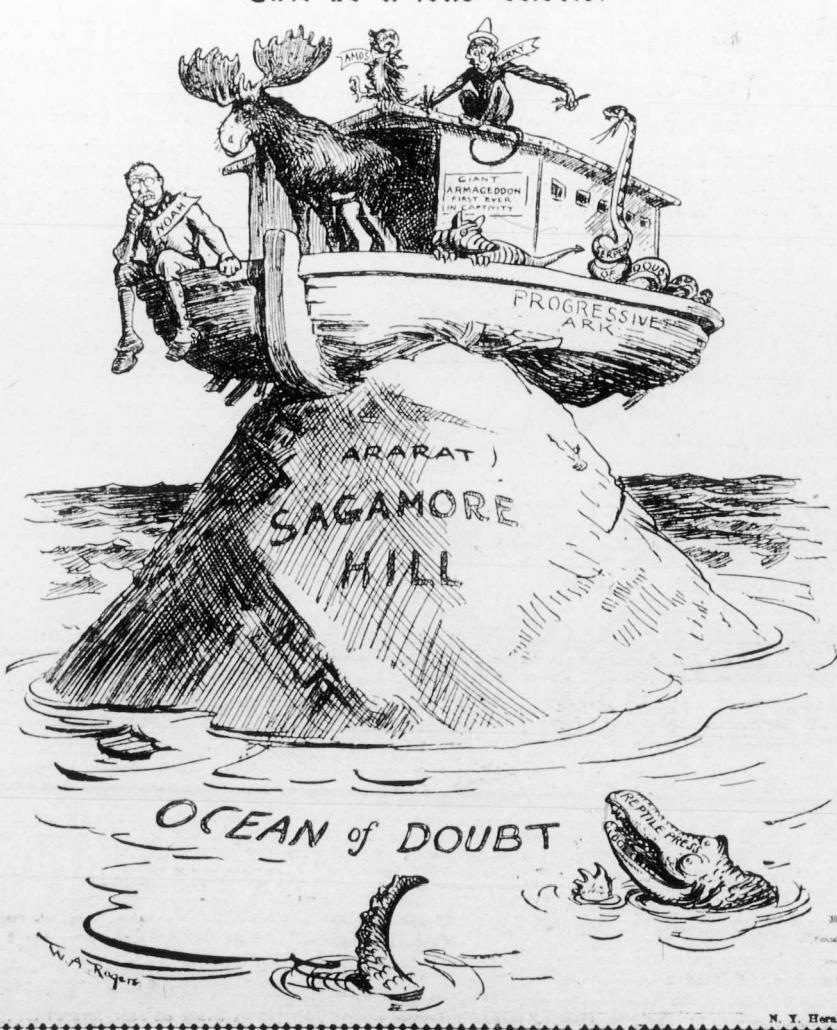
In dealing with the tariff, the Commission will report upon—
1. Any industries now in urgent need of tariff assistance;
2. Anomalies in the existing Tariff Acts which are either technical in character, or also due to or arise from the incidence of the taxation;
3. The lessening, where consistent with the general policy of the Tariff Acts, of the cost of the ordinary necessities of life, without injury to the workers engaged in any useful industry.
Evidence is sought in particular with regard to—
1. Tariff and wage conditions in the Commonwealth and other countries;
2. Production cost;
3. Profits;
4. Prices, as affected by the tariff.

Conduct of Inquiry.

In dealing with the conduct of the inquiry, the Chairman of the Commission made this statement:—
"With regard to the conduct of the inquiry, section 49 empowers us to take evidence in public or in private, but evidence is only to be taken in private where the Commission considers it desirable in the public interest to take evidence in this tariff investigation privately, wherever the private or financial affairs of any witness are in danger of being disclosed, and it will be, therefore, open to a witness, at any stage of the proceedings, to submit to the Commission that the questions proposed to him are of a character which touches his private concerns, and the Commission will thereupon so decide as to secure privacy for the business affairs of any witness examined before them."

The T. B. Secret Society of New Haven, Conn., a club composed of five boys, has its headquarters in a great oak tree, at Boulevard and Irving streets, 37 feet above the ground.

This Is a Sad World.



BUTTER FROM TREE IN AFRICAN JUNGLE

Natives Not Only Prize It, But It is Now Exported—Other Important Uses.

An interesting report on the remarkable shea tree, which furnishes African natives with both nuts and butter, the latter product being extensively used in the manufacture of lubrication butter for exportation to Europe and possibly here, comes from United States Consul W. J. Verby, stationed at Sierra Leone, British West Africa.

Mr. Verby says that in favorable districts and protected from jungle fires the shea bush grows to a height of more than 40 feet. Its flowers from January to March, and the fruit ripens from June to September, but principally at the end of July, and when ripe it falls to the ground.

"It has," writes Mr. Verby, "a soft external cover resembling that of a walnut in appearance. This fleshy pulp is eaten by the natives when it softens prior to detaching itself from the nut, and it is also eaten by sheep and other animals, but not the nut itself. The pulp is sweet and has a not disagreeable taste, and might possibly be used for the manufacture of alcohol."

"The fresh nut is about the size and shape of a walnut, but it is covered with a smooth skin resembling that of a Spanish chestnut, which can be pulled off the same way when fresh. Inside this skin is a soft kernel of a light yellow color when fresh and chocolate color when dry, which contains a large proportion of fatty matter that, when extracted, is called shea butter. The shea butter content of the de-oiled kernel is 40 to 60 per cent. of the weight of the kernel. The percentage of butter extracted from the kernels by European machinery should be at least 36 per cent. from the average grade of kernel; by native methods it is only 17 per cent. of the kernel, and the quality is not good. It is said that one native will collect on the average 100 pounds of shea fruit in a day of nine hours in a good season."

"At present shea is brought to market in the form of dried de-oiled nuts and shea butter, and to encourage the output in every way it is necessary to buy up both products whenever offered."

"Purified shea butter," continues Mr. Verby, "is edible and suitable for use in the preparation of artificial butter, and chocolate manufacture, and the principal European demand will be for this purpose."

"Shea butter is also used in the manufacture of candles and soap, but there is too large a proportion of unsaponifiable matter and the product is too hard for use as a pure soap. It is, however, of value in composite soaps, and to consolidate soaps hitherto mixed with foreign substances to make them firm. The high percentage of free fatty acids renders shea butter unsuitable as a lubricant."

"Much remains to be discovered about conditions affecting the output of the shea tree. The tree appears to start bearing after 12 to 15 years, and under favorable circumstances to reach its full capacity in 20 to 25 years."

TO KEEP BISLEY'S IMPERIAL ASPECT

Men from Overseas Have Struck Distinct Note, Says Morning Post.

London, July 15.—The men from overseas, says the Morning Post, strike a distant note with regard to the future of Bisley. Both the official and the unofficial visitors insist that Bisley must be preserved as a meeting ground of Empire, and that it is useless to ask men to travel thousands of miles for musketry practice, which can be equally well performed at home. They wish Bisley preserved as a competitive meeting ground for the Empire and are willing to concede 50 per cent. of the cost of the military purposes if the War Office will allow the other half for matches of a sporting competitive character, which would unite the men of the Seven Seas in that unique shooting freemasonry of which Bisley is the Mecca. There are indications, if no effective compromise is made, that the full weight of the millions' opinion will be thrown in the scale to preserve the imperial aspect of Bisley.

Peter Moore of St. Marys, O., has ceased using the mail box on his front porch because it has been occupied by a pair of wrens, who have built a nest in it, and have laid several eggs.

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