

The Weekly Times

Victoria, Friday, May 3

THIS YEAR'S TRADE.

The Montreal Shareholder has been analysing the Dominion trade returns for the current year, with results that are interesting and instructive. Our contemporary says:—"The entries for consumption for the month of March were the largest for any month since September last, being \$9,159,510, of which \$5,067,624 were dutiable, \$3,241,202 were free, and \$240,689 were coin and bullion. The entries of dutiable goods were the largest of any one month for the nine months of the current financial year. The total entries for the nine months are \$78,446,500, of which \$42,979,130 are dutiable, \$31,014,535 are free and \$4,456,835 are coin and bullion. For the corresponding period last year the total entries amounted to \$86,197,018, of which \$48,646,943 were dutiable, \$33,689,869 were free and \$3,861,106 were coin and bullion. A comparison of the figures for the same period of the two years shows a decrease of \$7,751,418 in the total entries. In dutiable goods there was a falling off of \$5,667,813 and in free goods one of \$2,675,334, coin and bullion being increased by \$591,729. The amount of duty paid in March was \$1,082,255, the largest amount paid during any one month of the current financial year. This brought up the total duty paid for the nine months ending March 31st to \$13,278,855. At the same time last year the duty amounted to \$15,202,859. This was \$1,924,004 in excess of the amount received for the same period this year. A good deal has been written about a reduction in the rate of duty, but a comparison of these figures and the average rate of duty for each year discloses the fact that the average rate of duty levied on dutiable goods during the past nine months was 38 per cent, while that levied for the corresponding period last year was only 31.1-4 per cent, making an increase this year of six and three-quarters per cent in the average rate of duty. With these figures staring consumers in the face it is difficult to see how the changes in the tariff of last session can possibly be credited with being in the consumers' interests." Two points are worthy of note. The first is that the imports and the resulting duty are much less for this year than for last year, and therefore the Colonists' "barometer test" shows the presence of "dirty" financial weather. In the next place, the comparison of the rate of duty is very instructive, showing that Mr. Foster's sort of tariff reform is far from being reform.

THE FRANCHISE ACT.

Although the present Dominion franchise act is generally disapproved throughout the country, the ministers and their supporters in parliament tenaciously hold by it. As a matter of course Mr. Charlton's bill to repeal the act and make use of the provincial lists had no chance of success, but it seems as though some of the Conservative members might support a proposal to make material changes in the act—to substitute a totally different measure, in fact. Some of the Conservative papers acknowledge the necessity of a change, and some of the members of parliament on the same side might vote that way if the proposal were made. Of the present act, the Hamilton Spectator says:—"The Dominion franchise act ought to be repealed. It should never have been put upon the statute book. It is cumbersome and terribly expensive. Its slow moving machinery must be set in motion every two years, and many persons must neglect their business in order to see that the proper names, and none but the proper names, go on the list. The cost to the government of preparing the lists is but a portion of the cost to the country, for much work must be done every time new lists are made, and if there is no election all this work, all this great expense goes for nothing." But the Spectator refuses to accept the proposal to use the provincial lists, pointing out that the Ontario system is cumbersome and complicated, and that the provinces have varying franchises. There is manhood suffrage in some, while others prescribe a property qualification. Some have adopted the one-man-one-vote principle, while others have multiplex voting. The Spectator's plan is as follows:—

What the Dominion government should do is to wipe the present act off the book and substitute simple registration, the qualification to be 21 years of age and a British subject. Under this plan there would be no anxious hustling after names every year or every second year; no waste of public or private money in preparing lists that were not to be used; no long investigations into a man's right to vote; no differences between the qualification of men in one section and men in another section; no voting by dead men; no personation; no bringing of voters from British Columbia or Mexico; no long-winded oaths to be taken by voters; no trickery in putting on names of men who should not be on, or removing names of men who should remain. The expense of the registration system of constructing a list of voters is less than the expense of any other system, and it would be incurred only when an election was coming on, thus making

the list up to date, and therefore fair to all parties. We cannot understand why this system does not recommend itself to the law-makers at a glance. It is not an experiment; it has worked exceedingly well in the United States for years. It was tried in Toronto last June with the best results. It is impossible for us to see the slightest reason why the system should not at once be adopted by the Dominion government.

The Spectator's proposal probably involves also a term of residence before registration and the one-man-one-vote principle, though these are not mentioned directly. For our own part we cannot see why all the provinces do not adopt manhood suffrage and the registration scheme, but of course each province has the right of holding to antiquated methods if it so chooses. Failing agreement in this way, we should like to see the modern electoral principles adopted for Dominion purposes, and we trust the Spectator will prevail on some of its friends to move in that direction in the house. But perhaps it does not much matter; the Liberals will soon be in the majority in the house and then the needed reform will be effected.

THE POLICY OF THE C. P. R.

The London Financial News of the 5th ultimo in commenting upon the recent financial statement issued by the C. P. R. says:—"The whole secret of the position lies in the question of agricultural prices. It is to the persistent shrinkage in these that the Canadian Pacific owes its unfortunate plight. The farmers have been crippled in their resources, and there has been a consequent diminution in every sort of railway traffic. The disheartening point is that the business in the Dominion is still at a standstill; money is still scarce and the spending power of the people crippled."

When the management of our "Great National Highway" realizes that the soundness and security of its finances is inseparably linked with the welfare and progress of the farmer, and not in political intriguing for loans, subsidy-increases and advances, it may become a paying institution for investors. Political acknowledgments from the national chest can only serve as a temporary expedient—while perpetual dickerings with a manifestly corrupt clique of discredited politicians will certainly fail to afford any permanent relief to clamoring and disappointed stockholders.

By throwing the entire voting strength of its force into the ranks of the protectionists, the Canadian Pacific company may secure substantial concessions; but the most vital condition that can permanently promote its interests—the development of a vast and empty Northwest—is only to be obtained by a reversal of the policy of commercial isolation which the management of the road has seriously striven to perpetuate. As long as the farmer is compelled by the crushing exactions of a vicious fiscal policy to receive in exchange for \$100 worth of produce only \$65 worth of manufactured goods, so long will the tenantless acres of the territories be unfertilized and untillied.

THE WILSON BILL AND WAGES.

The overwhelming disaster which the celebrated McKinley bill inflicted upon the industry and commerce of the United States, after creating a brief and artificial boom, are being rapidly removed by the legislative wisdom embraced in the Wilson Tariff Reform bill. Although the relief afforded by the measure was comparatively slight there are distinct signs of a healthy revival, while the voluntary increases accorded the wage earners by their employers will be an eye-opener to those "spouters" who have preached the fallacy that protection means high wages.

The New York Times published on Saturday the following list of increases made during the week ending the 20th ult.:

"H. C. Frick & Co., and other firms in the Western Pennsylvania district, 15 per cent., affecting 15,000 employees; M. T. Stevens & Co., three woolen factories in New Hampshire; Thomas Dolan & Co., manufacturers of woollens in Philadelphia; Globe Iron Works, Cleveland, Ohio; Wolfender, Shore & Co., Cardington, Pa.; Washington Mills, Lawrence, Mass., 4,000 employees; Fall River Iron Works Mills, cotton goods, Fall River, Mass., 1,800 employees; American Linen Mills, Fall River, Mass.; Worumb Mills, Fishon Falls, Me.; Willimantic Linen Co., Willimantic, Conn.; Belding Bros. & Co., silk mills, Rockville, Conn.; Grosvenordale Cotton Co., North Grosvenordale, Conn., 1,200 employees; E. W. Chapin & Co., manufacturers of woollens, Chapinville, Mass.; United States Bunting Co., Lowell, Mass.; Lakeside Manufacturing Co., Leicester, Mass.; United States Cotton Co., Central Falls, R. I."

But this by no means completes the glowing picture. The Philadelphia Ledger declares that still more notable increases have occurred in the cotton manufacturing centre, Fall River.

"The increase which was decided upon by the operators on Sunday," says the Ledger, "will be enjoyed by 24,000 operatives, being a gain of 12.1-2 per cent. on the wages they have received since the reduction made in August, 1894. This material advance in the wages of the operatives at Fall River is especially

gratifying, for the reason that it will have the effect of increasing wages in all the New England textile mills. During last week the cotton manufacturers of New Bedford, Mass., employing about 25,000 persons, restored the wage rate to the 1894 standard; similarly three extensive Connecticut concerns, employing 4,000 operatives, increased the wage schedule. The advance of wages has not been confined, even in New England, to the employees of the cotton mills. The manufacturers of woollens and cassimeres have also made liberal concessions to their employees, and it is worthy of notice that, with a single exception, all the employers above referred to have voluntarily made the advances noted. In that single instance the employees were on strike for an increase of 20 per cent., and were conceded one of 10 per cent."

The immediate results of the Wilson bill will also afford more convincing testimony to the working man of the benefits and the blessings of a low tariff than all the wretched fallacies circulated by the beneficiaries of protection.

MINING ITEMS

From the Mineral Districts of the Interior.

Nelson Tribune. From and after Monday three trains a week will be run on the Nelson & Port Sheppard railway between Nelson and Northport, leaving Nelson on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, and arriving on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. Daily trips will be run between Northport and Spokane. Trains will leave Nelson at 8:45 a.m. and arrive at 5:40 p.m.

McDonald & McArthur have the contract for building A. E. Lott's residence on Stanley street. It will cost about \$1,200.

Harry Young, of Colville, who along with James Durkin, of the same town, owns a 126th interest in the Silver King group of mines on Toad mountain, is in Nelson. Mr. Young for a time was the owner of the Colville Index, and for a green hand made a much better paper than the man who succeeded him is making, although the latter has had many years' experience at the business.

John L. Wilson, of Spokane, one of the United States senators for Washington, is taking a look at the mines at Rosedale. It is said he is interested in the properties recently acquired by John M. Burke.

Returns from the second shipment of ore from the Goodenough mine, in Slokan district, have been received by the owners. The galena ore was 817.1-2 tons silver and 64 per cent lead to the ton, and after deducting freight from Kaslo and duty and smelting charges netted the owners \$525 a ton. This is the highest return ever received from a shipment of Slokan ore. The ore was sent to Great Falls.

Advices have been received at the Nelson office of the Hall mines, Limited, that the chairman of the board of directors would leave London so as to arrive at Nelson about May 20. When here the contract for building the tramway will be awarded and the negotiations now pending for the erection of a smelter at Nelson will be brought to a head. There are 80,000 tons of ore blocked out and in sight in the Silver King mine.

About 90 tons of ore a day are being brought down to the steam jet landing at Trail from the War Eagle and Le Roi mines. The four-horse teams haul about three tons a load. One of the teamsters is putting on six-horse teams and trail wagons. When they have no misgivings, the teams make the round trip in about ten hours, leaving Trail at 6 o'clock in the morning.

Six men are at work on the Eureka group of claims, Kaslo district, recently bonded to J. C. Ryan. The dirt on the Yosemite vein is 125 feet, the pay streak showing one that runs over 100 ounces of silver to the ton.

CANADIAN ODD FELLOWS.

Presentation of Reports, Election of Officers and Annual Banquet.

The session of the provincial grand lodge, C. O. F., concluded last night. At the afternoon sitting reports from the various committees and Provincial Grand Master Dwyer were presented. The reports showed the order to be in a flourishing condition, the membership to have considerably increased and the financial balances to have been on the right side. An alteration in the constitution was made whereby the funeral fund will become general, and will be known as the provincial grand lodge funeral fund.

The executive were given power to inquire into the formation of a past grand lodge. The following officers were elected at the evening sitting: Provincial grand master, J. Tagg, Victoria; deputy grand master, J. Hilbert, Nanaimo; grand secretary, W. P. Fullerton, Victoria; grand treasurer, R. Carter, Victoria; grand warden, T. Thompson, Abbotsford; grand inside guard, P. E. Lazenby, Port Hammond; grand outside guard, G. W. McKean, Cobble Hill; P. G. M., W. J. Dwyer, Victoria.

At the banquet at the Wilson hotel, Grand Master Tagg was in the chair. Mayor Teague sat on his right and Past Grand Master Dwyer on his left. A good supper had been provided and was discussed with keen relish. Mayor Teague replied to the toast to the mayor and corporation. He was heartily received. In reply to the toast, "the grand lodge and the officers," proposed by I. M. McIntosh, Grand Master Tagg made a very appropriate reply, outlining the progress the order had made. A good speech was made by ex-Mayor Hilbert, of Nanaimo, and Past Grand Master Dwyer replied to the toast of "sister societies," and P. E. Lazenby and P. Pervis lauded the progress of the fair sex. During the evening songs were sung by E. Leroy, J. Carter, W. F. Fullerton and W. Kent. The next session of the grand lodge will be held the first Wednesday in May next year.

BOARD OF TRADE COUNCIL

Hon. Amor De Cosmos Addresses the Board on Connection With Mainland.

Harbor Master Clarke Recommends the Placing of Lights on Trial Island.

A meeting of the council of the B. C. board of trade was held this morning. President Flumerfelt in the chair, and a fairly good attendance of members.

The special reading room committee reported on the recommendation of the council that "all visitors to the reading room must be introduced by a member of the board and that the visitor's name be recorded in a book to be kept for that purpose together with the number of days over which the privileges of the reading room shall extend."

The committee in their report say:—"The original plan was to make the room free to visitors to the city and to advertise the same by placing notices on passenger steamers and in transportation offices. The room has not yet been advertised. We are of opinion that when the number of visitors to the room increases the opportunities for mutilating newspapers, etc., will be few and we therefore think it desirable to enforce your recommendations only as occasion may require."

The report was adopted.

An invitation was extended by the Tacoma chamber of commerce to members of the board to visit the chamber's rooms when in Tacoma. The invitation was accepted with thanks and the board will reciprocate.

J. W. Harter of Ohio wrote asking what opportunities there were for starting the manufacture of pressed bricks in this vicinity. The secretary was instructed to reply that there was no opening. J. L. Forrester, of the Canada Paint Company, submitted a plan for advertising the city by issuing envelopes with a description of the city advertised on the back. The letter was acknowledged and Mr. Forrester thanked for the suggestion.

The Canterbury, New Zealand, chamber of commerce wrote stating that advertisements had been made to send copies of weekly papers to the board. The board will reciprocate by sending local papers to the Canterbury chamber.

E. Crow Baker, secretary of the pilotage board, forwarded the following letter received by him from Captain Clark, harbor master and port warden:

April 23, 1895.

Re Lights on Fiddle Reef.

I quite agree with the opinion expressed at the last meeting of the Board of Trade as to the necessity of a light or lights to assist mariners during darkness in the difficult and dangerous navigation of Mount Channel and the inner channels generally leading from San Juan to Haro Strait. The point as to whether a light or lights should be placed on the southern end of Trial Island would be of much more use. By reference to Chart No. 377 (Inner Channels) leading from San Juan to Haro Strait, it will be perceived that two lights bearing from one another N. 1/2 E. and S. 1/2 W. (magnetic), if placed with exactness would lead a vessel clear of Mount Reef (which is a constant danger) and fairly and directly through Mount Channel, not only clearing Fiddle Reef, but also Lewis Reef, Lee Rock and Thames Shoal. These lights would also be of service to vessels passing up or down by the Haro Strait.

CHAS. E. CLARKE.

Harbor Master and Port Warden.

The following letter from Hon. Amor De Cosmos was referred to the railway committee:

Victoria, B.C., April 20th, 1895.

To the President of the Board of Trade, Victoria.

Dear Sir:—I beg leave to enclose a plan (published by me at Ottawa about 1889) showing two routes for a railway ferry across the Strait of Georgia, to connect the traffic of the Canadian Pacific Railway on the Mainland with that of the Esquimalt & Nanaimo Railway on Vancouver Island, and the Provincial Government and Legislative Assembly of this Province in 1881 had passed an act for the purpose of effecting the early construction and completion of the Canadian Pacific Railway on the Mainland and Vancouver Island, and that the Dominion Government be urged to fulfil their public pledges made in 1872-3, to establish a suitable railway ferry to connect and pass the traffic of the Canadian Pacific and Island section of that railway across the Strait of Georgia. I have no doubt that Canada would have complied with the request of the Provincial Government. But the local government and Legislature not having urged in their petition to the Queen the fulfilment of the pledges the Dominion Government to construct and operate a railway ferry across the Strait of Georgia, the Colonial office, though seeing the comparative uselessness of the Island section of the C. P. Railway without the ferry, could not take upon itself to urge Canada to construct and operate the ferry without having been requested to do so in the petition to the Queen.

Subsequently the Island Railway question was settled without making any provision for the long promised railway ferry across the Strait of Georgia. The hopes of Victoria were then blasted. Without the railway ferry across the Strait of Georgia Victoria's future is gloomy indeed. My object in writing this letter is with the hope that the railway ferry so long expected may be included in the new scheme for extension of the C. P. Railway to Comox.

Yours, Dear Sir, your, etc.,

A. DeCOSMOS.

Hewitt Bostock tendered his resignation as a member of the council, as he would probably be absent from the city for the greater part of the present year. In view of the early approach of the annual meeting, when a new council will be elected, Mr. Bostock was requested to reconsider his resignation.

Robert Ward resigned as a trustee of the board, and T. B. Hall was elected in his stead. The question of monthly meetings was discussed at some length, a majority of the council supporting the view of the special committee that according to the constitution only quarterly general meetings can be held, but that special meetings can be called at any time. In view of this the president was requested to act according to the constitution. Mr. Cuthbert, who was present, desired to address the meeting, but the president called him to order, stating that although members of the board could attend coun-

cil meetings they could not take any part in the proceedings.

THE CUBAN INSURRECTION.

First One Side Then the Other Gain A Victory.

Havana, April 30.—The insurgents were routed on April 24th by Spanish troops under Major Tejerizo reorganized and concentrated in the vicinity of Ramon Yaguener. They again met the Spanish troops under Tejerizo at Ramon Yaguener, and the rebels are reported to have lost sixty-two killed and many wounded. The Spanish loss was six killed and three wounded.

Key West, Fla., April 30.—Private notices from Cuba state that General Crombet was not killed in battle, but was assassinated. A part of his band was captured, and the remainder fled to the mountains. The killing of Crombet from ambush was reported to Campos, who ordered the officer in command of the Spanish troops before him. The officer was reprimanded and sent to Spain to be court-martialled.

A band of 150 Spanish troops was defeated by the insurgents near Guantanamo on the 19th inst. One Spanish soldier was left to report the defeat. Gomez landed near Guantanamo. He had 1,000 men under his command.

EDINBURGH'S NEW LIGHT

Went Into Operation Last Night and Proved Successful.

New York, May 2.—A dispatch from Edinburgh, Scotland, says: The new electric light system, constructed by the municipality at a cost of \$600,000, was put into complete operation last night, and proved an immediate success. Two systems have been adopted, a low tension for streets and buildings in the business centre, and a high tension for the outlying districts. Edinburgh is the first city in Great Britain to own and operate an electric light plant. The saving as compared with gas will be immense, apart from the increase of light that is afforded.

WILL VILLARD TAKE CONTROL?

Everything Points Towards His Taking Charge of the N. P. R.

St. Paul, April 30.—The Dispatch today says: The hurried departure of President Hill, of the Great Northern, yesterday, about the time the change in the receivership of the Chicago and Northern Pacific was accomplished, has set the wise heads to thinking and talking and they are beginning to believe that there is more in the recent rumors than they have been willing to admit. All this has a bearing on the Dispatch's statement that Henry Villard is about to take control of the Northern Pacific. The Dispatch took its news from London and it is authentic. President Hill has not been called abroad by financial matters, for this is at least the third time in a year that he has headed for London.

NEW ODD FELLOWS' TEMPLE

To Be Formally Dedicated Shortly in Philadelphia.

Philadelphia, May 2.—Two weeks from next Tuesday the magnificent new Odd Fellows' Temple, which has been in process of erection for several years, will be formally dedicated, and the event will bring together one of the most notable gatherings of prominent men in the history of the fraternity. Twenty thousand invitations have been issued, and representative members of the order from every state east of Wisconsin and north of Tennessee have pledged their attendance. The supreme grand lodge officers headed by Grand Sir Stebbins, of Rochester, N.Y., will officiate in the dedicatory ceremonies.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

Transfer of Land to Villard Created a Sensation.

Tacoma, April 30.—Two deeds from the Tacoma Land Company of property in Tacoma to Henry Villard were put on record today. The news created considerable excitement when it became known, and came near starting a miniature real estate boom. What the purchase means was a matter of surmise. Stories of Villard's gaining control of the Northern Pacific railroad were revived. The deeds were received at the auditor's office by mail from Attorney W. F. Goldenbeck, of 45 Wall street, New York City, who is Villard's counsel.

The first deed is dated February 2, 1895, and transfers to Henry Villard all of lot 3 and one-half of lot 4, in section 7, township 20, range 3 east, containing 54.46 acres. The consideration is \$36,676, and the Tacoma Land Company is the seller. A glance at the city map shows this property to be platted directly west of Griggs and Hayden additions to the city, and is part of a large tract owned by the land company.

The other deed has the same date, and transfers the east half of lot 8, all of lots 9, 10, 11 and 12, in block 3815, to Villard, also by the Tacoma Land Company, the price paid being \$7324.

This block lies at the corner of Yakima avenue and North Eighth, and is bounded by Yakima avenue, G street, North Eighth and North Ninth streets.

This evening it was learned that the property was bought by Mr. Villard nearly six years ago, and that the putting of the deeds on record was merely the last move in the transaction.

A child was cured of croup by a dose or two of Ayer's Cherry Pectoral. A neighbor's child died of the same dread disease, while the father was getting ready to call the doctor. This shows the necessity of having Ayer's Cherry Pectoral always on hand.

WANTED.—Pushing canvasser of good address. Liberal salary and expenses paid weekly; permanent position. Brown Bros. Co., Nurserymen, Portland, Oregon.

THE OCCUPATION

Nicaragua Willing to Announce a Victory.

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