

The Weekly Times

Victoria, Friday, February 22.

TOO MUCH FOR THE WHISTLE.

Minister Foster is earnestly seeking to convince the farmers that the N. P. should be supported because it provides a "home market." Unfortunately for the minister, this matter has gone beyond the argumentative stage and is judged by the farmer in the light of his own experience. That teaches him that he is paying too much for his "home market," the prices in which are, after all, fixed by the market abroad. Mr. Foster's theorizings will not raise his prices of cheese, cattle and wheat, since they are regulated solely by the relations of supply and demand in Great Britain. It is to be noted also that the finance minister and other ministers, while declaring that the N. P. protects the farmer as well as the manufacturer, conveniently ignore the fact that they keep a provision in the statute book whereby reciprocity in natural products may be established whenever the United States government chooses. That is to say, they would if they got the chance remove from the farmer the "protection" for which he is now called upon to be thankful without giving him the privilege of buying manufactured goods in a cheaper market. To profess warm friendship for the farmers while standing ready to do them a rank injustice is a proceeding thoroughly characteristic of the combination which rules by grace of the Red Parlor.

"FOOD FOR THOUGHT."

The foreign trade of a nation is simply individual exports and imports in the aggregate, and whatever restricts foreign trade necessarily restricts the trade of the individual transactions, thus inflicting untold injuries upon the people generally by isolating them commercially from their fellow-men abroad. No one has yet been bold enough to assert that foreign trade is an evil. On the contrary, all agree in declaring it to be a universal benefit; but to state that foreign trade is a good thing while holding to the doctrine that importing is a bad thing implies a palpable contradiction, for the simple reason that restricting imports means restricting exports also, thus restricting that foreign trade which all agree in deeming a benefit. By restricting imports to the extent of \$-7,400,000,000, thus restricting foreign trade \$89,000,000. It can therefore be readily seen that an enormous loss Canada is sustaining by following a policy of commercial isolation, because her trade would enormously expand under a freer system. It is safe to assert that if Canada adopted a tariff for purely revenue purposes imports would flow in from both Great Britain and the United States, though in much greater volume from England. It is, in fact, impossible to estimate the enormous increase in imports that would take place were the tariff walls reduced.

Now, since neither the United States nor the old country would send Canada goods for nothing, such imports would have to be paid for, and since specie is not, and cannot be, used in settling international balances, the increased amount of imports would have to be paid for by an increased amount of exports; and in the production of such increased exports Canadian capital and labor would be employed. Everybody would be benefited by engaging in industrial and commercial activity under natural conditions and operating the enormous natural industries and potential wealth of the country under the most efficient and remunerative system of trade, thus giving an equal chance to all men.

Let us be logical. Meet taxes exports as far as practicable by free imports. Imports must be paid for either directly or indirectly in commodities, therefore a similar amount of exports must go abroad in payment of the imports we receive. If the United States sent us under a revenue tariff \$20,000,000 worth of goods she would have to receive payment in Canadian produce. Not necessarily directly, but most certainly by draft on London. That is, Canada would export \$20,000,000 worth of produce to England, for which she would receive a draft on London, which would be sent to the United States, and the United States would ultimately receive the amount in goods from England, and one draft would be cancelled by the other. The beauties of the system are so clear that it is really perplexing why the people are so blind as to vote for protection. Let us take another example. Last year the United States was compelled by nature and the desires of her people to import \$76,000,000 worth of goods from Brazil and \$25,000,000 from India, or go without coffee, hides, etc. Now these goods had to be paid for, and since the United States tariff prevents her manufacturers from get-

ting their raw materials, etc., free, they are unable to produce as cheaply as England, and cannot, therefore, compete with England in neutral markets. Hence the United States had to send the amount in oil, bacon, wheat, etc., to England, and England paid India and Brazil in manufactured goods the amount owing these countries by the United States. England thus got freight for her ships, commission, insurance, exchange, labor for her artisans, profit for her manufacturers and merchants, and increased her foreign trade. These Englishmen are at the free trade policy they have made London the banking counter of the world and built up a merchant marine and commerce since 1846 that is truly marvellous.

A DISSOLUTION.

Hints are now going out from Ottawa to Tory papers that a dissolution is almost certain. It seems that an extra force has been sent to work on the voters' lists in the printing bureau, and there need therefore be no fear of the old lists being used in the coming election. All developments point strongly to the conclusion that Lord Aberdeen would not allow any such outrage to be perpetrated. It is hard to see why the government do not at once say what is to be done, and thus end the uncertainty, which is causing considerable trouble among business men. There does not seem to be anything to gain by delay, even from a party point of view. The government have perhaps helped themselves to a decision by coming to a stand on the Manitoba school question. They are reported as taking the ground that the privy council leaves them no alternative but to grant a remedy as asked by the Manitoba minority. Their plan seems to be that which we have at various times indicated, namely, to devote a portion of the Manitoba school lands to the support of separate schools. These lands are of course held by the Dominion government, who can thus administer them without even asking the consent of parliament.

GRATIFYING HIS SPITE.

Ever since the people of the cities opposed Hon. Mr. Davie's government of cities, or disfranchisement of cities bill, that gentleman has been straining to "get even" with them. He has fixed Vancouver by placing in his charter the anti-competition clause which the people of that city so strongly opposed. He threatened to make a similar clause apply to the other cities, but luckily for them they have already secured their own water and electric light works, so that the Hon. Theo's threat came a little too late. But he was not going to let Victoria off so easily if he could help it. After the "roasting" he received at the city hall. So last evening he commenced striking. First he had eliminated from the municipal bill, now before the house, the clause providing that the board of police commissioners should consist of the mayor and two aldermen. Not satisfied with this, he proposed that the mayor, the man elected by the people, should be relegated to a secondary position on the board of police and licensing commissioners and that the county court judge, or the person appointed by the government in his stead, should be chairman of the board. His argument in favor of this proposition was that a county court judge could not be expected to take a secondary position on the board. When did a county court judge or a person appointed by the government in his stead become any better than the chief magistrate of the city, the man elected by the people? Mr. Davie, however, has a more independent house to deal with now, there being a number of members who are in no way afraid to vote against him and consequently his little scheme did not go down. Mr. Rithet and his followers in the house knocking it on the head. If Mr. Davie had not the chance to save himself, by going on the bench, he would be likely to wake up some morning and find many of his supporters carrying out what they feel in their hearts, by throwing him out.

POOR MR. FOSTER.

The Minister of Finance has deserted the field in King's, N. B., and has gone to York county in the same province to find a seat. Mr. Foster's explanation is that his state of health will not permit him to have a severe fight in prospect. There is no doubt the fight would be severe; it would also be hopeless for the minister, as the following reports of the nomination proceedings clearly indicate. Moreover the reports show that Mr. Foster did not give a full explanation of his reasons for retreating to York.

Hampton, N. B., Feb. 14.—The prohibition convention held here this morning proved a very lively affair, and before its close showed a big split in the party, some favoring a third candidate, while many good temperance men opposed it. Hon. G. E. Foster was present. Rev. E. J. Grant said the meeting was called to lay before the party the question of nomination. Rev. Jos. McLeod was a good man and true, and

just such a man as the temperance party wanted. J. W. Smith opposed Dr. McLeod, as he believed it would result in a victory for the Liberal candidate, and place the prohibition party in a worse position than it is in at present. After Mr. Foster made a non-committal speech, the meeting broke up in disorder, but Dr. McLeod was subsequently offered the nomination.

The Conservative convention met at 11 o'clock. After preliminaries G. W. Fowler moved a resolution asking Mr. Foster to reconsider his determination to retire from King's. This was carried. Mr. Foster in reply said that it was just twelve years since he first contested this county. He thanked them one and all, and said it was now with regret that he had to inform them that in accordance with advice he had received from the best doctors in London that he would be unable to contest this county in the coming election, as it would require more physical vim than he could put into it. Mr. Foster said that he would have to look for a constituency that would be able in return for his services to elect him without the fight that he would have in King's. He spoke at considerable length about the position of the Conservative party. George W. Fowler then moved that the voters present, representing the different parties, retire to the inspection of all householders, tenants and freeholders resident, owning or in possession of property in the district.

A court of revision and appeal was held by Stipendiary Magistrate E. Harcourt at Mayne Island, on the 19th December, 1894. I brought three appeals against vicious, excessive and unjustifiable taxation, which were heard and disposed of against me arbitrarily. During the hearing I had a cursory glance at the assessment roll and saw that it was being victimized. When the court closed I asked leave to examine the roll, it's the judge refused and gave orders to the assessors in my presence that he should not allow me to see the roll, that I could see it at Victoria if I wished. Notwithstanding the fact that section 50 was called to my notice and read by him, this man wilfully, knowingly and defiantly assumed the right to ignore and violate the supreme authority of the state and public rights, which by his oath of office he was in duty bound to respect and uphold. Such action on the part of a county court judge must inevitably bring the judiciary of the province into disrepute and seriously affect its welfare.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Speaking of British free trade, the McKinleyite-McGregory organ says: "If trade of this kind were established in the Dominion nearly all the productions of any country under the sun would be allowed to enter our ports duty free." What a horrible thing to contemplate! Every country in the world sending us cheap clothing, boots and shoes, pots, pans, kettles and hardware generally, cakes and ale, beer and skittles, furniture, fruit, bicycles, carriages, and, in fact, everything we need. What a sad spectacle for Canadians to see nations of the world tumbling over one another to pour their excellent wares into Canada! Every workingman, every merchant, would have to double lock his doors and his cellars to keep out all the goods, otherwise they would be overwhelmed with good manufactures and good food. We would never survive the shock!

By throwing open our ports to the produce of other countries—which tariff at present keeps out—would flow in; and since neither England nor the United States would send us commodities for nothing, such increased importation would have to be paid for, and since specie is not used, and could not be used, in payment, the increased importations would have to be paid for in the produce of Canada, which would increase Canadian exports correspondingly, thus increasing foreign trade. The idle labor would then be employed in increasing this exportation needed to balance the increase of importation that would take place as soon as the tariff was abolished. It is as plain as a pikestaff.

The Conservatives of Three Rivers district recently arranged for a grand rally, but the people unfortunately refused to turn out. Appearances indicate that there is a strong desire to turn Sir Hector Langevin adrift and find a candidate who will be less of a load to carry. The Liberals of the district meet this evening, and it is supposed the Conservative "rally" was intended to head off a possible "bolt" of the young men to the Liberal side.

Our contemporary has a poor estimate of Canadian energy and intelligence when it declares that we cannot hold our own, and that every nation in the world can lick us in an open field. The Colonist does not believe any such thing, but in defending a tariff that taxes Bibles six cents a pound and admits playing cards free it has a hard road to travel and is clearly not accountable for what it publishes.

The government organ finds that "times got better almost immediately after the N. P. was established." But times have got worse again, and are now quite as bad as in 1878. If we are to credit the N. P. with the earlier improvement we must also credit it with the present relapse. The "best hoc" argument is a decidedly dangerous one for government organs to apply just now.

PAIN KILLER
WILL QUICKLY CURE
DIPHTHERIA, QUINSY, COLDS AND COUGHS.

DERELICTION OF DUTY AND IMPOSITION.

To the Editor:—On the question of taxation—

"A tax is really something which all should conscientiously endure; it hardly presses on the rich, it presses hardly on the poor."

None like to be victimized, no one likes to pay more than his neighbor on the same class of property, or see government supporters favored, or see officials take advantage of their office to evade paying same rates as others on their real and personal property, the only discrimination should be in favor of the poor or disabled.

Consolidated assessment act, section 50.—An assessment roll completed and added up, with the certificates attached, shall be deposited in the office of the assessor, and in such other place as the lieutenant-governor in council shall in that behalf appoint from time to time, at a convenient office hours, be open to the inspection of all householders, tenants and freeholders resident, owning or in possession of property in the district.

A court of revision and appeal was held by Stipendiary Magistrate E. Harcourt at Mayne Island, on the 19th December, 1894. I brought three appeals against vicious, excessive and unjustifiable taxation, which were heard and disposed of against me arbitrarily. During the hearing I had a cursory glance at the assessment roll and saw that it was being victimized. When the court closed I asked leave to examine the roll, it's the judge refused and gave orders to the assessors in my presence that he should not allow me to see the roll, that I could see it at Victoria if I wished. Notwithstanding the fact that section 50 was called to my notice and read by him, this man wilfully, knowingly and defiantly assumed the right to ignore and violate the supreme authority of the state and public rights, which by his oath of office he was in duty bound to respect and uphold. Such action on the part of a county court judge must inevitably bring the judiciary of the province into disrepute and seriously affect its welfare.

That this man committed an offense against public justice is manifest, which would entitle him to severe punishment. In British Columbia such license is not only tolerated but countenanced by the present regime. The low moral state and the prevalence of crime in our province is the natural result of the deplorable examples in this line by past and present members of the government.

In order to examine the assessment roll I was put to the inconvenience and expense of visiting Victoria. After careful examination of the roll I found proof positive that my property was assessed too high or the property of many others assessed too low, showing great irregularity which should not be allowed, but nothing better can be expected. Another example of administrative rottenness. To what extent they will go in this line the following affords ample proof.

To find out whether large landholders were assessed proportionately with small holdings I examined the Fort Steele assessment roll, C. M. Edwards, assessor. Hon. James Baker's Cranbrook estate comprises 15,089 acres. Vide prospectus: "The estate was selected by the vendor on account of the very great natural advantages of its position, and is generally considered one of the finest in British Columbia. It has been reported on (on behalf of the vendor) by Mr. A. P. Cummins, stipendiary magistrate, gold commissioner and provincial land surveyor. It will be seen from his report that a considerable portion of the estate (about two-thirds of the land) is suitable for agriculture and that it is surrounded by 150,000 acres of free pasture land." Total value of this estate as assessed, \$13,017, slightly under 83 cents per acre. Amount of real property tax \$100.10. If paid before the 30th of June, \$75.09. Total value of personal property as assessed, \$2250. Total valuation of real and personal property of the estate, \$17,267. Of this estate 12,082 acres only is assessed as wild land.

Crow's Nest Coal Company's estate comprises 10,209 acres; total value, \$10,000, nearly \$1.00 per acre. 8200 only is assessed as wild land. Vide prospectus Cranbrook estate. Dr. Selwyn, head of the geological department, Dominion of Canada, after visiting the fields in 1891 reported: "That there is on the Crow's Nest pass, between the eastern summit, 4390 feet above tide, and the valley of Elk river in British Columbia, an area of not less than 144 square miles, and this is destined to be one of the most valuable and most productive coal fields in Canada." After this company had bought all the land they required the government placed a reserve on the balance, another phase of administrative honesty.

Assessment act, section 16:—"It shall be the duty of every person assessable for real or personal property in any district to give all information to the assessors."

Section 24:—"Real and personal property shall be estimated at their actual cash value, as they would be appraised in payment of a just debt from a solvent debtor."

The Fort Steele assessment roll had the assessor's certificate attached as to the actual value, etc., etc. The roll was signed as true and correct by A. P. Cummins, judge of court of revision and appeal, on the 31st of December, 1894.

It will be seen that the finest land in British Columbia, with grand natural advantages, with eight and a fifth acres of free pasture for each acre of the estate, with all improvements (vide A. P. Cummins' report). "About eight miles of excellent fence exists on the estate, with rails ready cut for two miles more."

also numerous farm buildings, a capacious stone building, a dwelling house, outhouses, etc., etc." all included in the assessed valuation of 83 cents per acre, yet no land has ever been sold by the government for less than one dollar per acre. I have this on the very best authority.

The Crow's Nest Coal Company's estate as reported upon by an expert, that it is the most valuable coal field in Canada, assessed value with all the improvements thereon, \$1.96 per acre.

Turn now to the prospectus of the Cranbrook Estate company, limited. We find it is valued at \$25,000, equal to \$315,680, or 18 1-6 times its assessed value. We find a mortgage and other liabilities \$23,000, equal to \$110,400, or 6 2-5 times the assessed value of the whole estate. As an example of company promoting the prospectus leaves nothing to be desired. Some of the statements there in, as also in Mr. A. P. Cummins' report, are so glaringly inaccurate that even Labouchere, the veteran exposé of bogus and inflated companies, must be astonished at such splendid mendacity, proving beyond all question that perfection in this line can only be acquired where immunity from exposure and punishment for so doing is the rule rather than the exception.

If any person accepts an office of trust and confidence concerning the public, especially when it is attended with profit, he is answerable to the crown for his execution of such office. Where there is a breach of trust, a fraud or imposition in a subject concerning the public, which, as between subject and subject, would only be actionable, yet as concerns the crown and the public it is indictable.

Vide prospectus: "The information contained in this prospectus as to the Cranbrook estate, and as to other matters affecting its value, has been supplied to the directors by the vendor. He is the provincial secretary, minister of education and minister of mines of British Columbia. Directors have every confidence in the accuracy of the information supplied."

Provincial government Office, Donald, B. C., April 22nd, 1895.

Colonel the Hon. James Baker, Victoria. Dear Sir: In compliance with your desire, I beg to hand you the enclosed report and the approximate valuation in connection with the Cranbrook estate, based on personal knowledge of the property acquired whilst making official surveys of portions of the lands in question, and at other times when I have been in a position to become well acquainted with the estate, and with the resources of the surrounding district generally.

I am, yours faithfully, A. P. CUMMINS, Provincial Land Surveyor.

In the existing state of the mining districts of Kootenay it is next to impossible to make any accurate valuation of the property. In consequence of the rapid strides in the discovery of minerals, and the construction and projection of railways, the former sales of land in these localities afford but a very imperfect basis in estimating the value of lands at the present time. The agricultural and pastoral lands of the Columbia and Kootenay valleys are very limited in extent compared with the mountainous regions which have now given conclusive evidence of great mineral wealth. The lands will therefore, as has been the case in the mining countries in the United States, prove of proportionately greater value. Nearly all the available lands of the district have been appropriated are now being held for speculative purposes, awaiting the development of the mines, whilst the sale of what crown land remains has been stopped by recent legislation.

The prices paid for lands in the Columbia and Kootenay valleys during the past few years indicate a value of from \$5 to \$15 per acre for lands purchased for farming and cattle raising, independent of possible speculative value. I think, therefore, that a fair valuation of the Cranbrook estate would be \$12 an acre all round exclusive of the town site.

I cannot attempt a valuation of the town site property. I may, however, mention that lots in the mining towns of Nelson and Kaslo, which have recently sprung up in West Kootenay, have been selling at from \$500 to \$2,000 each.

(Signed.) A. P. CUMMINS, Provincial Land Surveyor, etc.

16,589 acres at \$12 per acre.....\$ 199,068

3,000 town lots at \$500.....1,500,000

Mr. A. P. Cummins' total estimate.....\$1,699,398

On the 31st December, 1884, this man signed the assessmen roll as being correct, wherein the total value of this estate was put at \$17,267.

The New Vancouver Coal company own 8,205 acres on Galliano Island; assessed value, \$35,000; tax if paid before the 30th June, \$175. But this land is not owned by a cabinet minister. I own 3,000 acres of pastoral land on Pender Island; taxes to be paid, \$94.02; but I am an oppositionist. I could cite many other instances of gross imposition, but the foregoing is quite sufficient to expose the administrative corruption that disastrously affects our province. Sufficient of this is known in the United Kingdom to destroy all prospect of healthy immigration. It rests with the people, whose sovereign voice is law, and until it is raised throughout the province as it was in Victoria to stop one minister's trickery, H. J. ROBERTSON, Moresby Island, 7th Feb., 1895.

American News.

Star City, Mich., Feb. 20.—The house of Jacob Gunkel was burned yesterday and two children were cremated.

St. Louis, Feb. 20.—An epidemic of small-pox prevails. Up to noon 85 cases were reported.

A New York dispatch says the ship Moody bound for San Francisco was spoken off the Brazilian coast on December the 13th.

Stockton, Cal., Feb. 20.—Shortly before midnight last night a fire broke out in the Masonic Temple and in a few minutes after the blaze was discovered it looked as if the entire block would be burned down. The building is the largest in the city and is valued at \$300,000. The firemen did quick work and managed to check the flames before they reached the rest of the buildings. The loss is large and estimated at between \$10,000 and \$15,000.

When so many people are taking and deriving benefit from Hood's Scurripilla, why don't you try it yourself? It is highly recommended.

A TYPICAL YANKEE

They Will Kill All
They Cannot Get
They Want

Report That Brought A
sition for an Inter
Commission

Washington, Feb. 18.—The chairman of the committee on ways and means of the house to-day the on at the meeting of the Saturday last, authorizing to negotiate with Great Britain and Japan for the appointment of a joint commission to investigate the condition of the fur seal, and further authorizing to conclude a modus vivendi for the preservation of the animals, drawn at the treasury department as reported to-day carries provides in effect that if vendi referred to above be effected and the regulations and the judgment of the government for preserving the seal, male and female, on islands.

The report accompanying written by Mr. Wilson, circumstances which led to the formation of the Paris tribunal and shows that the regular by the tribunal forbade the American side of the Ocean and Behring Sea months of May, June and ther prohibited the taking any time within a zone around the Pribiloff Islands that under the new regime the season just past, there have been killed on the of the North Pacific Ocean Sea 55,686 seals, a larger were ever before taken by from the American side. In the report are tables of pelagic catch of seals in the Ocean and Behring Sea 1890 to 1894 inclusive.

catch was 51,814, it increased in 1891 to 73,394 in 1892, 1893, and to 124,000 in 1894. Of the catch for the years it is known that the taken from the so-called A in 1890, 40,509; in 1891, 47,462; in 1893, 28,613, and 686. Turning to the seals Pribiloff Islands under the United States government, American Commercial com March 12, 1890, the report "We find an alarming decrease in the number which killed."

The report then shows years 1889 to 1890, inclusive averaged about 103,000 seals dropped to 25,701 in 1890, in 1891 which is about the catch for the last year witness," the report adds, increase in the number of herd of seals killed at sea accompanied by a steady decrease in the number taken on the Pribiloff Islands. The report until the climax is reached just expired, when more were killed at sea, as against the islands. When it is considered that at least three-seas catch were females young, and that probably more were killed but lost the island catch were males, some conception of the disastrous result of persecution may be formed. The report concludes with a statement that the plain dictates humanitarianism prescribe conscientious slaughter of pups unborn or left to die be forever prohibited, if no international adjustment of a cruel speedy extermination.

NO TRUTH IN

The Report That Captain
Tortured Discre

San Francisco, Feb. 19. McDaniel, who was in H the recent rebellion, says truth in the statement of William Davies, of the st nolo, was tortured by Ha to extort a confession f was published that the cap up by the thumbs until he secrets of the rebels. of whole cloth," said Mo no one who knows any of affairs in the islands or has any conception of the government takes any story. I was in Honolulu during the whole of the from my knowledge of a fiends I know that such not have occurred. It is President Dole and his as far as possible from an outside nations, and pr United States, of which is a citizen.

Mothers

Will find that the PAIN invaluable in the nursery, always be kept near at hand. For pain in the little Pain Killer in sweet water, bathing the breast the same time. If the are clogged from cold or bathing in the Pain Killer mediate relief. Ask for file

For Horses and
Blood