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Hon. Mr. McBride—The hon. member of the opposition has done very little more than make a rump speech. The only point he really criticises the bill on is the doing away with the \$10 fee, and that is not important. During the campaign the License Act came in for very little notice. The hon. leader of the opposition had made a general charge against members on this side of the House. At the risk of being declared out of order he would say he had been to political meetings in nearly all localities on the Mainland and no such statements were made as the hon. gentleman charged. As to the argument in favor of the \$10 fee, the hon. gentleman had admitted that sometimes a constable had to travel 200 miles and in other cases the house to be inspected was close at hand. In that case the one man was taxed to help pay for the other, which was not fair. The old act provided that the constable inspected the hotels. There was in his opinion no call for the \$10 fee. The hon. leader of the opposition had made an attempt to play on the gallery, and a very desperate attempt at that, by accusing the government of catering to the liquor interests, simply because the Attorney-General did not, in drafting the bill, include the comparatively minor clause he refers to. As to the bond, it was tantamount to telling the license commissioners the government were afraid to trust them to discharge their duties. Following his practice the leader of the opposition had when in power, dumped wholesale into the statutes of the province those he found on the statute books of the other provinces. In 1899 he had practically bulldozed the House into passing legisla-  
tion—

Mr. Martin rather excitedly interrupted the speaker and demanded to be told to what legislation the member referred. The leader of the opposition said he knew the reference was to the Alien Act and the eight-hour law.

Hon. Mr. McBride said he apologized for touching the hon. gentleman on the raw. He had been trying to treat him with as much consideration as possible.

Mr. Martin—It is a dastardly thing for the Minister of Mines to attack me in such a manner.

Hon. Mr. Prentice—Mr. Speaker, is "dastardly" in order? I was called to order for that and "cowardly."

Hon. Mr. McBride—Oh, that is mild from the gentleman who has just taken his seat.

Mr. Speaker—This whole discussion is out of order.

Mr. McBride concluded his remarks by saying that the conditions suggested by the leader of the opposition would impose great hardships on a very deserving class of public-house keepers, those who kept small way-side houses such as on the Ashcroft trail. The hon. leader of the opposition came to British Columbia and dumped down his acts wholesale with very little reference to the conditions surrounding. With reference to Esquimalt, he was the adviser of the government when, after the passage of the act of 1899, the government had refunded to certain individuals of that place half the amount of license collected. This government would try to avoid such crude methods by drafting a bill which would be adapted to the conditions.

Mr. Oliver wished to apologize in advance if he should from unfamiliarity get out of order in his remarks, and proceeded to refer to statements of the Minister of Mines at meetings in the late campaign.

Mr. Speaker suggested that the matter had better be left to the committee, but Mr. Martin contended that it was most pertinent, and Mr. Oliver proceeded to say that he failed to find any justification in the bill for any statements made on the platform regarding the act of 1899 by the Hon. Minister of Mines.

Hon. Mr. McBride—Never mentioned it.

Mr. Speaker again called for order.

Mr. Oliver—Mr. Speaker, I submit it is rather hard on me to make me con-

form to the strict interpretation of the rules of the House after the lax manner in which it has been applied to the other speakers.

The debate concluded then, and the second reading passed, the bill being set for consideration in committee at next sitting of the House.

The Notaries Bill was passed in committee, and comes up for third reading on Monday; the Trustees Bill, Jurors Bill and New Westminster Relief Bill also got their second reading, and were advanced to the committee stage.

The Evidence Bill was considered in committee on its second reading, and will receive further attention before being reported, as there was some difference of opinion as to the jurisdiction of the province and Dominion in the matter of protecting witnesses in giving evidence.

#### Routine Business.

The petition of Jno. Irving and others for a bill to incorporate the Pacific & Omineca railway was presented by Mr. Green, the Vancouver & Lulu Island railway by Mr. Helmcken, and the Grand Forks and Kettle River railway by Mr. Garden.

Leave to introduce the following private bills, which had been before the committee, was granted, and the bills were read a first time:

Vancouver, Northern & Yukon, Mr. Garden; Vancouver city charter, Mr. Garden; Kitimat Caledonia Co., Ltd., Mr. Clifford; Oklat Pass Railway & Navigation Co., Mr. Hall; Lake Bennett Railway Co., Mr. Clifford; Rock Bay & Salmon River railway, Mr. Garden; Diocese of New Westminster, Mr. Tatlow.

Hon. Mr. Turner moved, on the consideration of the speech of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor relative to supply, that the supply be granted. He also moved that the House go into committee of the whole on Tuesday to consider it.

Mr. Rogers moved: "That an order of the House be granted for copies of all correspondence and tenders in connection with the contract for keeping open for travel that portion of the Cariboo trunk road between Cottonwood and Barkerville during the winter season of 1899 and 1900."

Hon. Mr. Eberts moved for leave to introduce a bill to amend the Companies Act, 1897.

The House adjourned and will not assemble until 2 o'clock on Tuesday afternoon.

# Provincial Parliament

## The Wages of Workmen on Government Works—Mr. Helmcken's Resolution.

## Mr. McLunes's Amendment Prohibiting the Employment of Chinese and Japs

Legislature, Wednesday.

There was without doubt the liveliest session of the Legislature at the Wednesday sitting that has yet been witnessed this session, and the end of the questions debated has not been reached, as each one was adjourned. In some cases the debate yet to come on some points promises to take even longer yet.

The first subject of discussion was the resolution of Mr. Helmcken as follows:

"That, in the opinion of this House, all government contracts should contain such condition as will prevent abuses which may arise from the sub-letting of such contracts, and that every effort should be made to secure the payment of such wages as are generally accepted as current in each trade for competent workmen in the district where the work is carried out; and it is hereby resolved that the work to which the foregoing policy shall apply includes not only work undertaken by the government itself, but also works aided by a grant of provincial public funds and all works carried on under franchises granted by the government, and that the aforesaid policy shall be forthwith applied to every department of the public service and to all parties now performing services for the government."

Mr. Ralph Smith seconded the resolution, but, on the amendments proposed by Mr. McLunes, was put in the rather curious position of voting against the motion, as to speak more particularly, of voting for the amendments which were opposed by the supporters of the resolution. In fact there were no opponents of the resolution in the original shape it was made, but the amendments offered by Mr. McLunes, as follows: "That the resolution be amended by inserting between the words 'forthwith' and 'applied,' in the seventh line, the following words: 'embodied in an act and'; also by adding thereto the following words: 'also that in all contracts, leases and concessions of whatsoever kind entered into or made by the government, provision be made that no Chinese or Japanese shall be employed in connection therewith,' were supported by the opposition on the ground that it would have the effect of making the principle of the resolution ultra, and it was argued that if that principle were right in the resolution there could be no reason for opposing the putting it into practice. But the government were evidently not ready to put it into practice, so there was warm opposition to the amendments which defeated the evident expectation of the introducer of the resolution that it would receive unanimous support of the House.

Mr. Martin said that the resolution should come from the government, as it dealt with matters concerning expenditure of public funds. He referred to a similar resolution passed in the Dominion House, where it had been introduced by the government and properly so. The rule was most proper that such a motion should be under the care of the committee of the House, which had such matters in charge.

Mr. Helmcken said he could inform the leader of the opposition that he had consulted with the government and had their consent and approval to bring the matter up. He could also inform him that in the Ontario House a similar resolution had been brought in by a member not of the government.

Mr. Hunter said he was favorable to the resolution of the hon. gentleman would insert words to make the protection of the resolution cover the case of the laborer who as usual was left out and the skilled workman alone referred to.



Mr. McInnes had no intention of opposing the resolution, which was a very proper one. There was, however, no guarantee that the principle would ever be carried out. He therefore would move the amendment. The second amendment, Mr. McInnes pointed out, made it possible to restrict Chinese and Japanese in a way in which it was impossible for the Dominion government to disallow. An act could be disallowed, but a resolution of instruction to the government regarding the insertion of regulations in contracts was beyond the power of the Federal authority.

Hon. Mr. Turner thought the amendment was out of order, as it was not consented to by the government.

Mr. Martin—That is it. Throw it at large or let the government introduce it, which he had contended was the proper procedure. Then, as with all government motions, the House could amend it as it saw fit. The government should state its policy on the question and take credit for such an important change as this was. It was opposed to the principle of responsible government that an important matter of public policy should emanate from a private member, and especially a government supporter, in stead of from the cabinet, a committee of which should have charge of all such affairs. The opposition, while not ready to support all the government might do, in this case would have been willing to support the resolution.

Hon. Mr. Wells—A similar resolution had been introduced into the Imperial House by a private member, and it had passed by general consent.

Mr. Helmcken—This resolution stands by itself and the amendments proposed by the member for North Nanaimo are the same amendments sought to be added in the Ontario House. He thought the resolution would commend itself to every member of the House. He had no objection to the amendment offered by the member from Cariboo, but would strongly oppose any other changes, as he was sure the government would bring in a bill dealing with the matter before the close of the session.

Hon. Mr. McBride—It is a general rule that such matters should be brought in by the government, but there was precedent for the present action. The government was not opposed to the action urged by the amendment, but they were not yet ready to go that far. It was a grave question and should be dealt with in a careful manner. Time should be taken to consider it. He therefore asked that the mover of the amendment would withdraw it.

Mr. McInnes agreed that it was a grave subject, but he could not excuse the government for not having a policy on that account, as it had been before the people for years, and every man in the country had made up his mind on it. Therefore the government should be able to make up its mind on the question without having to wait.

Mr. Martin said the references to the amendments offered at Ottawa being thrown out were not parallel, as in the West they were not so interested in the matter as we were. The mover assured the House that the government would bring in an act, and the Hon. Minister of Mines had no objection to the spirit of the amendment. Why then oppose that amendment?

Mr. McPhillips and Mr. Brown each spoke briefly on the question and Mr. Ralph Smith then followed. He said that he would vote for the amendment though he had seconded the resolution. But the principle of legislation on the question had been added and he was heartily in favor of that. What they were in favor of in principle they should be equally in favor of embodying in an act.

Mr. Kidd followed in a similar line and Mr. Green then took up the argument against the amendment. He held the amendment had been held as a sort of club over the government. The mover thought the government should legislate, and if so he should leave it to them to do so.

Mr. Oliver said he thought the arguments against the amendment were very far-fetched. If the principle was correct, as they all agreed, then it was right to introduce an act embodying that principle. He had no use for these fine-drawn distinctions.

The division was then called, and on demand the names were taken down, the amendment being lost on the following division:

Yeas: Messrs. McInnes, Gilmour, Stables, E. C. Smith, Oliver, Kidd, Neill, Brown, Martin, Curtis, Munro, R. Smith and Houston—13.

Nays: Messrs. Green, Hall, McPhillips, Helmcken, Turner, Dunsmuir, Eberts, A. W. Smith, Ellison, Clifford, Fulton, Hayward, Garden, Tatlow, Prentice, Wells, McBride, Fooley, Murphy, Rogers, Hunter, Taylor, Dickie, and Mousie—24.

This was the first division of the session, and considerable interest was evinced. Messrs. Houston, Kidd, Munro, Neill and Ralph Smith voted with the opposition, making the vote stand 13 to 24.

The debate was continued, Mr. Martin taking up the second part of the amendment, pointing out that while the government might not be ready with legislation on the other point, there was no reason why they should not take up the second proposition, which afforded a ready and effective weapon in the timber leases which were continually falling due and need not be renewed unless the clauses sought to be introduced were embodied in the new lease, and this would be the means of driving a good many out of competitive employment. It was quite competent for the House to pass a resolution instructing the government as to the clause that must be embodied in such leases. The same was true of hydraulic leases, which were leased at nominal figures and should be made to include these provisions. He was surprised that any member should object. They were agreed as to principle, the only difference was the opposition were willing to take up an effective measure while the government supporters were willing to take an excuse for a promise. It was perfectly certain they had no intention to have any legislation on this subject this session. But as to this, why not do it? It was clearly beyond the despotic use of the disallowance power of the Dominion government. Here is something we can do.

Mr. Helmcken asked leave to adjourn the debate as he had not sufficiently understood the clause as proposed to be made.

Mr. Tatlow's resolution on the Mongolian immigration question evoked a long speech from Mr. Brown, who moved the following amendment:

"To strike out all the words after the word 'Resolved,' on the first line, and in lieu of the words so struck out insert:

"That it is the duty of this House, in dealing with the question of Oriental immigration, to cast aside all considerations of party and political partisanship, and to take such action as will demonstrate to the world how vital and far-reaching the question really is."

"That an humble address be presented to His Honor the Lieut. Governor, praying him to advise His Excellency the Governor-General of Canada that, in the opinion of this House, the 'Chinese Immigration Act, 1906,' will prove wholly inadequate even to appreciably check the tide of Chinese immigration, while it leaves the even more threatening influx of Japanese absolutely unrestrained; and further to advise His Excellency that it is the settled conviction of this House that unless Chinese and Japanese immigration be promptly and effectually checked, not only will laborers and artisans of European races be driven from the province, but all trades and industries other than those exclusively, or almost exclusively, engaged in manufacturing for export the raw material of the province will pass into the hands of Chinese and Japanese."

Mr. Hunter remarked on what he called the exaggerated language of the amendment, and Mr. Helmcken moved to adjourn this also, as he had an amendment to offer.

Liquor License Bill.

The consideration of the clauses of this bill in committee took up a good portion of the remaining time of the House, and then at 8:25 the motion adjourns called for half an hour's struggle as to sitting at night to get on with the work of the session. Nothing more came of it than the assurance of the hon. Finance Minister that as soon as the estimates were brought down they would be prepared to take up night sessions.

Routine Work.

Mr. Garden presented the matter...

J. A. Pilkey and others re anti-vaccination.

Mr. Helmcken presented petitions from the B. C. Yukon Railway Company opposing the Lake Bennett railway and the Chilkat Pass Railway and Navigation Company.

On the motion to grant supply, it was moved in committee that the committee rise and report. Hon. Mr. Turner announced that he hoped to be able to bring down the estimates next Tuesday.

The following bills were introduced and read a first time: To incorporate the Pacific Northern and Omineca Railway Company; to amend the act of incorporation of the Vancouver and Lulu Island Railway act; an act to amend the Investment and Loan Societies act, and the Mortgagees Legal Costs act.

Mr. Hayward moved that a standing committee on agriculture be appointed. On this there was some discussion though no opposition. The Minister of Finance thought that the Department had been well administered, and Mr. Martin took the opposite stand.

Mr. Stables moved for a return showing all hydraulic mining leases granted in Atlin, and Mr. Hunter for a return to show cost of the elections for the three years just past.



Aug 3rd

# Provincial Parliament

## The Calling Out of the Militia for Steveston Again Discussed.

### Special Committee of Inquiry Appointed—Employing Young Persons in Stores

Victoria, Thursday.

Less time was spent at to-day's session of the House in "gallery play," or, as some of the members call it, making political speeches, than at any previous sitting. There was an evident desire on the part of the House to get on with business, a necessity in view of the fact that the estimates are expected to be brought down at an early date.

While nearly all the time of the session was taken up with the committee stage of two bills, there were some moments devoted to the privilege members of legislature have, of saying what they please on the actions or motives of their opponents. The debate was on the Steveston affair, and it came out incidentally that the opposition had been dissatisfied with the way in which the correspondence in connection with that affair had been laid on the table. Indeed, Mr. McInnes openly charged that some important portions of it were missing, and it was brought out that Mr. Brown's motion for a special committee was practically a consequence of the belief the opposition held that something was being kept back.

Mr. Brown's resolution "That a special committee, consisting of Messrs. Kidd, R. Smith, Tallow, Oliver and the mover, be appointed to enquire into all matters connected with the sending of the militia to Steveston, with power to send for persons and papers and report the facts to this House," called forth a discussion at some length on the connection and responsibility of the government in the calling out of the militia.

Mr. Brown in moving said: There were so many conflicting reports as to the calling out of the militia that it was desirable to put the blame on the proper shoulders. It was with a desire to have the facts laid before the people that he brought the resolution forward.

Hon. Mr. Eberts said, with reference to the remarks of the hon. member from New Westminster, he would like the hon. gentleman to say what he means regarding his contradictory statements concerning the militia.

Mr. McInnes was glad the question was brought up. The calling out of the militia was a matter of great regret. There had been a great deal to disturb the confidence of the investing public in this country, but during the past ten years there had been nothing to compare with this calling out of the militia, in disturbing the confidence of capital, that the people who were within their rights in refusing to work had been overawed by the action of the authorities. The government were apparently against this being investigated.

Attorney-General Eberts—Stick to the facts, please.

Mr. McInnes—With reference to the correspondence which the hon. Attorney-General last week brought down, he had said the government had nothing to conceal, but all the papers had not been brought down.

Hon. Mr. Eberts explained that an officer had been sent to the Mainland and had been given special instructions which he had communicated to the officer there.

Mr. McInnes—Unfortunately the hon. gentleman's explanation will not go down, for there are several important pieces of information not included in the papers brought down. The canners had wired to the Attorney-General and to the Premier on July 21st and 22nd, respectively: "Steps were sent contained expressions: 'Steps being taken,' and 'Giving Webster full instructions.'" The country had not been put in possession of the facts. The gov-

ernment said they had nothing to do with calling out the militia, but correspondence showed that they had something to do with it. He quoted dispatches from the canners that the militia were urgently required or else very serious results would follow. The inference was clear that in some way the government had something to do with the action. The government had received word from Provincial Constable Lister at Steveston on the afternoon of July 23rd that "All was quiet," yet on the next morning over 100 troops were on the ground. It was clear, first, that the action in calling out the militia was absolutely uncalled for, and second, that the government did have a hand in it some way. It all warrants the hon. member from New Westminster in moving for the appointment of a special committee to inquire into the circumstances.

Hon. Mr. Eberts—"You'll get the worst of it."

Hon. Mr. McBride—When I said last week, in discussing this matter, that the government had nothing to do with the calling out of the militia, I had expected the House would have accepted my statement. The hon. member from N. Nanaimo is evidently not satisfied with that. The stand he has taken is not one calculated to unite the several interests but merely to get a little political notoriety, and he has been doing something like that all along. This was an attempt, apparently, to put the government up against the wall, as it were, in this very trying situation—a situation for which they had been in no way responsible. He reiterated what he had said on the former occasion that the government had not had anything to do with the calling out of the militia. When he went to the Mainland, in his capacity as a minister, there were, of course, certain dispatches he had sent to the government, which were treated as confidential. With the consent of the Attorney-General, he had no objection whatever to making these public. He referred to two, one of which was to the effect that Mr. Bullock-Webster, former chief constable of that district, should be sent, as he knew the district well, and was a very suitable man. Another he had sent was to the effect that all was quiet. The government had had no other desire than to harmonize the conflicting elements. But the hon. member for N. Nanaimo, who posed as the champion of labor, despite my statement that the government had no hand in the affair, practically gives me the lie by his persistent attack. If the Attorney-General will arrange to have the confidential dispatches I sent, I will be only too willing to have them put before the House.

Mr. Gilmour—The hon. Minister of Mines said the government had nothing to do with calling out the militia. Then they have nothing to fear from the appointment of the special committee.

Mr. McPhillips—Waste of time.

Mr. Gilmour—I am glad the hon. gentleman spoke of wasting time, for the House will agree with me that there is no greater offender in respect of wasting the time of this House than the hon. gentleman himself, and if he will only be careful in future how he wastes time the House will be very grateful.

On July 11th Provincial Constable Lister sent a letter to the Attorney-General which is referred to in the correspondence, but it was not on the table. He also said that nearly every telegram was a request to send the militia or special police. Mr. Webster had been instructed to keep in touch with Stipendiary Magistrate Anderson of Vancouver, and have him read the Riot act. Why had that not been done? It was only due to the people of the province; if the government were not responsible, then it should be made clear that they were not.

Hon. Mr. Turner was sorry to hear the hon. member for N. Nanaimo attack the government on the question of the government having had anything to do with this matter. The hon. Minister of Mines had said emphatically the government had nothing to do with it. I say again, they had nothing to do with it. He believed private letters had been received in the city asking certain persons to urge on the government to take some action. The Board of Trade had also received letters. There was nothing in it to call for a special committee, but the government had no wish to oppose it if the House desired it. He would suggest that one name should be added, and proposed that of the Attorney-General, as he thought the government should be represented.

Mr. McInnes objected to the name of the Hon. Attorney-General being added to the committee, as he may be called as a witness, and it would be a peculiar position to be on the committee and a witness as well.

Mr. Kidd—It is known that I am to a certain extent interested, and therefore it is better I think that my name be dropped.

The Hon. Mr. Turner demurred to this proposal, as he thought the hon. member for Richmond was eminently fitted to act on the committee, as he was well informed on the subjects which would come up for discussion.

Mr. Oliver—I submit that we have perfect right to inquire into a matter so nearly concerning the constituencies represented by some of the members proposed for the committee. The expense of the militia will have to be borne by the municipality of Richmond. If there is any suspicion that the magistrates, who are government appointees, have abused their powers then they should be dismissed, and if they have not they should be exonerated from the charge of aspersion.

Mr. Brown—If the Hon. Minister of Mines objects to the slightest aspersion on his veracity then he should not treat hon. members as he does, and accuse them of indulging in political claptrap every time they speak. The hon. member for North Nanaimo did not say the government was responsible for the militia being called out. He said that that had been alleged, and if they had no hand in it the people wanted to know it. These were matters of "local concern and civil rights," and the forces of another government had been brought in to compel submission of one of the opposing interests. The junior member for Victoria might consent to become the mouthpiece of certain corporations or companies; but there were members in the House that would not follow such a line of action.

Hon. Mr. Turner then moved in amendment to the resolution that the name of Hon. Mr. Eberts be added to the committee, and the resolution in that form was carried.

Mr. Ralph Smith had a motion on the order paper to the effect that the House urge upon the government the expediency of making provision to so amend the act providing for formation of councils of labor conciliation and arbitration as to make it effective, which the act in its present form is not.

On the assurance of the Hon. Premier that the government would bring in a measure to-morrow on the lines suggested, Mr. Smith agreed to let the resolution stand.

#### Ministers' Replies.

Mr. McInnes asked the government three questions regarding the sentence imposed on the Union Colliery Co. in the case tried at Victoria in October last, to which the Hon. Mr. Eberts replied as follows:

"1. The company was fined \$5,000.

"2. By an arrangement made between counsel for the Crown and the company at the time judgment was delivered, the payment of the fine was deferred until the final determination of the validity of the conviction.

"3. Yes. The question of the validity of the conviction will come up for argument at the session of the Supreme court of Canada, which begins on the 2nd of October next."

Regarding the question of who was liable for the cost of calling out the militia to Steveston, the Hon. Attorney-General referred the hon. gentleman (Mr. McInnes) to the provision of sec. 34 of the Militia and Defence Act. As to the rumor that the two justices of the peace who signed the warrant calling out the militia were cannerymen and the third a cannery store-keeper, the Hon. Attorney-General said his department had received a report that one was interested in a cannery and the other foreman, while the third was postmaster and a prominent merchant at Steveston.

The Hon. Mr. Wells replied to Mr. McInnes that the government had not yet considered the advisability of appointing a bridge inspector.

Replying to Mr. Kidd, the Hon. Attorney-General answered that the government would inquire into the truth or



...the statement that some Japanese fishermen on the Fraser river carried firearms, and that some Japanese fishermen had obtained fishing licenses fraudulently.

In Committee.

Mr. McPhillips's Shops Bill occupied the time of the House after this stage was reached until almost time to adjourn. The bill seeks to regulate the hours per week it shall be legal to employ young persons in stores or shops, and the members all had some suggestion to make as well as the mover, who himself discovered a number of amendments which he asked leave to include. The principal changes made were the increase of the fine for infraction of the law to \$50, a change suggested by Mr. Neill, and the placing of young boys on the same basis as girls as to age, the limit in each case being made 16 years. It was also urged by members that boys who were employed driving delivery wagons were entitled to the same protection as the boys working in the shops. The bill was finally reported as amended and the committee will sit again to consider it as amended.

The Sandon City Relief Bill was also taken up in committee and passed through that stage with commendable celerity. It will come up for third reading at the next sitting of the House.

Provincial Parliament

The Members Discuss the Provisions of the Liquor License Bill.

End of the Session Indefinite—A Tilt in the Railway Committee

Victoria, Friday.

Most of the afternoon session was taken up with a consideration of the new Liquor License Act, the bill being only partially digested by the committee when the House rose at 6 o'clock.

The Speaker took the chair at 2:15. H. D. Helmcken reported from the standing committee on private bills and standing orders respecting the Diocese of New Westminster and the Vancouver city charter.

C. E. Pooley for the railway committee reported the act to incorporate the Vancouver & Westminster Railway Co. Both these reports were received.

Mr. Curtis introduced an Act to amend the Mechanics' Lien Act, which was read a first time and set down for its second reading at the next session of the House.

The same course was followed with Mr. Hall's amendment to the Extra-Provincial Investment and Loan Societies Act; Hon. Mr. Eberts's amendment to the Land Registry Act and to the Judgment Act, 1899.

Mr. Smith moved the following seconded by Smith Curtis:

"That considering the unsatisfactory nature of the present act intitled An Act to provide for the formation, from time to time as disputes may arise, of Councils of Labor Conciliation and Arbitration, chapter 109, Revised Statutes, 1897, to accomplish such purposes as expressed in title, and in consideration of the labor disputes occurring repeatedly, which ought to be immediately settled for the public good, and inasmuch as such an act would involve the expenditure of public moneys and cannot therefore be presented to this House by any private member, that this House urges the necessity of such provision as above as soon as practicable."

In supporting the resolution the member for Nanaimo asked the indulgence of the House. Certain reflections had been cast on certain members of the House in the morning paper. He himself was not bringing in the resolution either for the purpose of pandering to any one or of wasting the time of the House.

There ought to be some method, he continued, of settling disputes without allowing them to reach such a stage as was sometimes the case. Such a course was followed in Australia, and to a degree in Dominion affairs. He was not unreasonable. He did not even insist that the measure should be brought down this session. He thought both sides should have an opportunity of discussing and considering it. If a definite statement from the government that some such measure was to be brought down next session was given, it would satisfy him.

One feature he thought that ought to be made provision for was a labor bureau for the collection of data and statistics. Another feature should be a provision for the incorporation of Trades Unions. If such were done the difficulty suggested by the Finance Minister a few days previously of compelling workmen to observe arbitration awards, would be overcome. They would then be a corporate body and bound to observe such awards as much as the canners.

There was a precedent for compulsory arbitration in Australia. In six years of its operation, there has not been a single strike there.

He did not desire to hamper the government, but considering the two strikes which had been settled in this province by government interference a good illustration of the practical working of this principle had been set.

When two parties to a dispute carried their differences to the point where public interests were endangered, the strong arm of the law should step in and interfere. He hoped the government would see their way clear to adopt the suggestion. (Applause.)

The Finance Minister, after complimenting the mover upon his moderate speech, said that some misapprehension which had existed regarding the motion had been removed by it. The motion did not set forth, as was anticipated, that the House was in favor of compulsory arbitration. There was some difference on the advisability of this principle even among labor unions. The case he had instanced a few days previously as between canners and fishermen was a case which illustrated the difficulties compulsory arbitration presented. Considering this difficulty he thought it advisable to adjourn the debate. In doing so he did not wish to commit the government for or against the principle. He thought it only fair that the debate be adjourned till Wednesday.

The leader of the opposition understood the difficulty the government had with a question of this kind, considering the circumstances of their existence. This was contentious legislation and therefore they were forbidden to express an opinion upon the subject. At any rate no reason had been advanced for allowing the motion to stand over. It might stand for fifty years.

Continuing the leader of the opposition said that it was impossible to draw up a motion which meant less than the present one.

Hon. Mr. Prentice took repeated points of order to prevent Mr. Martin debating the main question; the Speaker finally ruling that the leader of the opposition must confine himself to reasons why the debate should not be adjourned.

Mr. Prentice said he had been repeatedly called to order for attempting to debate such a question, and Mr. Martin retorted that he was not aware that the Provincial Secretary had ever attempted to debate any question and could not therefore understand how he could have been out of order. (Laughter.)

The debate was finally adjourned. Rising to a question of privilege, the leader of the opposition combated a statement of the Attorney-General that night sessions did not commence in the 1899 session until February 17th. As a matter of fact they started on January 5th and shortly afterwards sat all night.

Hon. Mr. Turner said that at least the opposition had compelled the government to sit all night. He quoted from a memorandum to show that the Attorney-General had been practically correct.

J. C. Brown said he wished to draw the attention of the Finance Minister to the fact that he was reflecting on two of his colleagues and also that he was admitting that they had been obstreperous.

Smith Curtis also drew attention to some answers given him by the Minister of Finance. Some information regarding finance had been refused to him, but was published in the government organ the next morning. This was a gross discourtesy. He of course could not charge the minister with supplying this information, but it could only be obtained from his department. Members of the House could not get the answer, but a paper supporting the government could get it.

The Minister of Finance, in reply, said that all the returns were not in, and therefore the answers could only be given approximately.

Mr. Curtis—That is all I asked. The Minister of Finance disclaimed all responsibility for the item.

Mr. Curtis—I say it came from you or your department; if not from you, from your officials.

Mr. Turner said almost any newspaper could make such an estimate. Any newspaper man could arrive at such a conclusion with the data at his disposal.

Hon. Mr. Eberts also complained of some inaccuracies in the Colonist. The House then went into committee on the Evidence Act, Mr. Rogers in the chair.

The committee rose, reported progress and asked leave to sit again on Tuesday.

Owing to the necessity of advancing the Jurors' Bill so that assizes might be held at Athol, that bill was next taken up with C. W. Munro in the chair. The bill was reported complete without amendment, read a third time and passed.



Aug 5th

# Provincial Parliament

## Mayor Houston, of Nelson, Imparts a Western Flavor to the Proceedings.

## Good Progress Made in Committee of the House on Several Bills.

Victoria, Monday.

The consideration of bills consumed the whole of this afternoon, quite an amount of work being polished off the order paper before the Speaker saw 4 o'clock. Spice and interest was lent to the debates by the "wild and woolly" speech of the representative for Nelson, who gave the members a lively half hour, forming a most welcome break in the tedium of the proceedings.

Upon the Speaker resuming the chair Mr. Pooley reported from the railway committee the Act to incorporate the Rock Bay & Salmon River Railway Co. Mr. Helmcken, for the private bills committee, reported the Act to incorporate the Western Telephone & Telegraph Co.

In reply to Mr. Tatlow, the Premier, stated that the government had not any authoritative information as to the number of persons permitted by the Japanese regulations to emigrate from Japan to Canada each month.

The House then went into committee on the Evidence Bill, with S. A. Rogers in the chair. The bill was reported complete without amendment.

The House resumed in committee to consider the Liquor License Act, which was under consideration on Friday.

The principal portion of the debate raged about the matter of license fees. The Attorney-General announced an amendment making the hotel licenses in localities of less than one hundred inhabitants seventy-five dollars, instead of sixty annually, as at first proposed.

He also announced that in localities of from 100 to 200 inhabitants the fee would be \$125, while the license fee for selling in booths was fixed at \$15 for 48 hours.

The leader of the opposition was at once on his feet and complimented the Attorney-General on the slight concession to this view of the opposition, due, of course, to pressure placed on him in caucus.

The Attorney-General said it was not due to any pressure, but to the fact that he himself, the present Attorney-General, was a reasonable man. If the leader of the opposition had heard the rumors alluded to, it was probably because of the length of his ears. (Laughter.)

Mr. Martin retorted laughingly that other Attorney-Generals had been reasonable men, and regarded as such in the country, but that former incumbents of the position had hesitated about giving themselves such a character. (Renewed Laughter.)

The Attorney-General had the last word by saying that no one in the country had ever regarded one at least of his predecessors as a reasonable man, and the incident closed.

W. H. Hayward, of Esquimalt, introduced an amendment to the bill by limiting the scope of a license by adding the following:

"The expression 'locality' in this section means the territory in a license district situate within one mile of the licensed premises."

By the preamble of the Act locality meant three miles from such premises.

The amendment was opposed by the opposition, Mr. Brown offering the following amendment to the amendment:

"The provisions of this section as to localities of less than two hundred inhabitants, and as to localities of less than 100 inhabitants shall not apply to any locality in which more than one license is granted."

The House then went into committee on the Liquor License Bill. Mr. Martin attempted to have a fee of \$10 fixed for application for licenses, but as this was held to be a question of revenue and must therefore emanate from the government, it was defeated.

Mr. McInnes had a clause inserted providing that when a building is contemplated or in course of erection a license may be obtained.

Mr. Curtis suggested an amendment to the "accommodation" clause, which requires each licensed hotel to have four bedrooms and stabling accommodation for six horses. He was favorable to this standing in the case of houses paying \$60 license fee, but it should be increased to eight people and ten horses for hotels paying \$100 and sixteen people and no horses in those paying \$200. His reasons for doing so was that under the present bill small houses that were little less than saloons came into competition with large and expensive hotels at points like Phoenix and Trill. The Attorney-General recognized the force of the suggestion and promised to consider it.

The committee reached paragraph 43, when it rose.

The Finance Minister stated that the railway committee had been found to be short of a member and suggested that Mr. Clifford be added.

Mr. Brown pointed out that Mr. Munro had voluntarily retired to allow a member to be put on and if another was to be added he should be restored.

Some debate followed when Mr. Gilmour stated that the government had been turned down in the railway committee in the morning and it was necessary for them to add another to have a majority.

Mr. Eberts—What are you talking about?

Mr. McInnes said the Minister of Finance had let the cat out of the bag. The government had been defeated and found it necessary to add another of their number to the committee.

Some further debate followed, but the government had its way and Mr. Clifford was added to the committee.

By permission of the House the Kamloops & Atlin Railway Bill was introduced, although some formality in connection with the publication of the notice in the press had been omitted.

The House then rose to meet on Tuesday at 2 p.m.

The debate proceeded drowsily until shortly after 4 o'clock, when an electric current swept through the chamber, bringing in indifferent members from the lobbies and setting the galleries agog with anticipation. John Houston, the member for Nelson, was on his feet in a maiden speech so unconventional and western in its flavor that it sent a thrill of excitement through the sleepy House. Metaphorically the member for Nelson mounted his cayuse and cantered about the room emptying his six-shooter into the Attorney-General and the leader of the opposition, with a stray shot or two at the junior member for Victoria, who innocently strayed into the game while the shooting was in progress. The latter escaped with a singed beard, principally because his antagonist was busily engaged with bigger quarry.

Mr. Houston opened his remarks ominously: "As a supporter," he said, "of the Government—"

Mr. Martin—Oh! oh! (Laughter.)

Mr. Houston—I want to know why they have laid down a certain rule of procedure and have not stuck to it?

"If there is to be government by the government, we want them to stick to their pledges and not shilly-shally"—here the speaker's remarks rose to a shout—"in favor of Esquimalt." (Opposition applause.)

"This is Joe Martin's Act," he added, "and the government is too cowardly, or do not know what to do, and have adopted Joe Martin's liquor law. I don't say that the Premier is doing that, but by the men by whom he is surrounded."

"Esquimalt is not the province of British Columbia, and laws should be made for the province, not for Esquimalt. It has few electors, and I don't care who its representatives are, they are not entitled to more consideration than other members. They may be honorable men, but they are entitled to no more consideration than those who have sat in this House only a few days."

Fired by opposition applause, the speaker added: "They're not as good as much, for I believe they are the backs who live in the past." (Laughter.)

Mr. Hayward said that he couldn't come under the classification as he had only sat for a few days. He added that the immediate amendment under consideration was from the member for New Westminster, whereupon the last

speaker evened up honors by adding that he too was a "moosback."

Then the member for Nelson broke out again:

"This is one question, I am going to fight," he said. "On Friday in committee of the whole section 28 passed without amendment. Why is it amended to-day? Is it because the chairman of the committee and the mover of the amendment are from Esquimalt?"

He glared across the floor for a moment at the Attorney-General, but no reply being forthcoming hurled this challenge across the floor:

"If you want a fight on your hands you can have it right now, for all the ability I have, I want to know why it was amended to-day?"

He paused a moment and the Attorney-General intimated that section 28 didn't require amendment.

"Doesn't require what?" insisted the speaker, his ire rekindled at the reply, "I don't care if you are Attorney-General. You are simply the representative of South Victoria and I of Nelson, a more important constituency than yours, and while I am able to speak on the floor of the House I will find out where this legislation is at, and I want to know where you are at?"

This last to the Attorney-General.

"If you whip your supporters into line in caucus," he added, "why can't you whip them into line in the House? If you have not the manhood to do so, you had better give way to some one who can."

Mr. McPhillips rose to a point of order, but Mr. Houston said it would be better for him to rise less. He spoke oftener and said less than anyone in the House. (Laughter.)

The leader of the opposition complained that the Attorney-General was ordering the House and his supporters about



in a dramatic way, and after the member for Nelson had fired a parting shot by saying that Mr. Eberts was unfit to be a leader, a division was taken on Mr. Eberts' amendment, which was lost.

The House next went into committee on the Companies Bill, with A. W. Smith in the chair, which was reported complete without amendment.

The New Westminster Relief Bill was next considered in committee, Mr. Hayward in the chair. The bill will be further considered at the next sitting of the House.

An Act to amend the Roseland Water & Light Co.'s Act Amendment Act was read a second time, as was also the Land Registry Act and the Judgments Bill, the House rising shortly before six.

## Provincial Parliament

### Exclusion of Mongolians Again Occupies the Attention of Legislators.

#### Mr. McInnes's Amendment Ruled Out of Order by the Speaker.

Tuesday, Aug. 8, 1900.

The matter of Asiatic exclusion occupied a very prominent place in the parliamentary deliberations to-day. Oddly enough, it formed the first subject to be broached, the Premier opening the proceedings with the reading of a telegram printed in yesterday's Times. While the intermediate programme was given up to the consideration of different bills, the debate closed with the same old topic which marked the opening of the day's session.

The Speaker took the chair shortly after two o'clock.

Prayers were read by Rev. E. S. Rowe.

After the reading of Consul Shimisi's telegram, Chairman Pooley, for the railway committee, reported the Vancouver, Northern and Yukon Railway Act, 1890. He also reported that in the opinion of the committee it would tend very much to facilitate business in the committee if the plan of a model bill now in force in the railway committee of the House of Commons were adopted. Such a course would bring about uniformity of legislation and save a great deal of time in the committee.

Mr. Martin moved that the Evidence bill be referred back to the committee of the whole. He could not understand why the government refused to accept his amendment, excepting that it emanated from his side of the House. He accused the government of carrying on the government by brute majority.

The Attorney-General retorted that the House had had a specimen of government by brute majority at a previous session, when the government refused to allow even a comma to be inserted in legislation, by the opposition. Not only was this done, but the opposition had been treated with very scant courtesy indeed. (Government applause.)

The leader of the opposition said that what the Attorney-General had said was entirely wrong, and he (the Attorney-General) knew it.

A vote being taken on the motion to refer the bill back to committee of the whole, it was lost.

Mr. McInnes asked the government the following questions:

1. What amount of fees and expenses are claimed by each of the arbitrators and the umpire in connection with the arbitration on the special rule under the "Coal Mines Regulation Act"? 2. What was the total cost of the said arbitration?

Hon. Mr. Eberts replied as follows: "According to the award of the arbitrators, that each side should pay its own arbitrator and half the cost of the umpire, the government has paid: F. W. MacCoady, umpire, \$400.50; W. J. McAllan, arbitrator on behalf of the government, \$600.75. The total cost of the arbitration is \$2,331.75."

Mr. Gilmour asked the hon. the Premier the following questions: 1. What information has the government received in regard to damage done by high water on the Fraser River this year? 2. Does the government intend giving any relief to the sufferers by said high water; and if so, the nature of relief?

Hon. Mr. Dunsmuir replied as follows: "The government are taking steps to ascertain fully the nature and extent of damages done by the late freshet, and on receipt of complete reports the question of relief will be considered."

Hon. Mr. Eberts introduced a bill intitled "An Act respecting Succession Duties," and a "Bill to Amend the Official Administrators' Act," which were read a first time and placed on the orders for the next sitting of the House. The House then went into committee on the Companies bill, with Mr. Hall

in the chair.

Mr. Curtis moved that companies be required to publish the registration certificate in the Gazette one week only, instead of four as provided by the bill. The clause, however, stood.

A long amendment was offered by Mr. McPhillips relating to the winding up of joint stock companies, and based on the English law. The amendment was finally withdrawn, and the committee reported progress, after accepting the following additional amendment by Mr. McPhillips:

"13. Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, it shall be lawful for companies incorporated under any statute of this province, whose principal and main business is to acquire tracts of land, with the object of subdividing the same into lots and selling such lots when so subdivided as aforesaid, provided such companies have paid all debts legally owing by them, or have made ample provision for the payment of the same, testified by a statutory declaration made by the secretary of the company, who also exhibits a full, true and correct account of the liabilities and assets of the company, such statutory declaration to be filed with the registrar of joint stock companies,—to declare and pay dividends out of the moneys being the net proceeds of the sale of their lands so subdivided as aforesaid; and all such dividends and payments shall be taken and considered as a reduction of the capital of such company.

"A resolution passed by the shareholders holding at least two-thirds in value of the paid-up capital stock of the company, at any general meeting of shareholders, shall be necessary for the declaration and payment of such dividends; and such resolution shall only be passed after the expiration of ten days from the filing of the statutory declaration hereinbefore required to be filed with the registrar of joint stock companies.

"A copy of every such resolution, under the seal of the company, and certified to by the secretary of the company, shall be filed in the office of the registrar of joint stock companies within ten

days after the passing of the resolution, and ten days shall elapse after the filing thereof before payment out of any such dividends to the shareholders shall be made.

"After the filing of every such resolution with the registrar of joint stock companies, the said registrar shall, by a notice published in four issues of the British Columbia Gazette, declare to what sum the capital of any such company, by such payment of dividends, stands reduced, and the company shall pay the registrar the costs of such publication."

After the committee had risen His Honor the Lieut.-Governor visited the House to assent to the amended Jurors Act, which has been pushed through in order that a postponement of the assizes in Atlin might not be necessary.

His Honor having retired, the House resumed in committee on the Roseland Water & Light Company's Act Amendment bill, which was reported complete without amendment. The bill was read a third time and finally passed.

The Shops bill also passed through with slight amendments suggested by the mover. The Sandon Relief bill also passed its third reading.

The second reading of the Labor bill was not reached. Mr. McInnes was proceeding to say that it touched two matters, the eight-hour question and the exclusion of Mongolians, when Mr. McPhillips took a point of order.

This act, he said, might be ultra vires of the legislature, and therefore might not be accepted by the government. But it also interfered with trade and commerce, and therefore he considered it out of order.

In reply, Mr. McInnes said it would be very dangerous for this House to pass upon the constitutionality of any act. There was a proper tribunal to decide whether legislation was ultra vires or not. It would be most undesirable to undertake to pass upon such a question, which was one for the courts.

Mr. McPhillips said it was not only a bill to reduce the time of labor, but a wholesale enactment relating to trade.

Hon. Mr. Prentice thought it affected



the royal prerogative of the crown. The Finance Minister thought the eight hour clause would be awkward in case of accident when it was necessary to work for a longer period, but Mr. McInnes pointed out that the latter part of the section explained how this feature would be overcome.

The Speaker remarked that the point taken by the Provincial Secretary seemed to him the most forceful. This measure interfered with the time in which the crown employees should labor. He therefore ruled it out of order.

Mr. Brown remarked that Mr. Speaker was the first one to introduce such a ruling. In 1891 Mr. Beaven introduced a bill making eight hours the term of labor daily on public works, and no point of order was taken on it.

Mr. McInnes took exception to the action of the government. It was a serious question when a member of that government would take refuge in a point of order for the sake of bowling out such a resolution. He therefore felt obliged to do what, under other circumstances, he would not think of doing, appeal from the decision of the chair.

A division being taken the chair was sustained on the following vote:

Yeas—Messrs. McInnes, Gilmour, Stables, E. C. Smith, Oliver, Brown, Curtis, R. Smith—8.

Nays—Messrs. Kidd, Neill, Munro, Hall, McPhillips, Helmcken, Turner, Dunsmuir, Eberts, A. W. Smith, Ellison, Clifford, Dalton, Hayward, Garden, Tatlow, Prentice, Wells, McBride, Pooley, Murphy, Rogers, Hunter, Taylor, Dickie, Mounce—23.

The Investment and Loan Societies Act Amendment Act (Mr. Tatlow) was read a second time.

The Mortgagees Costs bill was introduced for second reading.

At this point Jos. Hunter registered a very decided protest. He wanted to know if this bill could not be held over. Forty-eight bills had been introduced, and if they were to continue, it would be the end of October before the House would rise. This was a busy season of the year, when many members could ill-afford to be away from home. This was a lawyer's bill that might well stand over. (Applause.)

A. W. Neill followed in the same strain. He had heard a great deal about no contentious legislation being introduced. Such an arrangement, if it did exist, the government had adhered to, but their followers had not. He believed his constituents would support him in opposing every measure. The estimates could not be reached until these bills were disposed of, and it would be the rainy season before public works would be undertaken. He protested most strongly against the delay.

Mr. McPhillips withdrew his bill. The House then passed to the consideration of the motion of Mr. Helmcken, as follows:

"That in the opinion of this House, all government contracts should contain such conditions as will prevent abuses which may arise from sub-letting of such contracts, and that every effort should be made to secure the payment of such wages as are generally accepted as current in each trade for competent workmen in the district where the work is carried out; and it is hereby resolved that the work to which the foregoing policy shall apply includes not only work undertaken by the government itself, but also all works aided by a grant of provincial public funds and all works carried on under franchises granted by the government, and that the aforesaid policy shall be forthwith applied to every department of the public service and to all parties now performing services for the government."

And Mr. McInnes's amendment thereto:

"Also that in all contracts leases, and concessions of whatsoever kind entered into or made by the government, provision be made that no Chinese or Japanese shall be employed in connection therewith."

Mr. Helmcken objected to the introduction of the amendment at this stage.

Mr. Brown drew attention to the fact that public acts containing anti-Mongolian clauses were disallowed last year, while private acts containing similar provisions were allowed. These acts were not disallowed because of being unconstitutional, but by a straining of the disallowance power. Some members seemed to regard the provincial Legislature as subordinate to the Dominion

House. This was a mistake. This Legislature was supreme within its own right as the Imperial House itself.

He reminded the Minister of Mines and the senior and third member for Vancouver that they were pledged to just such a step as was contemplated in the amendment of the member for North Nanaimo. He asked them to be true to these pledges in a matter of such deep concern to so many residents of the province.

Mr. McPhillips had made no pledges which prevented him exercising his judgment. He had made no promise that he would support legislation that was ultra vires. Mr. Mills had said that if this kind of legislation reappeared he would disallow it.

Mr. McInnes—This will not be in an act, and therefore cannot be disallowed.

Mr. McPhillips offered the following amendment:

"To strike out all the words in the amendment after the word 'that' in the first line and substitute 'if any provincial aid be granted in the way of contributions from the public funds of the province in aid of any public undertaking that such aid or grant be conditional upon the contract being entered into by any such person or company receiving aid or grant of land, that no Chinese or Japanese be employed upon any such work or undertaking.'"

Capt. Tatlow supported Mr. McPhillips's amendment. He admitted being pledged on the question. He quoted the platform of the leader of the Conservative leader with which, he said, the amendment of Mr. McPhillips was directly in line.

Hon. Mr. McBride said he regarded these Mongolians as a menace to the country. Every word he had uttered on the subject he would stand by; but he was not going to be made subject to every little resolution introduced by the opposition to play to the galleries on this question. It was too important for that. Already the government had accomplished more to meet this difficulty than any previous government. Even the step which the Japanese government had taken as announced at the opening of the House could be traced to the clause relating to this matter in the Queen's speech.

Mr. McInnes—Ha, ha!

Hon. Mr. McBride—That is all the argument the honorable gentleman has.

Mr. McInnes—That is all it requires. The government, continued the speaker, were strong enough not to be made a football of. His honorable friends opposite were endeavoring to make political capital.

He chided Mr. Brown with having been in the House in previous years and not having taken any steps to bring in such an amendment as was suggested by Mr. McInnes.

It was all very well for the opposition to say that they had a champion who had fought the R. and the separate schools. This was an entirely different matter—one of Imperial concern. (Applause.)

He pointed out instances in which a hardship would be worked by adopting Mr. McInnes's amendment. He appealed to the opposition not to treat the matter lightly by bringing in resolutions indiscriminately, and thus bring the matter into contempt.

Mayor Garden said Mr. McPhillips's amendment related to private contracts, and therefore could not be disallowed.

Mr. Oliver claimed that Mr. McInnes's amendment was in line with Mr. Wilson's platform. What he had heard on the floor of the House led him to doubt the validity of ante-election promises. Mr. McInnes's amendment provided that these restrictions should be placed, not in the act but in the contract, which was Mr. Wilson's idea.

The Minister of Mines had claimed that the shutting out of Japanese was due to the efforts of the government. If such were the case the United States congress should pass a vote of thanks to them, for he noticed that the provision applied to the United States also. (Loud laughter.) They had placed the whole continent under obligation.

Mr. Brown twitted the Minister of Mines on smothering the question under glittering generalities. The continual claim of broad mindedness by government supporters had the appearance at least of attempting to wiggle out of pledges.

The onus of introducing the subject, or of playing to the gallery, as claimed by Mr. McBride, lay with the government supporters.

If the amendment to the act were nothing, it would be better than nothing. It made the government's position ridiculous. They had suggested as improper any amendment to the section, yet finally they had backed down by introducing an amendment to the amendment.

Mr. McInnes questioned the statement that the government had done more in the time they had been in power than any previous government for the exclusion of Asiatics. He questioned the statement for different reasons, the principal one being that it was devoid of truth. (Laughter.) What had the government done? They had done nothing in a positive way to abate the trouble, but they had done much in a negative way to perpetrate it. The Finance Minister had stood up and taken refuge in a technicality by taking a point of order. In the committees they had found that the government was not ready to deal with the question. They even claimed credit for causing the stopping of emigration from Japan. Perhaps they had cabled to the Mikado to stop emigration. He always believed that they were in close relation with the Japanese government, but he hardly thought they carried it to that extent. (Laughter.) If they were entitled to the credit for the action of the Japanese government it was peculiar that the United States was included in the arrangement. (Laughter.)

They had been assured the previous day by the Attorney-General that he was a reasonable man. He had also said that he had the undivided support of his followers, yet he had hardly taken his seat when one of those very supporters, the member for Nelson, had given him such a tongue lashing as he had rarely heard a public man receive, and had pronounced him unfit for leadership.

The Minister of Finance—Order. Mr. McInnes—The Finance Minister is getting uneasy and is beginning to take points of order again.

The speaker, he continued, wanted action, especially on the Asiatic question. The Minister of Mines had pronounced it a very serious question. According



# 162 Provincial Parliament

## Smart Debate Upon Mr. Curtis's Amendment to the Liquor License Bill.

### Distinguished Visitors—Mr. Martin's Amendment Regarding Assayers.

Wednesday, Aug. 8.

Prompted perhaps by the presence on the floor of the House of Hon. Speaker Henderson, of the United States Congress, the leaders of debate indulged in more pronounced attempts at oratory this afternoon than they have hitherto done. Mr. Henderson was accompanied by Hon. Abram Smith, United States consul and a number of ladies. The congressional visitor manifested a deep interest in the debate, and certainly he had a good opportunity of hearing the provincial legislators at their best, for some of the ablest speakers on both sides participated in the discussions.

Prayers were read by Rev. E. S. Rowe. H. D. Helmcken presented the sixth report of the standing bills committee, reporting the Crow's Nest Power & Light Co. The report was received.

Mr. Curtis introduced "An Act respecting deception in procuring workmen or employees," which was read a first time.

Mr. Brown introduced his bill "respecting certain provisions respecting grants in aid of private enterprises." Hon. Mr. Eberts also introduced "a bill to amend the Bennett-Atlin Commission Act, 1899."

Mr. Brown, amid applause, announced that he had decided to withdraw his bill to provide for the better administration of certain acts. He said that on consideration he believed they might very well stand over.

Mr. Curtis asked the Hon. the Minister of Finance the following questions: 1. Have all the fees paid by applicants for private bills at last session of the House been refunded? 2. If not, in what cases have they been retained, and why? 3. Will they in such cases (if any) be refunded, and, if so, when?

Hon. Mr. Turner replied as follows: 1. No. 2 and 3. They will all be refunded when applied for.

Mr. Curtis's question regarding the approximate revenue and expenditure, etc., were left temporary in abeyance, the Minister of Finance promising a reply on Friday.

Mr. McInnes's question in regard to the Victoria Court house and gaol were laid over, and the Minister of Finance said he was unable to answer the third question as to the revenue, licenses, convictions and fines under the Game Act.

On motion of Mr. Helmcken the Vancouver & Westminster Railway Bill was read a second time.

The Vancouver Incorporation Bill came up for consideration on motion of Mr. Garden. Mr. Martin took occasion to register his well-known objection to the granting of special charters. There were two cities in the province—Vancouver and New Westminster—who enjoyed this distinction; the remainder came under the general law. Such an arrangement was a disadvantage, as it entailed considerable expenses every time a change in the charter was desired. It might be thought that the council of the city of Vancouver could impose their policy on the government. He thought this would be found to be erroneous. Clauses might be inserted in the General Act on matters of purely local application, limiting the operation of the section to certain cities. Why, he added, should the time of the House be wasted in the consideration of a general municipal law for one city? It had been found advisable in Manitoba to wipe out these special charters, and he was not aware that they existed at all in Ontario. These special charters existed in England when there was no general municipal law. There was no reason why the whole law should not be contained within the four corners of a municipal statute.

Mr. Helmcken reminded the House that several years ago the municipal committee had recommended a similar course. He hoped it would soon become practicable.

The Attorney-General recalled the long agitation carried on by Mr. Kitchen, ex-M. P. P., on the same lines, and he hoped the acts would be consolidated. He agreed with the remarks which had fallen from the lips of the leader of the opposition.

The bill passed its second reading, as did also the Rock Bay & Salmon River Railway Bill.

Mr. Price Ellison took pleasure in moving the second reading of the Western Telephone & Telegraph Bill. This line traversed the entire length of his district. A large sum had been spent on it, and it was thoroughly up to date. The company asked no aid and intended extending its line to the Coast in the near future. The bill was read a second time.

The Vancouver Northern & Yukon Railway Bill also passed its second reading.

The House went into committee on the Liquor License Bill, with Mr. Pooley in the chair. Mr. Curtis moved the following amendment:

"To strike out section 27 and substitute the following:

"27. The premises for which a 'hotel license' is applied for must have the following accommodation:

"Where a license fee is at the rate of seven-fifty dollars per year, at least four bedrooms, with a sufficient complement of bedding and furniture to accommodate the travelling public; where the license fee is at the rate of one hundred and twenty-five dollars per year, at least eight bedrooms, with a sufficient complement of bedding and furniture to accommodate the travelling public, and where a license fee is at the rate of two hundred dollars per year, at least sixteen bedrooms, with a sufficient complement of bedding and furniture to accommodate the travelling public. The premises in all cases must also have attached thereto sufficient stabling for at least six horses, except in any case where the commissioners consider the accommodation for horses is not required by the travelling public. The premises shall also be fitted up with appliances for keeping a well appointed eating-house for serving meals to travellers."

Mr. Curtis stated the reasons he has already given for the amendment. The Attorney-General, however, thought an injustice was worked by the section to those who had put up small hotels. The difficulties the mover of the amendment sought to overcome could be settled by the commissioners.

The leader of the opposition said that it would be useless for him to remonstrate, as whatever Mr. Eberts said he supposed would go. He considered his argument entirely fallacious. His whole argument was that a vested right must be protected. Otherwise he admitted the cogency of the arguments of the member for Roseland. He was afraid that it was the old question of the government caring less for the general good than for the votes of a few saloon keepers, Esquimalt which should have no representatives, but which unfortunately had two, have more influence than a big constituency such as that represented by Mr. Curtis. Such a miserable constituency as Esquimalt—(laughter.)

Mr. Hayward—Is that in order? (Renewed laughter.)

Mr. Martin—I mean in so far as numbers are concerned. He stamped the whole thing as outrageous.

The Attorney-General said Mr. Martin had different views in 1899. In that year his own act required no hotel to have more bedrooms than four.

Mr. Martin—I admit that.

Continuing, Mr. Eberts said a similar law existed in Manitoba, and therefore should commend itself to the leader of the opposition. It also obtained in Ontario. He wondered if any of those opposite were interested in these up-country hotels?

Mr. Curtis—With equal right. I may ask is the Attorney-General interested in these teapot-saloons? (Laughter.)

The Attorney-General said he had no monetary interest in these concerns, but he was interested in all the people of British Columbia.

The leader of the opposition said he had not introduced the "four-room" amendment. It had previously existed in the law. It was very unpleasant for him to have to be continually correcting Mr. Eberts on questions of fact. For instance he had said that a similar law existed in Manitoba. He quoted from the law to show that there four bedrooms had to be provided in addition to that required for the use of the family.

The Attorney-General chided Mr. Martin with not finding any fault with the law in the preceding session. Mr. Martin's amendment had been based on the Manitoba law, hence the mistake.

Mr. Curtis repudiated the suggestion that he was interested in hotel property. He had no such interest in any hotel in the world. The Attorney-General had said that when travelling he liked to get a good bed and a good drink. The amendment he suggested would accomplish that end. There could be no comparison between British Columbia and Ontario and Manitoba. In the former people were migratory and required much superior accommodation in proportion to the population of a place to the latter two.

The amendment was lost, the following addition, however, being accepted by the Attorney-General on Mr. Martin's suggestion: "That hotels have at least four bedrooms in addition to those required for the family and servants of the license holder."

Sub-section I. of section 28 was amended from "a statement of the number of inhabitants within three miles of the premises sought to be licensed in any municipality" to "a statement of the number of householders within three miles, and inhabitants within one mile," etc.

The opposition snatched a victory on an amendment of Mr. Haywards, seeking to add after section 44 this clause:

"The term 'inhabitants' shall not include members of Her Majesty's forces, both naval and military on full pay."

Mr. Brown said this was reducing the troops to the level of Chinese and Indians, and he opposed the suggestion. A division being taken, when a number of government supporters being absent, the amendment was lost. Messrs. Mounce and Dickie voting with the opposition amid the applause of the latter.

The following amendment was then offered by Mr. Brown:

"57A. No license granted under section 57 hereof shall authorize the sale of liquor on any dining car or steamer except for consumption on such dining car or steamer, and any person or company selling liquor under any such license to any person who intends to remove said liquor from such dining car or steamer for consumption elsewhere shall be guilty of an offence, for which he may be punished as if he were guilty of selling liquor without a license."

A long debate followed on this question, Mr. Brown pushing the adoption of his amendment.

Mr. Munro drew attention to the fact that their were no licenses in his constituency, and to allow the steamers to land liquor was overcoming local sentiment.

Mr. Neill opposed the amendment, which he thought was already provided for in the bill.

Mr. McPhillips was declaring on the matter when he was interrupted by Messrs. Martin and McInnes, who asked him to define the word "port."

Mr. McPhillips intimated that he had ideas on the subject, and he would not accept the domination of the leader of the opposition. He didn't see why residents in unfrequented parts of the province should not be allowed to enjoy a beverage when a steamer called.

Mr. Brown provoked a storm by saying that the debate had established two things: first that the junior member for Victoria had ideas; and secondly, that he favored free Chinese, free Japanese, free whiskey.

A hurricane of laughter swept through the House in the midst of which Mr. McPhillips was seen to rise to his feet and wildly gesticulate. Amid frequent interruptions and laughter he repudiated the suggestion.

The leader of the Opposition—Actions speak louder than words.

Mr. McPhillips retorted with the Hibernicism that the actions of the leader of the opposition were nothing but words. The amendment was defeated.

A slight amendment by Mr. Neill was adopted. Section 84 was struck out and the bill was reported complete with amendment. The bill was then adopted.

The Land Registry Bill was taken up.



Aug 10th

# Provincial Parliament

## Heavy Debating in the House Yesterday Afternoon—Game Bill Defeated.

### Strong Fight Waged and Unanimous Decision Reached on Fair Wage Motion.

Thursday, August 9th.

Two important contributions were made this afternoon to the debate arising out of Mr. Helmcken's fair wage motion and the amendments of Messrs. McInnes and McPhillips thereto. The labor leader (Ralph Smith) spoke with his accustomed clearness and cogency, while Mr. Curtis, member for Rossland, who has already established a reputation as one of the most valuable men in the House, spoke with even greater force than ordinarily. The reply of the Minister of Finance was evidently delivered with a great deal of suppressed feeling, and much of the weight which it otherwise would have possessed was neutralized by the fact that the respected ex-Premier appeared in the role of being more or less an apologist for Mongolian labor.

Mr. McInnes's Game Amendment Bill was thrown out, while the House showed its good sense by refusing to accept Capt. Tatlow's purely political motion.

Prayers were read by Rev. E. S. How.

#### Petitions and Reports.

The Minister of Finance presented a petition from the Board of Trade of Phoenix supporting the Grand Forks & Kettle River Railway Bill, while Mr. Helmcken presented five petitions asking for amendments to the Game Act.

Mr. Helmcken introduced an Act relating to employment on works carried on under franchises granted by Private Acts, and Mr. Oliver one amending the Municipal Act. The latter was referred to the municipal committee, as the Attorney-General intimated that the city of Victoria wished some amendments and that a committee would be named later.

Hon. Mr. McBride presented a return to an order of the House for all hydraulic leases granted since 1st January, 1898, in the Atlin district, with names of lessees, etc.

Mr. McInnes introduced a labor bill, and the following resolution was submitted by Mr. Brown:

"That an humble address be presented to His Honor the Lieut.-Governor, praying that he will cause to be sent down to this House a return showing the number of ballot papers actually issued to voters in each riding of the province at the general election held on the 9th day of June, 1900."

The motion carried.

#### Questions.

Mr. Curtis's questions of the Finance Minister were laid over till Monday.

Mr. McInnes asked the government the following questions: 1. When and for what reason was A. W. Walkley, Esq., removed from his position in charge of the reconstruction of the Victoria court house? 2. By whom has he been succeeded? 3. If by George Jeeves, Esq., is he the same person who by himself, or in partnership with others, held a contract in connection with the construction of the Legislative buildings? 4. Did the government have difficulty in settling accounts with the said George Jeeves, or his partnership, over the said contract? 5. To what extent did Government Architect Rattenbury refuse to endorse the demands of the said George Jeeves, Esq., or his partnership? 6. Did the government arrange a complete or partial settlement with the said George Jeeves, Esq., or his partnership, in 1894 and 1898? 7. Were there general provincial elections in 1894 and 1898?

Hon. Mr. Wells replied as follows: 1. On 31st July last, because his services were not required. 2. By George Jeeves. 3. The government had no contract with Mr. Jeeves, or his partners; they merely continued the work in the names of the legal representatives of the deceased contractor, Frederick Adams. 4. No. 5. To no extent, these persons not being recognized as interested under the contract. 6. No; a complete settlement was made in 1898 with the Adams estate. 7. Yes.

Mr. McInnes pointed out that the answers could not be considered satisfactory. The answer to the first question was that Mr. Walkley's services were no longer necessary, while the answer to the next showed that the services of such a man were required.

Mr. McInnes asked the government the following questions: 1. When and for what reason was A. R. Sherk, Esq., removed from his position as warden at the Victoria gaol? 2. By whom has he been succeeded? 3. If succeeded by a Mr. Jeeves, is he a brother of George Jeeves, Esq., who was recently placed in charge of reconstruction of the Victoria court house?

Hon. Mr. Eberts replied as follows: 1. A. R. Sherk never occupied the position of warden at Victoria gaol. He was employed specially from May 30th to June 30th; his services were then no longer required, and were dispensed with. 2. On the 12th July, owing to the absence of one of the guards, it became necessary to employ a special guard, and Mr. Jeeves was employed. His services will be dispensed with in a few days. 3. I am informed that the Mr. Jeeves above mentioned is a brother of the Mr. Jeeves who is employed upon the reconstruction of the Victoria court house.

Mr. McInnes asked the government the following questions: 1. How many licenses have been issued under section 14 of the Game Protection Act, 1898, and how much revenue has been derived from the issue of such licenses? 2. How many convictions have taken place under the said act, and what is the total amount of the fines which have been imposed?

Hon. Mr. Turner replied as follows: 1. 7; \$350. 2. It will take considerable time to prepare a return that will furnish the information requested by this question.

Mr. Oliver's question regarding returns from hotel licenses stood over.

Mr. Oliver asked the Hon. the Minister of Agriculture the following questions: 1. Why was Mr. Thos. Wilson dismissed from the horticultural board? 2. Who has been appointed in his place? and 3. At what salary?

Hon. Mr. Turner replied as follows: 1. Mr. Thos. Wilson was not dismissed; his term of office expired on 30th June, 1900. 2. The vacancy on the board was filled by Mr. Thomas Cunningham. 3. Members of the board of horticulture are paid five dollars a day when actually employed.

#### The Lien Bill.

Mr. Helmcken, upon the debate on the Mechanics' Lien Bill being resumed, said he had looked into the matter, and as he found the workingman was properly protected in the contemplated measure, he would support it.

Mr. McPhillips wanted the bill dropped, to expedite matters, as he had been asked to allow a bill to lapse; and he thought the opposition should do so too.

Mr. Brown announced that he would not oppose the bill, although he had opposed admitting "material" men to the benefits of the bill in former years. He was assured by the promoters that the mechanic was properly protected. Since he thought Mr. Curtis might allow the bill to stand over. The government had not pushed matters, had not a night session, etc., and were not taking advantage generally of the opportunity to expedite affairs.

Jos. Hunter advocated passing the estimates and leaving all these bills high and dry until next session. (Laughter.)

The Attorney-General chaffed the member from New Westminster on his change of attitude since 1891, when the Davay government introduced a clause in the Mechanics Lien Act to protect the "material" man, and when it had been strenuously opposed by Mr. Brown, who finally carried his point. Such a clause protected the young contractor. The member for New Westminster was losing his memory, and forgot his former principles.

with Mr. Gilmour in the chair. The committee rose, reported progress and asked leave to sit again.

In moving the second reading of the Official Administrators Bill the Attorney-General said its purpose was to allow the administrator power to administer real estate as well as personal property. The bill passed the second reading.

Mr. McPhillips's Shops Bill was read a third time and the Investment and Loan Societies Act Amendment Bill was taken up in committee with Mr. Green in the chair. It was read a third time and finally passed.

Mr. Curtis moved the second reading of the bill to amend the Mechanics Lien Act, which he explained was designed to further protect workmen in recording claims against contractors. Mr. Helmcken asked for the adjournment of the debate.

Mr. Hall moved the second reading of the Investment & Loan Societies Bill. At the request of the Minister of Finance the bill was laid over.

The second reading of the Bureau of Mines Amendment Act (Mr. Martin) was next reached. The principal provision of this bill was to permit assayers practising prior to February, 1899, to hold the same position as persons holding certificates of efficiency. Mr. Martin said he was simply bringing assayers under the same provisions as governed the medical profession.

Mr. Neill made a strong attack on the principle of the bill. It threw a cloak of efficiency over men who were inefficient. Mr. Neill held out strongly for the examination test as being the only safeguard for the interests of mining in the province and to prevent the discrediting of assaying in the province.

The Minister of Mines admitted that the leader of the opposition had laid down what seemed a plausible argument. He was not prepared to fully discuss the principle which had been followed in regard to doctors, dentists and chemists. Personally he believed it was wrong. He saw no reason why men should be exempt from examination simply because they happened to reside in the province previous to the operation of the statute in regard to their profession. He referred to the abuse which had arisen through allowing the land surveyors to come under the operation of the rule.

Mr. Brown held that the principle was not under consideration. It was simply a fair provision to extend the same principle to one class as was already enjoyed by another.

The bill was lost.

The House rose at 6 to meet to-morrow at 2 o'clock.

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Mr. Brown said he had never opposed protecting the "material" man, but he did not favor such a clause in an act for the protection of the mechanic.

The bill was read a second time, on a vote of 18 to 10, Messrs. Eberts, Pooley and others on the government side supporting it, while the Finance Minister opposed it.

Game Act.

Mr. Hall's Investment and Loan Societies Bill was again laid over at the request of the Minister of Finance.

Mr. McInnes explained that his amendments to the Game Act were for the purpose of further protecting game. It provided minimum penalties, where none existed before.

It forbade boys under sixteen years of age carrying firearms, unless accompanied by their parents or guardians, excepting in rural districts.

Another provision was to prevent birds being stored in cold storage, which was contrary to the spirit of the act. The bill also removed the power which now lay with the Governor-in-Council to suspend the regulations of the act.

Mr. McPhillips was afraid this was encroaching on the prerogative of the government, but the leader of the opposition pointed out that the penalty and the question of revenue involved was merely auxiliary. The penalty was not there for revenue but as a deterrent. At Ottawa and in the Imperial House private members had much wider scope than this.

The Speaker agreed with the leader of the opposition, and so did the Attorney-General, seeing which Mr. McPhillips withdrew his opposition.

Mr. Oliver strongly opposed the bill. The maximum fine of \$50 for any one who shot a hen pheasant in mistake for a cock pheasant was outrageous. It was also ridiculous to impose prohibition in regard to firearms on boys under sixteen years of age. Some of the best bear hunters in his constituency were boys of thirteen to fourteen years. If farmers were prohibited too from putting out poison to kill cut worms for fear of poisoning pheasants they would find that these birds would be poisoned more generally than was now the case.

In Mr. Neill's opinion the bill was one involving contentious views, and he moved the six months' hoist.

The leader of the opposition protested against this "non-contentious" arrangement between the government and its supporters being forced upon the House. They were all doubtless anxious to get home, but if legislation was required the members had no right to consult their own convenience.

The mover of the bill reminded the House of the demand for this legislation, as evidenced by the petitions before the House. He protested against the intimation to shelve this bill. The session was going to cost the country a certain sum whether it was long or short, and the members should not consult their personal predilections. Game, he added, was becoming very scarce, and if it was wiped out it would seriously affect the tourist trade, as well as prospecting, for prospectors required game for their sustenance.

The Attorney-General ridiculed the last statement. He opposed the bill as unnecessary. He particularly opposed the clause relating to cold storage, and withdrawing the discretionary powers that now lay with the Governor-in-Council. He favored the preservation of game, as it attracted tourists. Maine state had preserved its game so that it brought a revenue of two millions of dollars annually. An amendment might be introduced forbidding the sale of game birds. That would take away the occupation of pot hunters.

Mr. Neill's amendment was carried by a vote of 20 to 14 on the following division:

Yeas—Messrs. E. C. Smith, Oliver, Kidd, Neill, Green, Hall, Turner, Duns-muir, A. W. Smith, Clifford, Hayward, Garden, Prentice, Wells, Pooley, Murphy, Rogers, Taylor, Dickie and Mounce—20.

Nays—Messrs. Gilmour, Stables, Brown, Martin, Curtis, Munn, R. Smith, McPhillips, Helmcken, Eberts, Fulton, Tatlow and Hunter—14.

Bills Laid Over.

Mr. Curtis's "Deceived Workmen's Bill" was laid over. Mr. Brown's bill

respecting grants in aid of private enterprise also stood over.

Anti-Chinese Debate.

The debate on Mr. Helmcken's fair-wage motion and the amendments thereto was then resumed. Mr. Ralph Smith took advantage of the debate to make his position clear. He was not prepared, he said, to support any principle that had the appearance of exercising power which the Legislature had not in its possession. Moreover, he would not support any principle that was revolutionary in regard to the industries of the province.

Hon. Finance Minister—Hear, hear.

If he felt that Mr. McInnes's amendment was outside the jurisdiction of the House he would not support it. But until this was shown he would support every kind of legislation up to the hilt that aimed at the exclusion of a class so detrimental to labor interests in the province.

The junior member for Victoria had not proven to his (the speaker) satisfaction that this amendment was ultra vires. This was simply an order to the government not to make provision for this restriction in contracts. It did not form a part of any statute and he would give it his support.

He supported it also because he believed it was the duty of the House to do all in its power in regard to any matter of this character that did not affect in a revolutionary way the industries of the province. The expressed opinion of the House would have greater weight at Ottawa than anything else. If a faction of the House took ground against what the country almost unanimously felt, it would be taken advantage of at Ottawa. It was very important that the House be unanimous on the question.

It might be true, as claimed by the junior member for Victoria, that the Dominion government had not done its duty in the premises. But he did not sympathize with the expressed view of Mr. McPhillips that such a state of affairs absolved him (Mr. McPhillips) from his duty.

If this provision was a restriction upon this kind of labor in all the industries of the province, he might agree that it should be modified. But such was not the case, and the passage of the amendment would have the strongest possible influence on the Dominion government.

Until it could be shown to him that such action was outside the jurisdiction of the House he would support it. Pledged as nearly all the members were to oppose Mongolian labor he thought it should meet general support.

Mr. Curtis expressed surprise at the attitude of the fourth member for Victoria, who declared his opposition to the amendment because it was ultra vires of the Legislature. How could this be? The amendment was not to be incorporated in an act, and thus risk disallowance. It was merely an expression of opinion. Such an attitude meant that when the government gave leases and grants it was powerless to impose any condition.

If the speaker had any confidence in Mr. McPhillips's opinion on a matter of law, it would be upset on reading the amendment to the amendment, which embodied a portion of the same principle as laid down in the amendment itself. He had admitted the principle to be proper in regard to bonuses. Why should it not apply to other privileges or grants?

The matter was left entirely in the hands of the government, the power being purely discretionary. He was glad to see that no other member had taken the same view as Mr. McPhillips.

He was sorry to notice that the Minister of Mines and two members for Vancouver held that the amendment to the amendment went as far as the leader of the Conservative party contemplated. He read the following extract from one of Mr. Wilson's election speeches to prove the fallacy of the contention. Mr. Wilson said:

"He proposed a perfect remedy. They should take the matter out of legislation affairs and affect the contract; that was a proposition that would work out well, legally. For instance, if a corporation came to the Legislature the constant practice had been to insert anti-Chinese clauses in the private bill. This was absolute nonsense. The Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council should be empowered to pass this in contracts, not acts of parliament, which somebody would declare ultra vires. The law

should be so fixed that every privilege should be abrogated if the terms of the contract were not carried out. He had thought out this proposition very thoroughly and was certain that it was the true solution of the difficulty."

This, added Mr. Curtis, was the principle laid down by Mr. Wilson, and it was perfectly sound. It covered all that was included under the amendment of the member for New Westminster. He asked those who fought under Mr. Wilson's banner to be true to their pledges.

The country was indebted to the senior member for Victoria for introducing the resolution. He was sorry though that he was not prepared to go further to exclude Mongolian immigration.

The application of a standard wage would do much to shut out Mongolian labor, as it was never accepted on the same basis as Caucasian labor. Why could not Mr. Helmcken go further when he himself laid down the following in one of his pre-election addresses:

"When we have the sympathy of the people of the Empire we may count on getting a measure of protection that will be our due. This was one view of the matter, and another was that we should not use this class of labor ourselves. Why cannot we legislate that in all cases British labor should be given the preference? A measure which would do this would help to do away with this burning question."

He was surprised to see some government supporters who said they were tired of the question. They would be more tired before it was properly adjusted. In the interior it was a burning question, and would not down. In Greenwood the merchants had joined hands with the laboring classes and had ceased employing Chinese, with the result that there had been an exodus of Mongolians from that city. (Applause.)

He still hoped to see unanimity on this question. He didn't want to see it made a party question. Unanimous action by the House would have a great effect at Ottawa. The government must be aware of the country's feeling on the matter. They must have seen the warm reception which the removal of Mongolians from the Premier's mines had met in the country at large. He hoped to see the government take this course because he had the good of the country more at heart than any mere party advantage.

He ridiculed the statement of the Minister of Mines that the Mikado's prohibition of emigration resulted from a mild expression in the speech from the throne. (Laughter.) Everyone knew that it was due to the exigencies of war, and he did not want the country to be dependent on the good graces of the Emperor of Japan. He strongly supported the amendment. (Applause.)

The Minister of Mines was proceeding to reply to Mr. Curtis when Mr. Brown pointed out that he had already spoken to the amendment.

Mr. McBride—Oh, the opposition are afraid to hear me. (Laughter.)

Mr. Gilmour said that if the remarks of the Minister of Mines were to be along the same lines as on the previous day, he didn't think that the country wanted to hear them. The speaker made an appeal for an assertion of the rights of the province. Messrs. Garden and Tatlow, he said, claimed to be standing on their leader's platform. They must be on his or some one else's, for the party to which they owed allegiance had no platform on the Chinese question.

The remark of Mr. Smith that he would not support revolutionary measures, in relation to business, formed the text for the speech of the Minister of Finance. Such would be the case, he held, if the amendment of the member for North Nanaimo were adopted. In the cannery business it practically meant a prohibition of the trade. The mover had said that he didn't care if it did have that effect. But the people of Great Britain would hardly like the abolition of an industry that meant such a food supply as salmon constituted. Take an output of 800,000 cases. The expenditure on such a pack for wages to Chinamen would be \$400,000, while the revenue that would go into the pockets of white people would be \$1,500,000. It was a mistaken idea that the Chinese did not expend money in the country. They expended a large sum in supplies. Honorable gentlemen opposite smiled, but if they had ever been up the old Cariboo road and went into a Chinaman's shack, the first thing he would do would be to offer them a drink of brandy.

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Mr. McInnes—They were jolly good fellows. (Laughter.)

Continuing, Mr. Turner said that if workmen were brought from the East they would probably be French-Canadians, who at present received lower wages than were paid Chinamen in this country.

Mr. Curtis—Excuse me. Do I understand the hon. gentleman to be making a plea for introducing cheap labor to this province? (Laughter.)

Mr. Turner retorted, with heat, that the member for Rossland could twist his remarks as he liked.

He added, "He would sweep away one of the big industries of this province and what would he have in its place? Nothing. After it the deluge!"

Further considering the amendment he contended that the principle contemplated would have to be incorporated in statutes and would be disallowed.

The amendment was a noisy declamation, but the amendment to the amendment was practical. It would certainly stop some Chinese being employed.

Mr. Curtis—We do not ask for an act.

Mr. Turner—In case of concessions it would require an act; in the other cases it would not. He added that the member for Rossland had said that the government need not carry out such a resolution. Of what use, then, would it be?

Mr. Curtis—You needn't carry out either amendment.

Mr. Turner concluded by urging that the House suspend action on an amendment which would mean the killing of an industry in this province. (Government applause.)

The question proposed on the amendment to the amendment—"Shall the words proposed to be struck out stand part of the question?" was then put and resolved in the negative on the following division:

Yeas—McInnes, Gilmour, Stables, E. O. Smith, Oliver, Neill, Brown, Martin, Curtis, Munro, Green, R. Smith—12.

Nays—Kidd, Hall, McPhillips, Helmcken, Turner, Dunsmuir, Eberts, A. W. Smith, Ellison, Clifford, Fulton, Hayward, Garden, Tatlow, Prentice, Wells, McBride, Pooley, Murphy, Rogers, Hunter, Taylor, Dickie, Mounos—24.

The question—"Shall the words proposed to be inserted in lieu thereof stand part of the question?" was resolved in the affirmative unanimously.

The amendment, as amended, carried, and the original resolution, as amended, carried.

#### Capt. Tatlow's Motion.

The debate on Capt. Tatlow's motion was then resumed by Mr. Helmcken, who advocated a conciliatory policy in regard to the Ottawa government. Some valuable information was contained in the preamble of the resolution, but he was not prepared to go to the extent of censuring the Premier of Canada. He had always favored increasing the tax from \$100 to \$500. He read the letter of Hon. Jos. Chamberlain setting forth that there could be no objection to an educational test for Mongolians.

Coming to the question of numbers, the senior member for Victoria stated that in the last three years there had been an immigration of 7,367 Chinese and 12,106 Japanese. From July 1st to June 30th, 2,440 Chinese had entered the province, while in the same time 7,875 Japs had come in. Since July 1st 452 more Chinamen had arrived and 804 Japs.

Proceeding, Mr. Helmcken quoted the action which had been taken in Australia. He said he would not support the resolution, but submitted an outline of one which later he intended to submit, and which would be less likely to antagonize the Premier of Canada. If such a conciliatory course were adopted he felt, especially in the light of recent colonial developments, that relief would be granted. He submitted the following amendment:

"Whereas resolutions have been passed by this House from time to time requesting the Dominion government to increase the poll tax on Chinese immigrants into Canada;

"And whereas the Dominion government has passed an act, known as the 'Chinese Immigration Act, 1900,' increas-

ing the poll tax from the sum of \$30 to the sum of \$100;

"Be it resolved that, in the opinion of this House, the said act is ineffective and inadequate to prevent Chinese immigration into Canada;

"Be it further resolved that an humble address be presented to His Honor the Lieut.-Governor, requesting him to respectfully urge upon the Dominion government that the effective mode of dealing with the question of restricting Mongolian immigration into Canada would be by either increasing the amount of the per capita tax to the sum of \$500, or by the passing of an act based on the lines of the Natal Act, known as the 'Immigration Restriction Act, 1897.'"

A. W. Smith wanted the word Mongolian changed to Chinese and Japanese. The latter class was as big a nuisance as the former.

Mr. Brown agreed with the opinion expressed by some members that the real way in which to secure action by Ottawa was to take unanimous action in some such way as had been indicated. Since the question must be disposed of some way, he would withdraw his amendment in favor of that of Mr. Helmcken, as it was free from political complexion and in every way preferable to the motion.

Mr. Smith's amendment was lost and the word 'Mongolian' stood.

The amendment of Mr. Helmcken then passed and the motion, as amended, passed unanimously.

#### Compulsory Arbitration.

The debate was then resumed on the motion of Mr. Smith relating to compulsory arbitration.

Mr. Turner, while explaining that the government was fully alive to the importance of the question, felt that it was too late in the session to be considered. The government a few years ago introduced a labor conciliatory act which had been generally endorsed by laboring classes, but when finally introduced it had provoked a great deal of opposition. The government was prepared to take the matter up and investigate it thoroughly before another session. It was impossible to do so satisfactorily at the present session. It would be taken up shortly.

Mr. Smith agreed to withdraw the resolution on that understanding, and also on account of the fact that the Dominion government was making an experiment on similar lines.

Mr. Brown opposed the withdrawal of the resolution at this stage, especially as the pledge of the Finance Minister was not a promise of a compulsory arbitration act. A promise had been made, but it did not specifically promise such an act. He was preparing a bill along these lines, and he did not want the matter shelved.

Mr. Smith—Give them a chance.

Mr. Brown—But we will have to wait until next session.

Mr. Curtis also stamped the promise of the Finance Minister as insufficient to warrant the withdrawal of the resolution.

Mr. Hunter wanted to know what brief the opposition had to instruct the government upon the character of the bill. Let the government draft it, and when it was submitted to the House it could be amended by the House.

Mr. Green said the member for Cariboo had the right end of the argument. The opposition were not willing to allow the mover to withdraw his bill, and insisted that they should be the arbiters of the provisions of the bill.

The Minister of Mines thanked the House for the way in which the government's promise had been received. The member for Westminster, although for many years a member of the House, had not introduced any legislation along these lines.

Leave was granted to withdraw the motion.

#### License Bill.

On the third reading of the Liquor License Bill Mr. Eberts moved that the word Mongolian be substituted for Chinese and Japanese in sub-sections 9 and 10 of section 2. It might prevent the disallowance of the bill.

Mr. McInnes said that the classification Mongolian included Fins and Laplanders.

The member for New Westminster suggested that every latitude be allowed the Attorney-General to avoid disallowance. The change was therefore ordered.

Mr. Brown offered another amendment to the bill, and moved that it be recommitted, but this was voted down and the bill was read a third time and finally passed.

The House then rose.







his way into British Columbia in contravention of the provisions of the last preceding section of this act, to make complaint thereof to a magistrate or justice of the peace, and it shall be competent for the police magistrate of any city or town, and for any magistrate or justice of the peace in any town or district where there is no police magistrate, to investigate and decide in a summary manner upon any such complaint made by any officer appointed under this act, or any person authorized by him, against any immigrant for contravention of the last preceding section of this act, and to impose a fine of five hundred dollars and if any such fine and costs be not forthwith paid, the same shall, by and under the warrant of the convicting justice, be enforced, levied and collected with costs, by distress and sale of the goods and chattels of the offender, and shall by such justice be paid over to the consolidated revenue fund of British Columbia; and in default of such distress, such justice shall, by his warrant, cause the offender to be imprisoned for any time not exceeding twelve months, unless the fine and costs and the reasonable expenses of endeavoring to collect the same be sooner paid; provided that such imprisonment shall cease upon the offender finding two approved sureties, each in amount of two hundred and fifty dollars, that he will leave the province within one month.

"An immigrant making his way into or being found in British Columbia in contravention of the provisions of this act, shall not be entitled to a license to carry on any trade or calling that is subject to the legislative authority of British Columbia, nor shall he be entitled to acquire and hold land, or to any of the rights or privileges of a freeminer, or to a free miner's certificate, or to exercise the franchise, and any license or franchise right which may have been acquired in contravention of this act shall be void."

# Provincial Parliament

## Finance Minister Turner Promises the Estimates on Thursday Next.

### A Long Discussion on Mr. Curtis's Amendment to Railway Charter.

Monday, Aug. 13th.

The penchant of some of the members for discoursing on points of order was responsible for the wasting of a considerable portion of this afternoon. The actual progress made in the business of the House was very little, though several good debates arose in committee, notably that on Mr. Curtis's amendments to railway charters.

Just before adjournment, in reply to a question by the leader of the opposition, the Minister of Finance announced that the budget speech would probably be brought down on Thursday. It is probable, however, that the budget will not be seriously debated until the following week, and it is even hinted that once the estimates are submitted the business will be disposed of summarily, and that two weeks hence will see the close of the session.

Prayers were read at the assembling of the House by Rev. Rural Dean Barber.

A petition was presented by Mr. Helmcken from W. E. Fisher and others against amendments to the Game Act. Laid on the table.

The printing committee recommended the printing of the correspondence regarding the strike on Fraser river. The report was received.

The railway committee reported the Vancouver & Lulu Island Railway Act. The following bills were introduced and read a first time:

Mr. Helmcken—An act to permit the use of voting machines in British Columbia.

Hon. Mr. Prentice—An act to incorporate the Vancouver city hospital.

Hon. D. M. Eberts—An act to confirm the assessment roll of the city of Greenwood for 1900.

Mr. McPhillips—An act to amend the law relating to costs allowed to mortgagees.

Mr. Hayward introduced the following motion:

"Whereas the provisions of the Naturalization Act are believed to be constantly evaded by Chinese and Japanese; and

"Whereas it is most desirable that such practices should at once be stopped;

"Resolved, that it is the opinion of this House that an humble address be presented to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, respectfully requesting him to urge upon the Dominion government the desirability of amending the provisions of the Naturalization Act in such a manner as to compel all persons wishing to become naturalized to be identified before a judge of the Supreme or County courts personally."

Mr. Martin said this was a matter in which the province had certain powers, and the Dominion certain powers. He saw no reason why the province should not let the Dominion know its views on this matter. Yet he objected to indicating a line of policy about which the province had no jurisdiction, especially as it would be certain to have no influence with either of the parties at Ottawa.

If the provisions of the act were being violated, as stated in the resolution, some one must be committing perjury. There must be a provision in the law to meet this. The government's attention having been brought to the matter, their officials should be notified to exercise vigilance and prosecute offenders for perjury.

The Attorney-General, while not opposing the resolution, said that if it were carried into effect it might work a hardship in the case of other people who wanted to get on to the voters' lists and would have to come a long distance to be naturalized. He agreed with the sentiment of the leader of the opposition, and had already issued instructions to his officials to go into the matter very thoroughly, and if it was found that any had committed perjury in the way mentioned they would be prosecuted.

Mr. Curtis, while glad of the assurances of the Attorney-General, mentioned a report that a number of these people had applied for naturalization in Chilliwack. It was suggested that there was an element of fraud in it. If such were the case it was not without the connivance of justices of the peace.

The Minister of Mines complimented the leader of the opposition on the modification of his views on this subject, and recalled a very severe chastisement he himself had received for introducing a similar resolution in regard to the fisheries. He was glad to see that the influence of the member for North Nanaimo was having its effect.

Mr. McPhillips attempted to score the ex-Attorney-General on the manner in which the justices of the peace had been appointed during his regime, but Mr. Martin insisted that he was out of order, and the Speaker so ruled.

A. W. Neill said he proposed to vote against the resolution. The House was too prone to voting for every resolution that had the word Chinese in it. In the case of his own constituency it would effect a great injustice to some, especially in the case of the Scandinavian colony at the north end of the island. It would cost each of them from \$30 to \$50 each if the resolution was implemented into legislation to become naturalized as citizens. It was an academic, automatic resolution, and he would not support it.

Mr. Oliver said that in his constituency a strong suspicion existed that some Japs were naturalized irregularly. As justices of peace acted without remuneration it would be unfair to ask them to make investigation as suggested by the Attorney-General.

Mr. Kidd suggested the withdrawal of the resolution to allow the government time to inquire into the matter.

He hoped the government would take steps to find out if all the 3,000 Japs fishing on the Fraser river were naturalized properly or not.

Mr. Hayward, in concluding the debate, drew attention to the fact that his resolution was a mere return to the conditions existing prior to confederation. It might entail a slight hardship, but it was worth something to be a British subject. (Applause.)

The motion was carried on the following division:

Yeas—Messrs. McInnes, Gilmour, E. C. Smith, Oliver, Curtis, R. Smith, Houston, McPhillips, Helmcken, Turner, Eberts, Clifford, Fulton, Hayward, Garden, Tatlow, McBride, Pooley, Murphy, Rogers, Taylor and Dickie—22.

Nays—Messrs. Kidd, Neill, A. W. Smith, Ellison, Prentice, Wells and Mounce—7.

Mr. Curtis asked the Hon. the Minister of Finance the following questions, 1. What are the approximate revenue receipts from ordinary sources for the fiscal year ending 30th June, 1900? 2. What is the approximate expenditure for ordinary purposes for the same period? 3. Will the public accounts for the fiscal year be laid before the House during the present session?

Hon. Mr. Turner replied as follows: "1. \$1,527,000. 2. \$1,780,000. 3. No; cannot be got ready."

Mr. Gilmour asked the Hon. the Attorney-General the following questions: 1. Have any steps been taken by the government in connection with the injunction against building a sawmill on Deadman's Island? 2. If not, is it the intention of the government to take any action in the matter, and, if so, when?

Hon. Mr. Eberts replied as follows: "1. An action is now pending respecting this matter. 2. An action is now pending respecting this matter."

Mr. McInnes asked the government the following questions: 1. Why were the services of A. W. Walkley, Esq., not required after July 31st last in connection with the reconstruction of the Victoria Court house? 2. Was George Jeeves, Esq., appointed to succeed the said A. W. Walkley? If so, why, and on whose recommendation?

Hon. Mr. Wells replied as follows: "1. Because a superintendent with more technical knowledge and greater experience in building construction was required. 2. Yes; on the recommendation of the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works."

Mr. McInnes took exception to the reply to Mr. Gilmour's question. He had inquired relative to the injunction but the reply referred to the action.

Mr. Helmcken—You asked the wrong question.



Mr. McInnes—I asked the right question, but I got the wrong answer.

The House went into committee on the Judgments bill, with Mr. E. C. Smith in the chair. It was reported complete with amendments.

The report of the Official Administration bill was adopted. The bill was read a third time and finally passed.

The House then went into committee on the Succession Duties bill, with Mr. Taylor in the chair.

The leader of the opposition made a strong argument for an alteration of the scale of succession duties, but the bill was reported without amendment.

The following were appointed on the municipal committee: Messrs. Brown, McInnes, Oliver, Helmcken, Gorden, McPhillips and Murphy.

Mr. Kidd took the chair for the consideration of the Vancouver and Westminster Railway bill in committee.

Mr. Helmcken moved an amendment providing that the branches line should be twenty miles instead of six miles in length.

The leader of the opposition opposed accepting the amendment, stating that no reason had been given for the amendment. At any rate the railway committee was the place to bring it up.

Mr. Helmcken said it was due to the formation of the country.

This was ridiculed by Mr. Martin and also by Mr. McInnes, who said it had been thrown out unanimously by the railway committee because the main line was only twelve miles long, and a branch line of 20 miles would give the road control of the lower Delta. The matter stood over.

Mr. Smith Curtis moved: "The mortgages or bonds issued by the company shall not bear a higher rate of interest than five per centum per annum, and the face value of such mortgages and bonds shall not in the aggregate exceed the fair cost of the whole of the company's corporeal property when its undertaking is completed ready for operation."

He didn't want the borrowing power to be more than was necessary. If the company was allowed to borrow, to the extent of double its necessities the rates would be based on that. He also wished to provide against the nation having to pay more than the value of a road in the event of the state taking it over. This was the case with the C. P. R., against which there were charges which would have to be assumed, although there was no debt against that road. He submitted the amendment, adding that he was sorry to see a disposition to grant charters without safeguarding the public.

Mr. Helmcken thought the clause should have come before the railway committee. If such a clause were to be inserted it should be placed in a private charter instead of a public one.

The leader of the opposition objected to the way in which railway promoters came before the House, and insisted upon charters without any safeguards to the public. The House had a duty which they owed to the public at large. The public rights were protected to more or less extent in every parliament in the world, and in this House it had been secured by the rights reserved by the Governor-in-Council to fix the rates. Yet when the Governor-in-Council attempted to do this, they were met by the investor, who insisted that in lowering the rates, they were imperilling his interests, which had been acquired in good faith. Mr. Curtis's motion could not be condemned as unfair. It proposed to allow the company to provide sufficient to build the road, but no more. This would safeguard the capitalist, but the scheming promoter would get the worst of it. He instanced the Golden Cache as an example of such schemes. By securing an excessive loan the promoter managed to divert the surplus, over and above the cost of the road, to his own pocket. He was tired of the bugaboo that such a step would frighten away capital. It would give an assurance of capital. Nothing that was right would frighten away capital. The adoption of the amendment would not only safeguard the public but the capitalist as well.

Mr. McPhillips held that the following

of the very policy outlined by Mr. Martin had resulted in killing railway building in the province. Canada had no necessity to safeguard the British capitalist, who was a great deal shrewder than many honorable members.

Mr. Pooley said a five per cent. rate on bonds could not be obtained on a projected road. The usual rate was six per cent., and the rate fixed by the General Railway act was eight per cent. It was contrary to the general policy of the Railway act of the province.

Replying, Mr. Martin admitted that the Railway act recognized eight per cent. on bonds. This rate, however, was fixed in 1890, since when rates had fallen materially. He was willing to fix it at six per cent. if suitable to his opponents.

The carrying of the amendment would not work a hardship on, but would protect the investor. He knew of no place where there were greater frauds perpetrated than was done on the London market by railway promoters.

Proceeding, Mr. Martin said that it was never the original promoter who appealed for protection when the freight rates were threatened. The original promoter had disappeared and in his place had come another investor who had been taken in by the promoter.

Mr. Turner added a few words to the discussion.

Mr. Curtis cited instances which had come under his notice of roads being loaded up with fictitious bonds. If any company was not satisfied with power to borrow enough to meet the cost of the road, they should not receive a charter.

Capt. Tatlow was sure Vancouver wanted the road and therefore would oppose the amendment.

The sub-section was voted down.

A long debate ensued upon the admissibility of the following amendment by Mr. Curtis:

"The provincial government shall have the right ten years from the passing of this act, upon giving one year's notice of its intention so to do, to purchase all the company's property, rights and franchises at the fair market value of its corporeal property, together with such bonus (if any) not exceeding ten per cent. of such market value as the government may agree to pay."

Mr. Helmcken held that it affected government policy and reserve, and was thus a question for the government. Chairman Kidd ruled the amendment in order and an appeal being taken to the Speaker he also decided that it was admissible.

Notices of Motion.

On Wednesday next Mr. McInnes will ask leave to introduce a bill intitled An Act to amend the Municipal Clauses Act.

Hon. Mr. Wells will ask leave to introduce a bill intitled An Act to authorize a grant to the corporation of the city of Vancouver of certain crown lands situate in said city.

Hon. Mr. McBride will ask leave to introduce a bill intitled An Act to provide for the settlement of disputes as to mining claims in the Porcupine district of the Bennett Lake mining division.

Mr. Clifford will move: "That an order of the House be granted for copies of all complaints made by people in Atlin district against government officials there, since January 1st, 1898, and the answers given by the government thereto."

Mr. Gorden will move, in committee of the whole on Bill (No. 36) intitled An Act to incorporate the Rock Bay and Salmon River Railway Company, to amend section 17, line 10, to insert after the word "Columbia" the following words: "or on the river or streams flowing into the same."

Mr. E. C. Smith will move, in committee of the whole on Bill (No. 13) intitled An Act to incorporate the Crow's Nest Pass Electric Light and Power Company, Limited, to strike out section 37.

Questions.

On Wednesday next Mr. Clifford will ask the government: 1. Is it the intention of the government to enquire into the conduct of E. M. N. Woods, stipendiary magistrate at Atlin, on the 30th July last, in confining Wm. Queen in gaol for alleged contempt of court? 2. Is it the intention of the government to punish the deputy returning officer at Bella Coola (B. Brantford) for culpable stupidity in cancelling the votes of one of the electors without

Mr. McInnes will ask the government:

1. Was an injunction issued at the instance of the government against the building of a saw mill on Deadman's Island? If so, when? 2. Is it the intention of the government to move in the way of withdrawing the said injunction? If not, why not? 3. What action, if any, is it the intention of the government to take with reference to said injunction?

Mr. McInnes will also ask the government: 1. Were any complaints made concerning the technical knowledge or building experience of A. W. Walkley, Esq., in connection with his services on the reconstruction of the Victoria court house? If so, by whom? 2. Did the government cause an inquiry to be made into the technical knowledge or building experience of the said A. W. Walkley before he was removed from his position on the Victoria court house? If so, by whom, and with what result? 3. What does the government know about the technical knowledge or building experience of the said A. W. Walkley?

Notes.

The old office of law clerk has been revived. Mr. Fisher has been appointed to the post, and entered on his duties yesterday.

Consul Shimizu occupied a seat on the floor of the chamber yesterday, F. J. Deane, ex-M. P. P., and R. L. Reid, the unsuccessful opponent of J. C. Brown in New Westminster, were also visitors to the House.



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# Provincial Parliament

## Much Time Wasted on Technical Points Taken by Mr. McPhillips.

### Mr. Curtis's Amendments Voted Down—Vancouver Charter Under Discussion.

Tuesday, August 14th.

Points of order again monopolized a good deal of the time of the members this afternoon, the chief sinner upon this ground being the junior member for Victoria, Mr. McPhillips, who has developed a remarkable penchant for guarding the prerogative of the Crown. The length to which the matter was driven drew a remonstrance from several members of the government and virtually a disclaimer from the Attorney-General of any sympathy with the advantage sought to be taken of these technicalities.

Prayers having been read at 2:45 Mr. Helmcken reported for the private bills committee as follows:

"That with reference to bill intitled An Act to incorporate the Grand Forks and Kettle River Railway Company, the Petition (No. 14) was reported to the House on the 31st July last as having complied with the standing orders; but owing to some oversight, the said bill does not appear to have been introduced, and your committee recommend that, notwithstanding the lapse of time, leave be granted to introduce the said bill, and the rules be suspended for that purpose, and that double fees be not exacted."

Mr. Helmcken moved the suspension of the rules to adopt the report, which was carried.

Under the suspended rules Mr. Gordon introduced a bill to incorporate the Grand Forks & Kettle River Railway Company.

The bill was read a first time and referred to the railway committee.

Mr. Stables asked the Hon. the Minister of Mines: "In the event of a hydraulic lease being granted covering ground held by individual free miners, and in the event of said claims lapsing in any way, who is entitled to the said claims, the Crown or the leaseholder?"

Hon. Mr. McBride replied as follows: "The claims revert to the Crown."

Mr. Stables also asked the Hon. the Minister of Mines: "1. Has the gold commissioner power to issue an injunction against any free miner and stop him from working his claim, when complaint is laid against said free miner for any cause? 2. If not, to what extent does his power extend in the matter of settling disputes that may arise from time to time among free miners?"

Hon. Mr. McBride replied as follows: "1. A gold commission has no power to issue an injunction. The powers of a gold commissioner in regard to the working of a mine are defined by section 110 of the Mineral Act. 2. The powers of a gold commission in this behalf are defined by Part V. of the Mineral Act."

Mr. Curtis asked the Hon. the Minister of Finance: "1. The names of all persons or corporations who received a rebate or refund on timber dues on account of timber exported, during the fiscal year ending 30th June, 1900? 2. The amount of such refund in each case, so far as known? 3. What proportion of the dues fixed by statute was refunded? 4. By what authority was such rebate made? 5. Is it the intention of the government to provide, if necessary, by a new order in council that all licensees or leaseholders employing in their timber business Chinese or Japanese shall not be entitled to such rebate?"

Hon. Mr. Turner replied: "1. and 2. Brunette Saw Mill Co., \$2,172.07; Moodyville Lands and Saw Mill Co., \$3,408.09; British Columbia Mills, Timber & Trading Co., \$5,452.34; J. A. Sayward, \$57.04; Wm. Tytler Lumber Co., \$96.15; Wm. L. Tait, \$161.06; Spicer Shingle Mill Co., \$565.94; Canadian Pacific Lumber Co., \$338.37; E. H. Heaps & Co., \$806.64; Archibald McNair, \$44.82; Hastings Shingle Manufacturing Co., \$1,477.52; Thos. Kirkpatrick, \$242.12; Pacific Coast Lumber Co., \$264.05; total, \$15,068.31. 3. One-half of the royalty due on timber exported. 4. By authority of section 20 of the Land Act and orders in council dealing therewith. 5. I must decline to answer this question, on the ground that it asks for a statement of government policy, which the government is not prepared to make in reply to a question."

The Attorney-General moved that the third reading of the Land Registry Bill be discharged and recommitted for the purpose of adding an amendment. The House went into committee with Mr. Gilmour in the chair. The bill was reported complete with amendment.

The Succession Duties Bill report was adopted, read a third time and finally passed.

The Attorney-General moved the second reading of the City of Greenwood Assessment Roll Confirmation Bill. He explained that as doubts had arisen as to the legality of the revised assessment roll, the city council of Greenwood had asked the government to legalize the roll. Only one man opposed it, and although he did so very strenuously, still he thought the views of the majority should obtain. The bill was read a second time and committed with Mr. Clifford in the chair.

Mr. Kidd asked if any appeal were taken, would it be on the merits of the roll before its confirmation by the Legislature. The Attorney-General replied that there were no appeals.

The bill was reported, adopted, read a third time and finally passed.

The House resumed in committee on the Vancouver & Westminster Railway Bill, with Mr. Kidd in the chair. The committee took under consideration clause "c" of Mr. Curtis's amendment to the number of railway acts as follows:

"The provincial government shall have the right ten years from the passing of this act, upon giving one year's notice of its intention so to do, to purchase all the company's property, rights and fran-

chises at the fair market value of its corporate property together with such bonus (if any) not exceeding ten per cent of such market value as the government may agree to pay."

The mover thought that the existence of this provision would have a salutary influence on railway promoters.

Mr. Hunter characterized the proposal as incapable of being crystallized into effect, while Mr. McPhillips ridiculed the idea of securing capital if such onerous conditions were attached to railway bills. He stamped the member for Rossland a theorist.

Mr. McInnes expressed his surprise at the statement of the junior member for Victoria, that he favored building railways. He had been in committee with him in the morning, when a bona fide proposition to build a railway without aid had been submitted, which he had assisted in voting down.

Mr. McPhillips loudly insisted on a point of order. The member for North Nanaimo ought not refer to what took place in committee.

Mr. McInnes said he was not surprised that Mr. McPhillips was anxious to avoid an exposure of his anomalous position.

He had declared it was a public scandal that these clauses were being introduced. The scandal was the other way. Whenever measures were introduced of this kind, these were members of the House who seemed to have a brief for the corporation, and the junior member for Victoria was the arch offender in this regard. If he ran again in Victoria on the stand he had taken in the House he could not be elected. The principle had been adopted in the Water Clauses Act. Personally he favored the government ownership of railways, and as the amendment looked to that end he would support it.

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Mr. McPhillips repudiated the suggestion that he held an anomalous position, saying that he had always opposed Mr. Martin's government railway policy.

Mr. Curtis said many government supporters had supported the Martin proposal of government ownership of railways.

Members—No, no!

Mr. Curtis retorted the member for West Yale (Mr. Ellison) need not shake his head, for he was one of the offenders, for he had declared for the leadership of Chas. Wilson, who was unreservedly committed to the principle. (Applause.)

Mr. Oliver rubbed in the remark of the member for Rossland by reading from Mr. Wilson's platform in which he not only favored government ownership of railways, but the cutting off of any further business.

Mr. Hunter again stamped the arrangement as one sided, and Mr. Curtis asked if the senior member for Capital thought the railway companies would get the most of it.

The amendment was lost.

On section 35 being reached, Mr. Curtis submitted the following:

"The purchase, lease or right to use any lands belonging to the province shall, notwithstanding anything contained in, or required or permitted by, any other act to the contrary, be valid only upon a contract being entered into by the company with the provincial government, containing such terms and conditions as the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council may see fit to impose, and the same to be signed on behalf of the provincial government by such member or members of the executive council of the province as the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council may designate."

This amendment, the member for Rossland said, was aimed at Japanese and Chinese, and was based exactly on the platform of Chas. Wilson. He did not see how gentlemen who were selected as supporters of that gentleman could fail to support this section, but he would not be surprised if they did not. From what he had seen he had come to the conclusion that anti-election pledges of government supporters were like pie-riest—made to be broken—and a good number of gentlemen were being placed on record in that regard. (Applause.)

Mr. McPhillips here took his pre-arranged point of order in a jealous attempt to protect the prerogative of the Crown, and the chairman sustained the objection.

Mr. Curtis appealed to the Speaker, and a very long debate ensued whether or not a member had the right of appeal in committee past the chairman to the Speaker without taking a vote of the House. Mr. Martin said this was an undoubted right at Ottawa, and in the long school debate the Speaker had been frequently called in during the night as a means of passing the time away.

Mr. Eberts—Are you pursuing the same tactics now? (Laughter.)

In supporting his position Mr. Curtis referred to the "brute majority" of the government, a term which awakened so much resentment that the member for Rossland explained that he employed the term "brute force" only as understood in dynamics, and if objectionable he would withdraw it. Mr. Brown held that the government was using its majority to insist unnecessarily on points of order.

The Speaker ruled the clause out of order.

Mr. Curtis submitted the following:

"The powers granted to the said company shall be subject to such conditions for securing such running powers or traffic arrangements and other rights as will afford all reasonable facilities, and equal mileage rates, to all railways connecting with the Company's lines as the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council determines."

This evoked another debate, and a ringing demand from Mr. McInnes for some announcement of policy from the government. He charged the government with using Mr. McPhillips as a buffer, and failing to declare any policy themselves. They sat dumb as oysters. They had no policy and no leader.

Hon. Mr. Eberts—No pledges. No nothing.

Mr. McInnes—They had pledged but they have forgotten them.

The clause was defeated, after which the committee rose and reported progress.



Aug 16

The Vancouver Incorporation Act Amendment Act was committed with Mr. Helmcken in the chair. After some discussion, especially between the Vancouver members, Mr. Hunter rose and suggested that much time would be saved by the Vancouver members getting together and deciding upon some line of policy which they might then submit to the House, which he felt would do

all in its power to meet the wishes of such a rising village as Vancouver. (Laughter.)

Mr. Martin—Order.

The committee rose and reported progress.

The Finance Minister submitted the estimates and the House rose.

Motions.

The Attorney-General has given notice of the introduction of an act to amend the Placer Mining Act, 1899.

The Minister of Mines will introduce an amendment to the Placer Mining Act, and to the Mineral and Amending Acts, to relieve the members of the Canadian troops serving in South Africa from the operation of certain provisions of the act named.

On Thursday next Mr. Houston will not leave to introduce a bill intitled "An Act to amend the Water Clauses Consolidation Act, 1897."

Mr. Brown will move in committee of the whole on bill (No. 10) intitled "An Act to amend the Supreme Court Act," to insert the following as a new section:

"2. The addition made to section 2 of chapter 56 of the revised statutes, being the 'Supreme Court Act,' by section 7 of chapter 20 of the statutes of 1899, is hereby repealed, and the following substituted therefor:

Provided, however, that in the case of a writ of summons or other proceeding issued or commenced in any registry other than Victoria, Vancouver or New Westminster, any application either to the court or its members may be made at Victoria, Vancouver or New Westminster, and all papers in connection with any such application shall be filed at Victoria, Vancouver or New Westminster, as the case may be. Any order made upon any such application shall also be entered at the registry at which the writ of summons was issued or the proceedings commenced."

# Provincial Parliament

## Much Time Wasted on Technical Points Taken by Mr. McPhillips.

### Mr. Curtis's Amendments Voted Down—Vancouver Charter Under Discussion.

Tuesday, August 14th.

Points of order were monopolized a good deal of the time of the members this afternoon, the chief being upon this ground being the junior member for Victoria, Mr. McPhillips, who has developed a remarkable penchant for guarding the prerogative of the House. The length to which the matter was driven drew a remonstrance from several members of the government and virtually a disclaimer from the Attorney-General of any sympathy with the objection sought to be taken of these technicalities.

Prayers having been read at 12:35 Mr. Helmcken reported for the private bills committee as follows:

"That with reference to bill intitled An Act to Incorporate the Grand Forks and Kettle River Railway Company, the Petition (No. 14) was presented to the House on the 31st July last, and having complied with the standing orders; but owing to some oversight, the said bill does not appear to have been introduced, and your committee recommended that, notwithstanding the lapse of time, leave be granted to introduce the said bill, and the rules be suspended for that purpose, and that double leave be not required."

Mr. Helmcken moved the suspension of the rules to admit the petition, which was carried.

Under the suspended rules Mr. Garden introduced a bill to incorporate the Grand Forks & Kettle River Railway Company.

The bill was read a first time and referred to the railway committee.

Mr. Stables asked the Hon. the Minister of Mines: "In the event of a hydraulic lease being granted covering ground held by individual free miners, and in the event of said claims lapsing in any way, who is entitled to the said claims, the Crown or the leaseholder?"

Hon. Mr. McBride replied as follows: "The claims revert to the Crown."

Mr. Stables also asked the Hon. the Minister of Mines: "1. Has the gold commissioner power to issue an injunction against any free miner and stop him from working his claim, when complaint is laid against said free miner for any cause? 2. If not, to what extent does his power extend in the matter of settling disputes that may arise from time to time among free miners?"

Hon. Mr. McBride replied as follows: "1. A gold commissioner has no power to issue an injunction. The powers of a gold commissioner in regard to the working of a mine are defined by section 119 of the Mineral Act. 2. The powers of a gold commissioner in this behalf are defined by Part V. of the Mineral Act."

Mr. Curtis asked the Hon. the Minister of Finance: "1. The names of all persons or corporations who received a rebate or refund on timber dues on account of timber exported, during the fiscal year ending 30th June, 1900? 2. The amount of such refund in each case, so far as known? 3. What proportion of the dues fixed by statute was refunded? 4. By what authority was such rebate made? 5. Is it the intention of the government to provide, if necessary, by a new order in council that all licensees or leaseholders employing in their timber business Chinese or Japanese shall not be entitled to such rebate?"

Hon. Mr. Turner replied: "1 and 2. Brunette Saw Mill Co., \$2,122.67; Moodyville Lands and Saw Mill Co., \$3,408.99; British Columbia Mills, Timber & Trading Co., \$5,452.34; J. A. Sayward, \$57.64; Wm. Tytler Lumber Co., \$96.15; Wm. L. Tait, \$161.06; Spicer Shingle Mill Co., \$565.94; Canadian Pacific Lumber Co., \$338.37; E. H. Heaps & Co., \$806.64; Archibald McNair, \$44.62; Hastings Shingle Manufacturing Co., \$1,477.52; Thos. Kirkpatrick, \$242.12; Pacific Coast Lumber Co., \$264.03; total, \$15,088.11. 3. One-half of the royalty due on timber exported. 4. By authority of section 70 of the Land Act and orders in council dealing therewith. 5. I must decline to answer this question, on the ground that it asks for a statement of government policy, which the government is not prepared to make in reply to a question."

The Attorney-General moved that the third reading of the Land Registry Bill be discharged and recommitted for the purpose of adding an amendment. The House went into committee with Mr. Gilmour in the chair. The bill was reported complete with amendment.

The Succession Duties Bill report was adopted, read a third time and finally passed.

The Attorney-General moved the second reading of the City of Greenwood Assessment Roll Confirmation Bill. He explained that as doubts had arisen as to the legality of the revised assessment roll, the city council of Greenwood had asked the government to legalize the roll. Only one man opposed it, and although he did so very strenuously, still he thought the views of the majority should obtain. The bill was read a second time and committed with Mr. Clifford in the chair.

Mr. Kidd asked if any appeal were taken, would it be on the merits of the roll before its confirmation by the Legislature. The Attorney-General replied that there were no appeals.

The bill was reported, adopted, read a third time and finally passed.

The House resumed in committee on the Vancouver & Westminister Railway Bill, with Mr. Kidd in the chair. The committee took under consideration clause "c" of Mr. Curtis's amendment to the number of railway acts as follows:

"The provincial government shall have the right ten years from the passing of this act, upon giving one year's notice of its intention so to do, to purchase all the company's property, rights and fran-

chises at the fair market value of its corporate property, together with such bonus (if any) not exceeding ten per cent. of such market value as the government may agree to pay."

The mover thought that the existence of this provision would have a salutary influence on railway promoters.

Mr. Hume characterized the proposal as incapable of being crystallized into effect, while Mr. McPhillips ridiculed the idea of securing capital if such onerous conditions were attached to railway bills. He stamped the member for Roseland a theorist.

Mr. McLane expressed his surprise at the statement of the junior member for Victoria, that he favored building railways. He had been in committee with him in the morning, when a bona fide proposition to build a railway without aid had been submitted, which he had assisted in voting down.

Mr. McPhillips loudly insisted on a point of order. The member for North Nanaimo ought not refer to what took place in committee.

Mr. McLane said he was not surprised that Mr. McPhillips was anxious to avoid an exposure of his anomalous position.

He had declared it was a public scandal that these clauses were being introduced. The scandal was the other way. Whenever measures were introduced of this kind there were members of the House who seemed to have a brief for the corporation, and the junior member for Victoria was the arch offender in this regard. It so ran again in Victoria on the stand he had taken in the House he could not be elected. The principle had been adopted in the Water Clauses Act. Personally he favored the government ownership of railways, and as the amendment looked to that end he would support it.



led: "1 and 2.  
Co., \$2,172.67;  
Saw Mill Co.,  
Mills, Tim-  
234; J. A. Sar-  
er Lumber Co.,  
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Canadian Fe-  
E. H. Heaps &  
McNair, \$44.62;  
Manufacturing Co.,  
\$242.12;  
\$364.05; total,  
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4. By authority  
Act and orders  
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Mr. Curtis said many government supporters had supported the Martin principle of government ownership of rail-ways.

Hon. Members—No, no!

Mr. Curtis retorted the member for West Yale (Mr. Ellison) need not shake his head, for he was one of the offenders, for he had declared for the leadership of Chas. Wilson, who was unreservedly committed to the principle. (Applause.)

Mr. Oliver rubbed in the remark of the member for Rossland by reading from Mr. Wilson's platform in which he not only favored government ownership of rail-ways, but the cutting of any fur-ther bonuses.

Mr. Hunter again stamped the ar-rangement as one sided, and Mr. Curtis asked if the senior member for Cariboo thought the railway companies would get the most of it.

The amendment was lost.

On section 35 being reached, Mr. Cur-tis submitted the following:

"The purchase, lease or right to use any lands belonging to the province shall, notwithstanding anything contain-ed in, or required or permitted by, any other act to the contrary, be valid only upon a contract being entered into by the company with the provincial govern-ment, containing such terms and condi-tions as the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council may see fit to impose, and the same to be signed on behalf of the pro-vincial government by such member or members of the executive council of the province as the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council may designate."

This amendment, the member for Rossland said, was aimed at Japanese and Chinese, and was based exactly on the platform of Chas. Wilson. He did not see how gentlemen who were select-ed as supporters of that gentleman could fall to support this section, but he would not be surprised if they did not. From what he had seen he had come to the conclusion that anti-election pledges of government supporters were like pie-crust—made to be broken—and a good num-ber of gentlemen were being placed on record in that regard. (Applause.)

Mr. McPhillips here took his perennial point of order in a jealous attempt to protect the prerogative of the Crown, and the chairman sustained the objec-tion.

Mr. Curtis appealed to the Speaker, and a very long debate ensued whether or not a member had the right of appeal in committee past the chairman to the Speaker without taking a vote of the House. Mr. Martin said this was an undisputed right at Ottawa, and in the long school debate the Speaker had been frequently called in during the night as a means of passing the time away.

Mr. Eberts—Are you pursuing the same tactics now? (Laughter.)

In supporting his position Mr. Curtis referred to the "brute majority" of the government, a term which awakened so much resentment that the member for Rossland explained that he employed the term "brute force" only as under-stood in dynamics, and if objectionable he would withdraw it. Mr. Brown held that the government was using its ma-jority to insist unnecessarily on points of order.

The Speaker ruled the clause out of order.

Mr. Curtis submitted the following:

"The powers granted to the said com-pany shall be subject to such conditions for securing such running powers or traffic arrangements and other rights as will afford all reasonable facilities, and equal mileage rates, to all railways con-necting with the Company's lines as the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council deter-mines."

This provoked another debate, and a ringing demand from Mr. McInnes for some announcement of policy from the government. He charged the govern-ment with using Mr. McPhillips as a buffer, and failing to declare any policy themselves. They sat dumb as oysters. They had no policy and no leader.

Hon. Mr. Eberts—No pledges. No nothing.

Mr. McInnes—They had pledges but they have forgotten them.

The clause was defeated, after which the committee rose and reported pro-gress.

The Vancouver Incorporation Act Amendment Act was committed with Mr. Holmcken in the chair. After some discussion, principally between the Vancouver members, Mr. Hunter rose and suggested that much time would be saved by the Vancouver members getting together and deciding upon some line of policy which they might then submit to the House, which he felt sure would do

all in its power to meet the wishes of such a rising village as Vancouver. (Laughter.)

Mr. Martin—Order.

The committee rose and reported pro-gress.

The Finance Minister submitted the estimates and the Budget.

The Attorney-General announced the notice of the introduction of a bill to amend the Places of Public Worship Act.

The Minister of Agriculture introduced an amendment to the Agricultural Act, and to the Mineral Products Act, to relieve the necessity of maintaining troops serving in the Yukon, and the operation of certain provisions of the act named.

On Thursday night Mr. Brown will ask leave to introduce a bill entitled "An Act to amend the Water Rights Consolidation Act, 1907."

Mr. Brown will move in committee of the whole on bill C-10, entitled "An Act to amend the Supreme Court Act," to insert the following as a new section:

"2. The addition made to section 82 of chapter 56 of the revised statutes, being the 'Supreme Court Act,' by section 7 of chapter 20 of the statutes of 1909, is hereby repealed, and the following substituted therefor:

"Provided, however, that in the case of a writ of summons or other proceed-ing issued or commenced in any registry other than Victoria, Vancouver or New Westminster, any application either to the court or in chambers may be made at Victoria, Vancouver or New West-minster, and all papers in connection with any such application shall be filed at Victoria, Vancouver or New West-minster, as the case may be. Any order made upon any such application shall also be entered at the registry at which the writ of summons was issued or the proceedings commenced."



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Mr. Martin—Order. The committee rose and reported progress.

The Finance Minister submitted the estimates and the House rose.

Motions.

The Attorney-General has given notice of the introduction of an act to amend the Placer Mining Act, 1899.

The Minister of Mines will introduce an amendment to the Placer Mining Act, and to the Mineral and Amending Acts, to relieve the members of the Canadian troops serving in South Africa from the operation of certain provisions of the act named.

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Mr. Brown will move in committee of the whole on bill (No. 10) intitled "An Act to amend the Supreme Court Act," to insert the following as a new section:

"2. The addition made to section 22 of chapter 56 of the revised statutes, being the Supreme Court Act, by section 7 of chapter 20 of the statutes of 1899, is hereby repealed, and the following substituted therefor:

"Provided, however, that in the case of a writ of summons or other proceeding issued or commenced in any registry other than Victoria, Vancouver or New Westminster, any application either to the court or its members may be made at Victoria, Vancouver or New Westminster, and all papers in connection with any such application shall be filed at Victoria, Vancouver or New Westminster, as the case may be. Any order made upon any such application shall also be entered at the registry at which the writ of summons was issued or the proceedings commenced."

# Provincial Parliament

## Much Time Wasted on Technical Points Taken by Mr. McPhillips.

### Mr. Curtis's Amendments Voted Down—Vancouver Charter Under Discussion.

Tuesday, August 14th.

Points of order were monopolized a good deal of the time of the members this afternoon, the chief being upon this ground being the junior member for Victoria, Mr. McPhillips, who has developed a remarkable penchant for guarding the prerogative of the South. The length to which the matter was driven drew a remonstrance from several members of the government and finally a disclaimer from the Attorney-General of any sympathy with the proceedings sought to be taken at these points.

Prayers having been read at 3.15 Mr. Holmcken reported for the private bills committee as follows:

"That with reference to bill intitled An Act to Incorporate the Grand Forks and Kettle River Railway Company, the Petition (No. 14) was presented to the House on the 31st July last, and having complied with the standing orders; but owing to some oversight the said bill does not appear to have been introduced, and your committee recommend that, notwithstanding the lapse of time, leave be granted to introduce the said bill, and the rules be suspended for that purpose, and that double fees be not exacted."

Mr. Holmcken asked the permission of the rules to accept the report, which was carried.

Under the suspended rules Mr. Garden introduced a bill to incorporate the Grand Forks & Kettle River Railway Company.

The bill was read a first time and referred to the railway committee.

Mr. Stables asked the Hon. the Minister of Mines: "In the event of a hydraulic lease being granted covering ground held by individual free miners, and in the event of said claims lapsing in any way, who is entitled to the said claims, the Crown or the leaseholder?"

Hon. Mr. McBride replied as follows: "The claims revert to the Crown."

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Hon. Mr. McBride replied as follows: "1. A gold commissioner has no power to issue an injunction. The powers of a gold commissioner in regard to the working of a mine are defined by section 110 of the Mineral Act. 2. The powers of a gold commission in this behalf are defined by Part V. of the Mineral Act."

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Hon. Mr. Turner replied: "1 and 2. Brunette Saw Mill Co., \$2,172.67; Moodyville Lands and Saw Mill Co., \$3,408.99; British Columbia Mills, Timber & Trading Co., \$5,452.34; J. A. Hayward, \$57.64; Wm. Tyler Lumber Co., \$96.15; Wm. L. Tait, \$161.66; Spicer Shingle Mill Co., \$365.94; Canadian Pacific Lumber Co., \$338.37; E. H. Heaps & Co., \$806.64; Archibald McNair, \$44.62; Hastings Shingle Manufacturing Co., \$1,477.52; Ems. Kibbenick, \$242.12; Pacific Coast Lumber Co., \$364.05; total, \$15,083.11. 3. One-half of the royalty due on timber exported. 4. By authority of section 70 of the Land Act and orders in council dealing therewith. 5. I must decline to answer this question, on the ground that it asks for a statement of government policy, which the government is not prepared to make in reply to a question."

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The bill was reported, adopted, read a third time and finally passed.

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This amendment, the member for Rossland said, was aimed at Japanese and Chinese, and was based exactly on the platform of Chas. Wilson. He did not see how gentlemen who were selected as supporters of that gentleman could fall to support this section, but he would not be surprised if they did not. From what he had seen he had come to the conclusion that anti-election pledges of government supporters were like pie-crust—made to be broken—and a good number of gentlemen were being placed on record in that regard. (Applause.)

Mr. McPhillips here took his perennial point of order in a jealous attempt to protect the prerogative of the Crown, and the chairman sustained the objection.

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This provoked another debate, and a ringing demand from Mr. McInnes for some announcement of policy from the government. He charged the government with using Mr. McPhillips as a buffer, and failing to declare any policy themselves. They sat dumb as oysters. They had no policy and no leader.

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Mr. Martin—Order.

The committee rose and reported progress.

The Finance Minister submitted the estimates and the House adjourned.

Monday

The Attorney-General gave notice of the introduction of a bill to amend the Places Names Act.

The Minister of Agriculture introduced an amendment to the Places Names Act, and to the Mineral Products Act, to relieve the necessity of sending troops serving in the field to the operation of certain provisions of the act named.

On Thursday Mr. Brown will ask leave to introduce a bill entitled "An Act to amend the Water Cases Consolidation Act, 1907."

Mr. Brown will move in committee of the whole on bill (No. 10) entitled "An Act to amend the Supreme Court Act," to insert the following as a new section:

"2. The addition made to section 32 of chapter 56 of the revised statutes, being the 'Supreme Court Act,' by section 7 of chapter 20 of the statutes of 1899, is hereby repealed, and the following substituted therefor:

"Provided, however, that in the case of a writ of summons or other proceeding issued or commenced in any registry other than Victoria, Vancouver or New Westminster, any application either to the court or in chambers may be made at Victoria, Vancouver or New Westminster, and all papers in connection with any such application shall be filed at Victoria, Vancouver or New Westminster, as the case may be. Any order made upon any such application shall also be entered at the registry at which the writ of summons was issued or the proceedings commenced."



# The Budget Speech

The Finance Minister Elaborates the Estimates in a Brief Address.

The Cassiar Members Anxious to Have Atlin Difficulties Adjusted.

Thursday, August 16.

The feature of this afternoon's proceedings in the House was the budget speech of the Finance Minister, and the fact that evening sessions were commenced. The speech itself was brief and not marked by any announcement of importance.

Prayers were read by Rev. Rural Dean Barber.

Mr. Helmcken reported for the private bills committee. This favored the Kilmant-Caledonia enterprise, and was adopted. The time for receiving reports of this committee was then extended ten days from date.

The report of the railway committee was unfavorable to the Chilkat Pass Navigation & Railway Co., on the ground that it was not desirable in the interests of the province that such charters be granted.

Mr. Pooley moved that the report be received, which was carried.

Another report from the same committee favored the Kamloops-Atlin Railway Co. bill. This was also adopted.

Hon. Mr. Eberts introduced his bill to amend the Licensing Act, which was received and read a first time.

Mr. Houston's bill amending the Water Classes Act was also received.

Hon. Mr. McBride introduced a bill to relieve the volunteers of this province serving in South Africa from the regulations of the Mining Act, which would affect their claims, while absent in the service of their country. The bill was received and read a first time.

Mr. Clifford moved for copies of all complaints made by people in Atlin district against government officials there, since 1st January, 1898, and the answers given by the government thereto.

In doing so he explained that he wished to draw the attention of the members and the government to a large number of complaints which had reached him from hydraulic men and miners. It was urged that Commissioner Grahame and other officials unduly favored the hydraulic miners. Blanketing creeks was one of the evils complained of. Under this system if a creek claim was not represented on opening day it became part of the bench claims which flanked it. The miners hold that this should, if unrepresented, revert to the Crown. Mr. Grahame was an efficient, upright and honorable man, and it was unfair not to straighten out the matter so as to relieve him from the imputation of favoritism.

The speaker asked the government to empower Mr. Justice Martin to hold a court of enquiry. The miners had found the country and they should have priority over the hydraulic men in such a dispute.

He also asked the government to carry out to the letter the order forbidding government officials holding mineral claims or participating in any benefits therefrom. He believed that some of the officials did hold such claims. It was frequently asserted that they did, and he believed with some truth.

He stamped the remuneration for gold commissioner as totally inadequate. At present he received only \$175 a month, while he should receive \$3,500 per annum, so that he would be removed from the necessity of engaging in anything else. The same applied to the recorder and clerks and constables.

Much of the trouble arose through hydraulic leases being allowed to be taken up the first year after the discovery of a creek. If hydraulic leases were suspended for three years after discovery it would give the miners an opportunity to work out the creek beds.

Mr. Stables confirmed the remarks of his colleagues. He had had similar representations from the miners.

He was not so sure of the ability of the gold commissioner. He knew of cases where injunctions had been issued, which tied up the country until the arrival of Judge Irving, who had straightened the matter out. It was in the interests of the country to have the matter thoroughly sifted and the originators of these complaints should be made to prove statements or withdraw them.

The Minister of Mines promised an inquiry at once. That matter was not an entirely new one and the government was anxious to set the matter at rest. While admitting that there was force in what Mr. Clifford had said in regard to the Mining Act he could not promise that the House could undertake these amendments at once. It would be taken up by the mining commission, which the government intended issuing.

He assured the members for Cassiar that no pains would be spared to straighten out the difficulties which had arisen.

Mr. Clifford asked the following question:

(1) Is it the intention of the government to enquire into the conduct of E. M. N. Woods, stipendiary magistrate at Atlin, on the 30th July last, in confirming Wm. Queen in jail for alleged contempt of court? (2) Is it the intention of the government to punish the deputy returning officer at Bella Coola (B. Brynildson), for culpable stupidity in cancelling the votes of ten of the electors without cause?

Mr. Eberts replied: (1) The Attorney-General's department is making an enquiry into the facts in connection with the alleged imprisonment of one Wm. Queen, for contempt of court. (2) Unfortunately, I know of no means whereby a man may be punished for such stupidity.

Mr. Gilmour asked: (1) Was an injunction issued at the instance of the government against the building of a sawmill on Deadman's Island? If so, when? (2) Is it the intention of the government to move in the way of withdrawing the said injunction? If not, why not? (3) What action, if any, is it the intention of the government to take with reference to said injunction?

Hon. Mr. Eberts replied: (1) No; an interim injunction was issued restraining Theo. Ludgate from cutting any trees or otherwise trespassing on said land, 16th May, 1899. This injunction will remain in force until trial of action. (2) It is not intended to remove injunction until the question as to whether Deadman's Island belongs to the Province or Dominion is decided. (3) To proceed to trial of the injunction action now pending.

Mr. McInnes asked the following questions:

1. Were any complaints made concerning the technical knowledge or building experience of A. W. Walkley, Esq., in connection with his services on the reconstruction of the Victoria court house? If so, by whom?

2. Did the government cause any inquiry to be made into the technical knowledge or building experience of the said A. W. Walkley before he was removed from his position on the reconstruction of the Victoria court house? If so, by whom, and with what result?

3. What does the government know about the technical knowledge or building experience of the said A. W. Walkley?

Hon. Mr. Wells said these questions are not in order, as they refer to questions already answered this session.

The House then went into supply, the Finance Minister delivering the budget speech.

Hon. Mr. Turner in rising said: "In moving that the House go into committee of supply, I must call attention to the fact that owing to conditions that have been existing for some time past, I can hardly take up this matter in the usual way. I think all must acknowledge the principle that when this resolution is made, the mover, in speaking of the finances of the country, refers to the public accounts for the preceding year, comparing them with the public accounts of the year then to be provided for. Owing to the election that has occurred in this province, and owing to what I might call the extra session, which took place early in the year, we find ourselves in this position of having to refer to the public accounts of the previous year, which ended on the 30th of June, 1898, and which would in order come up at the regular session of the

House, which took place in February last. Owing to certain things which occurred then, the estimates were never introduced, and the condition arose that another year has elapsed, terminating since the session was held in February—that is terminating on the 30th of June, 1900. Consequently we find ourselves face to face with the fact that we cannot avoid very well taking up the accounts terminating on the 30th of June, 1900, though at the same time they are not actually before the House. I might perhaps explain, though, the reason why the accounts for the 30th of June, 1900, are not before the House. It arises in a great measure from the fact that at a certain period, at the termination of the financial year, an extension of time was always given in order to get the accounts in for that year. So that the accounts that are furnished for actual payment made up to the 31st of August go into the previous year. This arises in a measure from the configuration of the province and from the difficulty, the impossibility in some cases, of getting in the accounts which properly belong to the previous year, until six weeks or perhaps two months after the actual termination of that year. With this explanation, I simply say that I propose, though we have not those accounts completely before us; to refer to those accounts to a certain extent, and I think I am entitled to that from the fact that in reply to a question the other day I stated the approximate revenue and expenditure to the 30th of June last year at a certain figure.

"In referring to the estimates, I think, the method usually followed in all legislatures, is to deal first with the previous year's accounts, which, owing to the conditions that I have pointed out, are not altogether available. Now, if we refer to the estimates which have been laid on the table of the House, we find that the estimates of receipts for the year amounts to \$1,757,289.45, whereas the estimates on expenditure for the year ending 30th of June last amount to \$2,218,323. Now it will be seen that the estimated revenue is some \$217,989 in excess of the amount estimated for the year ending 30th of June last, and this arises under several heads. I will refer to these as they appear under the head of receipts in the estimates placed before the House.

"The first of these is the land sales. That is estimated at \$15,000 in excess of the amount as made for the previous year. I am informed that there is every reason to believe that we can obtain larger amounts of payments from lands, and it is the intention of the government to do something with regard to the pre-emptions as an inducement for persons who find their payments in arrears, of which there is a very large sum, approximating, I am told, \$1,000,000 and interest on the same. It is the intention of the government, with a view of bringing in some, at any rate, of that money, to make certain concessions which I cannot fully explain at present, but which will be laid before the House later on. (Applause.) I feel confident that this will induce certain settlers to make payments so that before the 30th of June next we hope to have a substantial showing from this policy. I grant, sir, that we have underestimated this item on the whole, but it is probably better to do so than to overestimate. I might say that the same applies to these estimates all the way through. Still the revenues are, of course, uncertain, owing to changing conditions in the country, but I think it very reasonable to assume that instead of increasing \$217,000 it will be over \$300,000.

"Under the next heading of timber royalty and licenses, there is an increase of \$10,000. That arises from the intention of the government to make some change with respect to the royalty imposed on timber, which will, it is estimated, increase the revenue to that extent.

"Under free miners' certificates, there is an increase of \$5,000. That is a very moderate increase, and is one which is influenced by the condition of affairs in connection with the mining industry, as compared with previous years. I think

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it is a very conservative estimate of the increase under that head.

"In the item of mining receipts general there is an increase of \$25,000. I think I need hardly say anything more about that, which means an advance from some \$50,000 in previous years, than that the indications that we have in the mining districts seem to warrant the assumption that we shall have that increase of revenue.

"Referring to the receipts from the tax on wild lands, there is an increase of \$5,000. This is based on the fact that the government intend to go more fully into the matter of taxes on the wild lands, with a view of deriving a fuller return.

"Under the head of income tax there is an increase of \$10,000. That arises from a proposed change in the assessment act increasing in some cases the tax on incomes. Of course from \$1,000 there will be a different division of the tax upon incomes, and increasing in proportion to the amount. I may state that it is proposed to do this in the way in which I think some members of the House have suggested this session, that is that if an income of \$5,000 pays 1 per cent, an income of \$5,500 shall not all come under the \$10,000 rate, but pay the \$5,000 rate up to \$5,000, and the higher rate on the excess.

"Under the head of revenue tax there is an increase of \$40,000. That is a tax concerning which there has been considerable difficulty. It has always been felt in this House that this tax was not fully collected, and I think that the measure we are taking now in this direction will insure a better collection of that tax. In many districts we have to resort to the commission system in collecting that tax, for we find that where this system is adopted it comes in very much better and works fairer to all parties.

"Coming to the mineral tax, there is also a slight increase under that head. We have only estimated \$5,000 over that of last year, but as a matter of fact that is a very much larger increase in reality, because in this case I must refer to the actual receipts of last year, and not to the estimates of last year. The estimated receipts for that year were \$90,000, whereas it only produced \$31,000, but it is the intention of the government, under certain conditions, to increase that mineral tax, taking care, of course, to protect the small miner, so that it will not be an increase on him, but will apply itself more particularly to the larger properties, which we feel confident are not contributing the revenue to this province which they are entitled to pay. It is absurd, on the face of it, that that tax should only produce \$31,000; when we turn to the expenditures in connection with the mining districts, it seems hardly proportionate. Of course, it is said on the other hand that that is not all the revenue we get from mining properties. We get miners' licenses, and mining receipts generally which are very large, but they are not taxes at all. They are virtually payments for a right. They enable a man to take possession of a property, but a mineral tax is only a tax on the mines direct, and this is an endeavor to right what I think has been wrong hitherto in the very small amount received from that source.

"Under the head of Chinese restriction, an increase is shown of \$10,000. I think there is a very great uncertainty about that. Of course we know that the tax upon the Chinese has been largely increased, but I fancy that the influx of Chinese will as a consequence be very much smaller.

"As to succession duties the same remark applies.

"Then comes a very important matter. That is the royalty tax on coal. It is estimated that this will realize \$90,000. That, of course, refers to a tax on all the coal in the province, of five cents per ton, and in addition to the royalty on coke. This means a tax therefore on the total product of coal in the province of British Columbia. At the same time though we estimate this to produce the sum of \$90,000, yet it is not a clear increase to the revenue, because on the other hand the coal mines and coal mining property have been under taxation as personal property hitherto, and you cannot tax personal property and then tax the revenue derived from that personal property. That would be dual taxation. So that though this estimate appears as \$90,000, on the other hand it will be seen that under the head of personal property tax that estimate shows a decrease of \$20,000 from the estimate of the previous year. Now that is a

little more, I think, than the actual tax on the personal property of coal mines brings in now, but it is approximately correct, and taking these together there is a total increase of \$90,000, and there is a decrease against that of \$20,000, so that the actual increase is a little over \$70,000.

"That is another item of miscellaneous receipts, \$20,000. The estimate for the previous year, under this head, was \$30,000. But there was some special return at that time which estimated a refund from the Dominion government, so that the estimate is actually the same as that of the previous year.

"Now, turning to the estimate of expenditure, we find an increase under that head of \$343,505 over the previous year. Now this increase is first seen under the head of civil government (salaries) and administration of justice (salaries). Apparently there is an increase under these two heads of \$30,000, but as a matter of fact that is hardly an actual increase of salaries. The actual increase arose in this way: \$20,000 was attributable to new appointments necessitated in the North, and in various parts of the province, where recent developments have made such a step necessary. The difference between this sum and \$30,000 was due almost entirely to a return to the amount of salary paid in 1898. When I say return I may explain that there are some cases of old employees who have been restored to a basis much lower than that enjoyed by them prior to 1898.

Mr. Brown—You have overlooked some of them.

Hon. Mr. Turner—It is possible that some have been overlooked, and I may say here what I intended to say before in this connection. It is this. That it is well known that the elections took place a very short time before the meeting of the House, and when the government came in they found there was a tremendous lot of back work on their hands. Now when I say that I do not at all propose to blame the previous government. I have no doubt it arose

largely from the unsettled condition of affairs in the province owing to the elections coming on, which I have no doubt did affect the business of the province, because it is a fact that in some of the departments there are months of back work which have to be brought up. Now when we came in we found these conditions existing, and we were still more hampered by an incessant stream of deputations from all over the province seeking the attention of the government. The government wanted to meet the House at that time, but it was found impossible to do so, as the work could not be brought up in time. So in the present case in going through the estimates, and as to the salaries to which the honorable member for New Westminster has alluded, it is possible that there may have been some cases where deserving persons have been overlooked. At the same time we have endeavored to avoid this, and I think on the whole we have fairly considered all those that were entitled to this consideration. Now, I have said that this expenditure is an increase of some \$343,000 over that of the previous year. This arises, as pointed out, partly from salaries, but the principal item of increase comes under the head of public works. There is also a slight increase under the head of education, put down at \$304,500 for last year, but which is now \$326,000.

"This is a matter of the most vital consideration for this province. This does not represent the real cost for educational purposes. This only applies to the running of schools, which reaches a very considerable amount, and which has to be added to the cost, and it is felt that before another session this question should be fully considered and a plan devised by which some relief can be given to the province in connection with educational expenses. We all believe, I think, in establishing a thoroughly good educational system for this province. We want to keep it up to the foremost lines, and the difficulty, then, is to carry out what we wish and yet take it in moderate bounds in connection with expenditure so as to apportion it to the actual revenue of the province. Because on first glance this expenditure seems to be very much out of proportion to our other expenditures. I know it looks that way in comparison with other provinces. I fancy that as a province we expend more than any other. Of course we have different conditions here owing partly to our municipal arrangements. Other provinces, such as Ontario, and I suppose Quebec, do not show in their estimates the actual ex-

penditure in this connection for the whole country. In our case, the total expenditure for the whole province is shown, and it is a matter for serious consideration as to whether this can be adjusted in some way so as not to bear too hard on the people and still keep up a thorough system of education.

"Then, as I said, a great increase occurs under the heading of public works. This year the cost of this service is estimated at \$665,323, whereas last year it amounted to \$335,008, showing an approximate increase of \$300,000. I think it will be admitted by the province that this is not any too large an increase in the expenditure in that connection. It is a fact that owing, perhaps, to the endeavor a year ago to reduce public works expenditures, that many parts of the country have been neglected. Consequently there is a very much larger demand for ordinary repairs than there would otherwise have been. This lapse in the life of the province has not only entailed the loss arising from the deterioration of our public works, but added to that is the fact that they have gone back in many instances, had lost their value to a certain extent, and now what is to be done, Mr. Speaker, is to take up the threads again and start the loom afresh. We feel, and this government has always felt, that it is of the utmost importance that this province should be opened up by such works as are provided for in this connection. It is impossible for this country to advance, unless we can have a large system of roads, bridges, and various public services, through the province. I will turn later to the results, as I think, of the expenditures on these public works, but I think it can be admitted at once that this country cannot hope to increase its population, and its revenues, unless it is treated with a liberal hand.

"This shows, however, as a final result, that the expenditure this year is approximately \$500,000 over the estimates, because on the first of July last, we came in without money in the treasury. There was a loan made last year on which we were unable to realize, and consequently we had to fall back on the revenue, and the revenue, as pointed out, is some \$500,000 less than the expenditure.

"Now the ordinary way in connection with public works and the large expenditure it entails is to provide that a loan shall be raised for such works, and in the ordinary way there would be no difficulty in that respect because the province has got in such a condition that it is known to be worthy of credit, by those to whom we would look for loans. But just now that is simply impossible. It would be suicidal to propose in this House to pass a bill for a loan just now, as owing to the present conditions in the European money market a loan would be floated with great disadvantage, I think, though I do not like to refer to these matters, that a very great mistake was made in connection with the loan of 1899. There was an act passed in 1897 or 1898 providing for the borrowing of a large sum of money, part of which was to be applied for railway subsidies, and the balance for public works in the province. There was also the remains of the previous loan, some two or three hundred thousand pounds, which had never been fully taken up. Now the mistake in 1899 was this: that instead of taking up the whole of the loan that was offered they took part of it, for what reason I do not know, but I know contrary to the general opinion of financiers, because if you go for a loan it is best to raise a fairly considerable amount so that you are not constantly going for small sums, such a practice being prejudicial to the credit of a country. But there is a very good reason for that in connection with our loans, as you know they have been taken up by the underwriters. Now, especially in this last case, but in any case, in the former loan as well, the underwriters have some of this on hand, and it would be prejudicial to seek another loan un-



der those circumstances. This was the case in 1896, that loan being practically a failure so far as the public was concerned, as not one cent of it had been taken by them, whereas of former loans seventy-five per cent. was taken. I may say to-day that the last quotation of the R. C. loan was only 93, and the underwriters took it at 90; that is, that the underwriters stand to lose about three per cent. Therefore, if we went to the market now, your underwriters would be already loaded, and they would oppose very much any further loan being raised at the present time. I was looking to-day at the last quotations. I see that Dominion is quoted at 101, Ceylon at 100, and British Columbia at 93, a seven per cent. difference between Ceylon and British Columbia, whereas it used to be four per cent. Even between this province and Nova Scotia a preference is made. Last year it was favorable to this province, this year it was unfavorable. This shows that there is something wrong in the state of Denmark when our loan has gone so much out of proportion to what it was before. For these reasons it is very evident that it would be a very bad policy to attempt to raise a loan for public works. Instead of that, arrangements have been made with the bank, and the bank is willing to allow us to overdraw to the extent of our requirements up to the 30th of June, 1901, and of course there is one advantage in that, too. In a loan you have to borrow a lump sum and pay interest on the whole of it, whereas in getting this money from the bank it is simply current account, and if you withdraw \$100,000 to-day you can pay in \$40,000 to-morrow, and are only paying interest on the actual overdraft in the interim, so that it does not come to so high a rate as the other. That is why we propose to provide for this expenditure. I put this before the House because the question will eventually arise. What do you propose to do in respect to this?

"And now, coming to the public debt of the province, I have thought it advisable to refer to this matter at this time. The public debt at present, less sinking fund, is about \$5,000,000, approximately. Now, comparing that with the public debt of 1894, we find that the public debt at that time, less sinking fund, was \$2,129,000, so that there is an increase of \$3,000,000 since that year. In connection with that I must just make a slight reference in connection with the way this money, this \$3,000,000, has been expended. I find that the public works executed since 1894 amount to \$4,503,904. So that \$3,000,000 of this has been provided by loan, and the difference has been taken from the revenue. I do not think that is a very bad showing for this province. I feel that we have had a good return for that investment in public works, as I will show later.

"What I refer to specially are these things. The province has got in consideration of that expenditure vast assets in the shape of railroads, because the government has paid a considerable sum to railroads, and there is approximately, I think, 600 or 1,000 miles of railway that has been built largely through the assistance of the government. We have been building railroads, public roads, and public buildings, all over the province. Well, these are assets against that loan. These are the assets in addition to the lands of the province, so that I think we can claim that that expenditure was a very good one.

"In addition to that, too, we have the Dominion subsidy, which is coming in yearly, \$240,000 or \$300,000, which is a permanent asset, and which if capitalized would produce many millions of dollars, which would be placed against loans which have been raised by this province. So that the debt of this province is not at all excessive taking into consideration its assets.

"In this connection I would like to refer to the value of these assets as shown by the increasing revenue from them to the province. Take the year 1894. The reason I take that year particularly is this, that up to that date the Land act was in a different condition. A large amount of land sales were made prior to that date and after that year they practically stopped. Now the revenue in that year was \$798,507, while the revenue to the 30th of June in the last public accounts was \$1,509,581, an increase, since 1894 of ninety per cent. That is clearly a good showing, it seems to me.

"The expenditure in the same time increased. In 1893 and 1894 it amounted to \$1,514,405; in 1898 and 1899 it amounted to \$2,156,373, an increase of forty-two and a half per cent., so that while the revenue increased ninety per cent. the expenditure increased only forty-two and one-half per cent.

"Then I take another comparison. That is with respect to the cost of running the province in that time. The expenditure for civil government administration of justice, and salaries, in 1893-94 was \$270,200; and in 1898-99 it was \$342,685. So that the cost of running has not increased at all in proportion to the increase of the revenue. The increase of the cost of administration in that time was 17 per cent., whereas the increase in the revenue was 90 per cent.

"Under another heading I see that the increase for education between those periods amounted to 59 per cent., outside of the buildings for educational purposes. On the other hand, the public works in that time increased 92 per cent., a little more than the increase in the revenue. I think that seems to indicate that there is a great deal of life at any rate in this province. It augurs backbone and shows clearly that the public works carried on in this province have returned a very good result.

"If I turn to the year in which I first came into this House, in 1887, (this is the twelfth time I have had the honor of introducing the budget) we find that the revenue was only \$598,000, and it has increased now, as we see, to \$1,700,000. That is very much over 300 per cent. in that time. I merely turn to these facts to give a little encouragement to the present members, though I think they hardly need it. I see the honorable member for Kootenay smiling—but I feel confident if the member for Kootenay will consider these expenditures in view of the improvements made in his own districts he will agree that they have been beneficial to the country, and I will come to that later on.

"Now it was stated in the House yesterday by the hon. member for North Nanaimo, in connection with an application for a railway charter, that the present government had followed the policy of a former government, that was to encourage monopolies to the detriment of the public. Well, Mr. Speaker, I would like to have it more definitely stated what monopolies have been encouraged to the detriment of the public either by the previous government or by the present one. I would like to have that gentleman put his finger on a monopoly that has been encouraged to the detriment of the province. Without going through the figures at this time, I can state that through the policy of the government preceding the last one, the affairs of this province have been brought up to such prosperity that in 1898 this was one of the most prosperous provinces under the British government, and it stood in its credit also as one of the highest. The policy of this government was to encourage the development of the province. Its policy is now to endeavor to get capital into the province to build up industries here, to add to its population, and generally to diffuse prosperity throughout British Columbia. I have no doubt that the policy of this government is diametrically opposed to that of the hon. member for North Nanaimo, because the policy of that hon. gentleman, if pursued to its full application, means the destruction of property in this province. We have had his resolution in respect to that. The policy of that hon. gentleman means the prevention of the introduction of capital into this province and consequently it is a policy tending to work injury to the laboring man."

Mr. McInnes—"Ha, ha."

Hon. Mr. Turner—"It is a policy also which means reduction of wages. That hon. gentleman denounced the leader of the government as having a policy which encouraged monopoly, whereas the Premier has introduced a system of taxation by which his own property will pay \$30,000 or \$40,000 a year into this treasury for the benefit of the province. (Hear, hear.)

"Now, Mr. Speaker, is that an indication of a policy for the support of monopolies? What are these gentlemen saying? It is the easiest thing in the world for men to get up and declare that we are supporting monopolies, but I say that the hon. member for North Nanaimo is supporting monopoly, just as much or more than the government."

Mr. McInnes—"Don't hit your desk. There was a point of order taken on that yesterday."

Hon. Mr. Turner—"These are the facts. They evidently affect the hon. gentleman very much. They are true. If you bring labor into conflict with capital; if you do anything to weaken the credit of the country, thereby preventing capital from coming in, the wages of the laborer will fall. (Hear, hear.) He knows they should work together in sympathy. He knows that there is nothing so good for the working man, the artisan and mechanic of a country, as to convince the public that we have a country which is developing where we have expended capital for roads, and other means of development, and where the capitalist will be protected in his investment and have a chance of getting a profit on his enterprise. The workingman knows that if you can induce capital to come in that his wages will be increased and that a greater abundance of employment will result. There is no question about that. Take capital out of this country to-day and what would wages be? They would decline immediately. I do not say that the gentlemen are wifit in their policy—that they really intend to drive out capital and to diminish wages, but the effect is there just the same. That would be the result of that sort of proceeding."

Mr. Curtis—"What sort of proceeding?"

Hon. Mr. Turner—"I say that such a proceeding as you were speaking of yesterday. What I am speaking of now is this, that the government is charged with encouraging monopolies to the detriment of the public. I say that the government of this country to-day, and the governments of this country for a number of years before the late government, followed a policy of encouraging the introduction of capital, and the development of the country. I can go to the city of the member for North Nanaimo to-day and will find wages higher than they were before."

Mr. McInnes—"Not at all."

Hon. Mr. Turner—"You can go over the country anywhere in British Columbia and find more work and more wages due to the policy of this government, although eighteen months ago, a reverse set in under the former regime. There is a proof that the expenditures that have been made by the government have been of such a nature that there has been a direct and steady increase in prosperity, in the revenue of the province."

Mr. Curtis—"Excuse me for a moment. So far as the interior is concerned times were perfectly good up to the 10th of December last, when the war news and other things affected capital."

Cries of "Oh, oh," and "What news?" Mr. Curtis—"The reports of reverses to the British arms had the effect of disturbing the money market in London. Before that the prices of mining stocks were never higher, for instance, \$3.90."

Hon. Mr. Turner—"I demur to that statement entirely as incorrect. The fact is that I have, through my own business connections, a practical knowledge of the conditions of affairs in London, and I say they fell off much. Before that there was a brief shut-off of business generally throughout the province. The hon. gentleman must know that."

Turning from that again to this subject with respect to capital and monopolies, I would ask again what monopolies those gentlemen referred to? They do not know."

Mr. McInnes—"Oh, yes I do."

Hon. Mr. Turner—"He has a great deal of poetry in his brain, I think."

Mr. Curtis—"I might mention the White Pass railway monopoly."

Hon. Mr. Turner—"I am not speaking on the White Pass railway monopoly now."

At this stage the Speaker ruled that it was out of order to refer to what occurred in previous debates.

Hon. Mr. Turner—"Certain gentlemen made charges yesterday against the government of being supporters of monopolies. I was only saying a few words to show that instead of supporting monopolies, they were supporting the workingmen in the province, supporting the introduction of capital and the spread of

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prosperity. On the other hand I say it is individuals who are so blind to the condition of affairs as the hon. member for North Nanaimo and his colleagues who are really imposing on the workmen of this province by reducing their wages, and preventing capital coming in.

Mr. McInnes—I understood the Hon. Minister of Finance to make a speech the other day in favor of cheap labor.

Hon. Mr. Turner—I think the hon. gentleman is out of order.

Mr. Speaker—Entirely out of order.

Hon. Mr. Turner—I made no such speech. I made a speech saying that as a consequence of some cheap labor that was here we were enabled to pay out \$2,000,000 to men with good wages which this hon. gentleman tried to prevent us paying out.

In speaking of the expenditure on public works in certain districts as being very productive, I notice that the hon. member for Kootenay raised the inference that the expenditure in the Kootenays was not what it should be. I am inclined to admit that at once. I think that is so in many districts; I think it lies with us to build up the industries of the province, so that more generous expenditures can be made of public works. And I wish we could have studied more fully the wants of these districts, but under present conditions this is impossible. I notice in looking back for a few years in the Kootenay revenue that in 1891 that district produced \$43,000; in 1892 it was \$67,000 and in 1893 it was \$325,000. Now that is an indication I think that by the opening up of the province, by trails, roads and railways, industries have been established which have led to an enormous increase of revenue. This is clearly indicated by the fact that from 1891 to 1893, only eight years, it has increased from \$43,000 to \$325,000. That is a wonderful increase. This means that there are other portions of our province that will return perhaps not so gigantic an increase, but still a very large increase on the outlay that has been made there. I think this applies more particularly to the northern parts of our province at the present time. I think strong efforts should be made by this government to open up this northern section. If we can get railways through that section of country, that highly mineralized country, but especially the Omineca division, we should see a proportionate increase that will exceed the Kootenays for the last seven or eight years, and that within eight or nine years from this time the revenue will amount to hundreds of thousands of dollars from that section alone. That being the case it must have an important effect also on other sections of this province, as trade and business there means that the central parts would also receive a benefit. We would not only have the revenue accruing from that country, but we would have the sympathetic increase of business in other parts of the province. Therefore I think that every effort should be made in this House to encourage the introduction of capital to that part, and more especially if we can do anything to encourage railway construction at an early date, not only opening up the Cassiar and Omineca districts but connecting with the great Yukon country, as well as bringing the wealth and trade of that country more thoroughly in touch with the province of British Columbia. Now it is a fact that the trade of this province has been largely improved by railways. I might particularize the White Pass railway. There has been an enormous improvement in trade owing solely to that line. Before it was constructed it cost \$500 per ton for freight through that section. Now I do not say that \$60 per ton is low enough, but in comparison with the disadvantage that existed before its construction, there is a point to consider in the trade which it has brought to the merchants of this province.

I do not believe that on account of the rates there has been one pound of flour, or pound of bacon, less imported into that country. In fact I am not certain but that it may have helped trade to a certain extent.

It was stated by one hon. gentleman that it was an American enterprise. I happen to know the principal owners of the railway, one of the largest firms in London who got up that concern. It is true they may have employed Americans in connection with the line, but the capital has been found in England. I hold

that it is no argument that we support monopolies, because yesterday an action was taken in this House with a view of encouraging a line which would run entirely through the province of British Columbia, an all-Canadian line, and much more promising of benefit to the people of this province than that line can be, in the near future.

There is a question in connection with the line proposed yesterday that at any time, through the advocacy of American merchants, that port may be closed against us, so that difficulties may arise at any time in connection with it.

I think I have nothing more to say. I have taken the usual liberty at this time to refer to many matters which are not perhaps connected directly with the subject before us. I have much pleasure in moving, Mr. Speaker, that you do now leave the chair. (Loud applause.)

After the delivery of the budget speech yesterday, the House developed an unlooked for appetite for business, and to the surprise, it is safe to say, of all the members, the debate on the budget was closed before 10 o'clock, and the House plunged at once into the estimates. Here again wonderful progress was made, and when the House rose at midnight over half of the appropriations had been passed. It is intended on the part of the government to take up the remainder this afternoon and if possible dispose of them before the rising of the House. This means that the end of the session is practically in sight, and indeed some of the older members expect to be out at the end of the coming week. One obstacle in the way is the voluminous city charter of Vancouver, which has to be waded through and upon which sharp differences exist among the representatives from that city.

Upon the Finance Minister resuming his seat, after delivering the budget speech, the member for New Westminster, Mr. Brown, rose amid opposition applause to reply.

Mr. Brown said he felt inclined to regard this, in view of the unusual political circumstances of recent days, as a sort of new beginning; and he thought he should rather dwell upon the points in which he could agree with the Minister of Finance than seek occasion for hostile criticism. Before entering on financial questions, however, he wanted to make a few general remarks; and he proceeded to show that, if any one was to blame for the not very forward state of the business of the session, it was the government, which actually had eight new bills on the paper which were either not yet in the House, or just introduced. Another matter was the way in which the efforts of the opposition to get a hearing for their views and to put their principles into legislation, were received by some members. Opposition members had made certain pledges and advanced certain ideas, when before their constituents, and they felt bound to do what they could now to have these views carried out. To lecture them about "dictating to the government" and "talking to the galleries" was absurd. Certainly none of them had ever thumped his manly breast and shouted that he was the workingman's friend, as the Minister of Finance had done a few minutes before.

Giving the figures for some years back, Mr. Brown showed that there had been a steady increase in revenue, and he quite agreed with the Minister of Finance that there was every reason to look confidently for a continuance of that satisfactory state of things. With proper management, the rapid progress of the province was certain; nay, he had confidence enough in the richness of our resources to believe that the province would even progress in spite of a certain amount of bad management. He could not agree, however, with what the Finance Minister had said in his fierce attack upon Mr. McInnes. The Finance Minister was inclined to take credit as the only person able to formulate a policy which would develop this country. But that hon. gentleman's policy in the past had not been well calculated to advance the best interests of the province. Mr. Brown here cited what Mr. Turner had just said about the failure of our rich mines to pay their fair share of taxation, and he also cited the B. C. Southern, or Crow's Nest, land grant. For that enormously rich grant the province had received absolutely nothing—the railway would have been built when it was built in any event, since it had become a commercial necessity and the Dominion had subsidized it on that ground.

After entering a protest against the very unequal division of the grants made to different districts and the plain discrimination against those districts which were represented by opposition members, Mr. Brown complimented the government on certain announcements made, for instance, that it was intended to come to the relief of agricultural settlers who were in arrears in land payments. Referring to increase of debt, Mr. Brown said that, while he did not see any cause for uneasiness in the actual amount of our debt at present, it was still true that the percentage of increase of debt had been greater than that of revenue, and caution must therefore be exercised. If the money market continued in its present condition, we could not well float a new loan, and while he could not therefore object to the plan announced of arranging a temporary loan from the bank, he wanted to point out that it would not do to carry that sort of thing too far. Once before the province had been at the mercy of a bank and had paid for it. After some general remarks about methods of taxation, the heavy demands made upon the treasury for education, the advisability of adopting a systematic "good roads" policy, etc., Mr. Brown concluded with the expression of a hope that our highest anticipations for the progress of the province would be realized.

Mr. Brown sat down amid applause, and was followed by Mr. McInnes, who in opening coincided in the expressed policy of the government of opening up the resources of the country, and also restoring the salaries of civil servants whose stipends had been reduced. With this latter action he had no sympathy. He agreed that in a province like British Columbia the expenditure must necessarily exceed the revenue.

To meet this expenditure new means of revenue must be found, and he had advocated as one a tax on coal. The government had adopted this, but had nullified their action by allowing the mine owners to advance the price to the consumer 50 cents a ton. This meant an additional cost to local consumers of \$200,000, which far exceeded the gross amount of the tax. The government should fix a maximum price.

He also urged that the tax be extended to other mines and not on coal mines only. Another means of revenue might be found in taxing domestics, say \$25. As most of these were Chinese, little harm would be done, and probably much good; while say \$250,000 would be realized for the province exchequer. He also complained that there were 2,000,000 acres of land in the Island exempt from taxation, and urged that a test case be taken to the courts to see if it could not be made revenue producing. It being six o'clock the Speaker left the chair.

**EVENING SESSION.**

After dinner, the member for North Nanaimo continued his attack on the government and warned the Finance Minister that while the budget speech he had just delivered was his twelfth it would be his last, as he was the Jonah of the government. He referred to the action of the government in regard to the E. & N. and White Pass railways to prove his statement that they were the friends of monopoly. He also disputed the claim for credit put forward for the Premier for putting the Chinese out of his mines. Chinese were still employed there and would continue to be employed, as the white miners regarded these mines in the light of a pest place, to be avoided. The Premier might desire a change, but the Attorney-General, the strong man of the government, stood in the way. He ridiculed the constant reference to capital emphasized by government members. Labor was true capital and it was this that should be encouraged.

Mr. McPhillips followed by McInnes at some length, after which the House went into supply with Mr. Hunter in the chair. The items passed with little debate. On the item for boiler inspection, it was urged that one inspector could not cover the whole province and the government assured the opposition that the appointment of a second would be considered.

Under the head of hospitals, Mr. Stables put in a strong claim for assistance to the hospital of Rev. Mr. Pringle at Atlin, which had done splendid work. Mr. E. C. Smith also urged a grant to the hospital of the Sisters of St. Eugene in his riding.



# Provincial Parliament

The Estimates Finished at the Afternoon Sitting of the House Yesterday.

Lightning Speed Developed in the Committee on the Vancouver Charter Amendment.

Friday Aug. 17th.

The remainder of the estimates were this afternoon disposed of without amendment, and a number of bills were passed, the most important of which were those relating to the appointment of a commissioner to the Porcupine, and that granting exemption from certain provisions of the Mining Act to British Columbia soldiers in South Africa.

Prayers were read by Rural Dean Barber. Positions were presented by Mr. Green and by Mr. Curtis for the B. A. C. and the London & British Columbia Goldfields, Limited, regarding the mining industry in the Kootenay.

Mr. Oliver, amid the laughter of the House, corrected a report that he favored increasing the sessional allowance. He had interjected some such remark during the discussion on the estimates, but only in a jocular way. Henceforth he would label such remarks as jokes.

Hon. Mr. Turner—Do I understand the hon. gentleman did not advocate increasing the allowances? (Laughter.)

Mr. Oliver, amid continued laughter, said he did employ the remark, but as it had been interpreted seriously he must ask leave to withdraw it.

The House went into supply, with Mr. Pooley in the chair. Mr. Helmcken expressed disappointment that no sum had been placed in the estimates for a new government house. When the building was burnt down there was \$40,000 insurance on it, and \$20,000 added to this would replace the house. The province was now paying \$600 for rent, beside keeping up the property. Money could be secured cheaply which would entail less interest than what was now paid for rental. He ventured to hope a government house in keeping with the government buildings would be erected. As the opposition was inclined to be reasonable he thought no objection would be offered.

The Minister of Finance quite agreed with the remarks of the senior member for Victoria. He agreed that the Governor of such an important province as British Columbia should have a suitable residence. He would like an expression of opinion on the subject, and would favor a sum in the estimates for that purpose. He thought \$32,000, the sum mentioned by the senior member for Victoria, was a very moderate one.

P. Ellison hoped to see the sum of \$50,000 placed in the estimates. He felt proud of the government buildings. He had opposed their construction here at the time, but now recognized the justice of their location in Victoria when such a large sum had been expended on the Mainland on a similar project.

The item passed. Under the head of road superintendents, the increase over last year was explained by the chief commissioner, who said it was intended to increase the number of road superintendents from eight to fifteen or sixteen, in order to increase the efficiency of the system. It was not intended, he said, in reply to Mr. Curtis, to employ engineer superintendents.

On the item of \$5,000 for Delta, Mr. Oliver recalled an arrangement entered into between the Semlin administration and his municipality, agreeing to advance \$10,000 to build a road from Ladners to Westminster, along the Fraser river, at 4 per cent. for ten years, when the debt would be cancelled. Delta had already expended \$4,000 in pursuance of that arrangement, yet he found no estimate provided to implement the promise of the previous government. The municipality had not been fairly treated, and he asked that a reasonable sum be placed in the supplementary estimates to provide for this.

Aug 18

The Minister of Mines gave a tact assurance that these roads would receive consideration in the supplementary estimates. Delta, where the wealthy member resided, was a land flowing with milk and honey, as the smiling countenance of the member attested, and therefore required less attention than less favored lands. (Laughter.)

Hon. Mr. Eberts—You see he has a Roland for an Oliver. (Renewed laughter.)

On the item for \$11,200 for Nelson, Mayor Houston said he had only asked \$11,000, and he didn't know why he had received \$200 more. He was willing to hand that sum over for division among less satisfied members. (Laughter.)

On the item of \$22,250 for Rossland, Mr. Curtis took occasion to draw attention to the unfair treatment accorded the mining districts, particularly West Kootenay. Every dollar put into trails and bridges would yield ample returns in increased business.

He pointed out that in the last five years West Kootenay had paid in \$1,052,723, or including company fees, \$1,200,000, yet it had received back in expenditure only \$500,000. He took up, for the purposes of comparison, the revenue and expenditure in other ridings. The revenue from North Victoria was \$6,000, and \$4,000 went back in expenditure; Esquimalt, \$18,000 and \$10,000 in expenditure, etc., yet Rossland got only \$22,250 with its big revenue. Trail creek, with a shipment of \$3,000,000 a year, got not a cent. Speaking of Alberni, he mentioned that the government should subsidize a boat to ply on the West Coast, so that that district could be more readily reached by mining engineers than at present.

Although within the last five or six years Trail creek mining division had yielded half a million dollars, yet not a cent had been appropriated for it. He reminded the government also that Rossland had rendered greater service to the country than was shown by mine returns. Rossland had made the name of British Columbia famous throughout the world. He also complained of the unfair discrimination against the ridings repre-

sented by opposition members. They would find that such a policy would not make them strong in the country.

Hon. Mr. Turner reminded the member for Rossland that that district had been opened up by railway connection, that a \$40,000 court house was being built, and that other expenditures were being made which had not been mentioned by the member for Rossland.

Mr. Green claimed for Nelson and Slocan priority in bringing the attention of the world to the wealth of British Columbia.

Mayor Houston believed West Kootenay had been treated fairly in regard to public works. He believed thousands of dollars were squandered in those districts. When he lived at Donald he and others got an appropriation for \$10,000 for a road from Golden to Donald, and only one man and one animal ever travelled over it.

Mr. Stables, on the item of \$16,000 for Cassiar, stamped it as out of proportion to the revenue and requirements of the district. He asked that the road from Atlin to Surprise lake be opened up by removing the boulders. A pack trail from Atlin to Bennett was also required to carry the mail when it would not otherwise be possible to secure it.

On the item of \$6,500 for wharves, Mr. Helmcken mentioned that the Dominion government provided for the construction of wharves at different points in the East and he didn't see why the West should not participate in these benefits. He suggested the Minister of Finance communicate with the Ottawa government to that end. (Hear, hear.)

Messrs. Fulton and Ellison drew attention to the great increase in the number of panthers in their districts and asked that the bounty be made large.

Capt. Tatlow also recommended a larger appropriation for the militia. The same appropriation existed as previously, whereas five new companies had been formed, which should also be remembered. He paid a high compliment to the behavior of the militia in the recent Steveston trouble.

Under the heading of provincial board of health, Mr. Houston asked if part of the appropriation would be available to meet accounts contracted by this board in the smallpox scare, and which interior merchants could not receive payment for.

Under the appropriation for deaf mutes, the Provincial Secretary said that eight of the twenty-one deaf mutes in the province were being paid for outside the province. In the supplementary estimates it was intended to make provision for the establishment of a school in the province for their treatment.

Mr. Melness objected to the grant of \$300 for a resident physician at Alberni, where there were already two doctors. He asked that the grant go to Parksville, which was 30 miles from medical attendance. The Provincial Secretary said no representation had been made to him, whereupon the member for North Nainimo intimated that Hon. Mr. Prentice was not in a responsible condition, and the latter invited his antagonist outside.

In the subsequent debate Mr. Helmcken urged a larger salary for Curator Fannin, of the provincial museum, whose excellent work was deserving of greater recognition than it now received. He also urged the appointment of physicians to regularly visit the jails.

Mr. Hayward asked for an appropriation for an Old Women's Home.

On the vote of \$5,000 for sheriffs the fact was announced that the Victoria sheriff had barely sufficient from his salary to live on, while others were in similar circumstances owing to the reductions that had been made.

Shortly after midnight the House adjourned.

Mr. counts paid. Mr. nuation the 27 Mr. Ol an opi commu The and a The on the the ch Curtis torney- ed bef withr The amendi bill res The ond re of disp the Po mining receive and de he w should woud Toby, way, i difficult woud in Pot British second Mr. J the p that th in Atli The c endmer those c and on Crown In m bill to in Sou the Mi said it to thos the En or's lie they ha meet w Mr. ment to rights Ministe be in k In co suggest right. The wou d came u The passed. The i In th Gilmou registers posed charter bill w Actin sought inserted "124a signed the cit revised the cou questio or wou the w therea teeing the p charges curred questio dentat. the cou ing for to the vote for manner tions a tis mut are sub In all e entitled men, a



# Provincial Parliament

## Mainland Politics Occupy Most of the Time of the Legislators.

### Some Significant Questions Regarding Porcupine Appointments by Mr Stables

Monday, Aug. 19th.

After two days of idleness, the weary legislators of the province came very tardily to their tasks this afternoon, and having disposed of the immediate business before them, decided not to sit in the evening. Vancouver matters received almost exclusive attention, the Vancouver and Westminster bill and the city charter being further discussed and amended.

Prayers were read by Rev. W. Leslie Clay.

Petitions were read, the British American Corporation, Ltd., and the London and B. C. Gold Fields, Ltd., and other companies complaining of certain legislation regarding the mining industry.

Mr. Martin contended that the petitions were out of order, as in order to be admissible they must be definite. It was impossible to tell what legislation was referred to. He insisted that the acts to which objection was taken should be specified. The petition meant nothing and it was trifling with the time of the House to present it. He contended that they were out of order on the ground that the petitions were vague and meaningless and contained alterations.

Mr. Speaker Booth—"It is quite competent for any person to petition the House, and the question as to whether any relief is granted or the prayer of the petition considered is a matter for the House to deal with.

"On the second point, I think the practice of the House has been not to enforce rule 92 too strictly with regard to 'alterations,' if the petition was otherwise unobjectionable. I will therefore hold the petitions to be in order, and leave it to the House to say if it wishes rule 92 to be more strictly enforced in the future."

Mr. Martin drew attention to parts of the petition which had been altered which was distinctly contrary to the rules. The fact that the clerk had overlooked such alterations and neglected his duty was no reason why the House should persist in this error. He appealed from the Speaker's ruling, but the chair was sustained.

The petition was received. The consideration of the resolution reported from committee of supply was then taken up and the items passed.

The following bills were introduced:

By Mr. Eberts—To amend the Railway Assessment Act; to amend the Provincial Election Act; to amend the Tramway Incorporation Act.

All these were read a first time.

Mr. Stables moved: "That bill (No. 16) entitled 'An act to incorporate the Lake Bennett Railway Company' be placed upon the orders of the day for second reading.

He and Mr. Curtis spoke in support of the resolution. A vote being taken it was lost on the following division:

Yeas—Messrs. McInnes, Gilmour, Stables, Oliver, Brown, Curtis, R. Smith, Houston—8.

Nays—Messrs. Kidd, Neill, Green, Hall, McPhillips, Helmcken, Turner, Dunsmuir, Eberts, A. W. Smith, Ellison, Clifford, Fulton, Hayward, Garden, Prentice, Wells, McBride, Pooley, Murphy, Rogers, Hunter, Taylor, Dickie, Mounce—25.

Mr. Kidd asked the Hon. the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works the following question: Is it the intention of the government to open for settlement, in small holdings, by lease or otherwise, to actual settlers, the provincial lands now under reserve in the municipalities of South Vancouver and Burnaby?

Mr. Turner promised that if the accounts were proper ones they would be paid.

Mr. Helmcken advocated a superannuation system for civil servants, which the Finance Minister approved, while Mr. Oliver thought that they had as good an opportunity as other classes in the community to save money.

The committee rose, reported progress and asked leave to sit again.

The House then went into committee on the Companies Bill with Mr. Hall in the chair. A long amendment from Mr. Curtis was, on the assurance of the Attorney-General that it would be considered before another session of the House, withdrawn.

The bill was reported complete with amendments, the report adopted and the bill read a third time and passed.

The Minister of Mines moved the second reading of a bill for the settlement of disputes in regard to mining claims in the Porcupine district of Lake Bennett mining division. He stated that he had received a detailed report of the number and details of disputed claims by which he was satisfied that a commission should be sent in. The commissioner would leave early next week. Capt. Toby, the United States officer at Skagway, had been very good in removing difficulties and he hoped the commission would indicate to United States citizens in Porcupine that they would receive British fair play. The bill was read a second time.

Mr. Hall presented the second report of the printing committee, recommending that the applications for hydraulic leases in Atlin be printed.

The committee on the License Act Amendment Act was discharged, as well as those on the Bennett-Atlin commission and on the grant to Vancouver of certain Crown lands.

In moving the second reading of the bill to relieve the British Columbia boys in South Africa from the operation of the Mineral Act, the Minister of Mines said it was a simple measure of justice to those who had given their services to the Empire. It secured their free miner's licenses and also their rights where they had lapsed. He knew the bill would meet with general approval.

Mr. Helmcken suggested an amendment to the Election Act to secure the rights of franchise to these men. The Minister of Mines said this would only be in keeping with the present procedure.

In committee on the bill Mr. Helmcken suggested giving these their claims outright.

The Minister of Mines promised this would be remembered when their claims came up for consideration.

The bill was read a third time and passed. The Speaker saw 6 o'clock.

### EVENING SESSION.

In the absence of Messrs. Martin and Gilmour, who, it was expected would register decided opposition to the proposed amendments to the Vancouver charter, the House rushed through the bill with the greatest expedition. Acting for Mr. Gilmour, Mr. Brown sought to have the following amendment inserted:

"124a. In the event of a petition duly signed by at least one thousand voters of the city whose names are on the last revised voters' list being presented to the council of the city, praying that any question relating to the public interests or welfare of the city be submitted to the vote of the electors for decision thereon, and on such petitioners guaranteeing to the satisfaction of the council the payment to the city of all costs, charges and expenses that might be incurred if a vote should be taken on such question, and in connection with or incidental to such vote being taken, then the council should pass a by-law providing for the submission of such question to the vote of those persons entitled to vote for mayor and aldermen in the same manner and subject to the same regulations as to giving notice thereof, mutatis mutandis, as money by-laws which are submitted to the vote of the voters. In all cases all voters on the voters' list, entitled to vote for mayor and aldermen, shall be entitled to vote on the

question submitted. A majority of the votes cast shall decide the question so submitted. Nothing in this clause shall be taken to affect the provisions relating to money by-laws or to any by-laws that have to be voted on only by voters entitled to vote on money by-laws."

Capt. Tatlow at once entered an objection, saying that this embodied the principle of the referendum, and he would oppose it.

Mr. Brown pointed out that it would be absurd to vote down the amendment simply because some member was afraid of the word referendum. The council of the City of Vancouver had endorsed the section and he strongly counselled the committee against thwarting the will of the people there.

Mayor Garden, while admitting that the council had passed the amendment, feared advantage might be taken of times when the public mind was unsettled to press undesirable matters through this medium.

The amendment was lost, Messrs. Brown, Oliver and Kidd alone voting for it.

Power was given the city to exact a license from trading stamp companies.

The Legislature refused to accord the city power to compel the street railway, telephone and telegraph companies to put their wires underground at any time. Messrs. Pooley, McPhillips and Hunter led in opposing this section, and as the House had a bare quorum, nearly all of the opposition being absent, the clause was defeated.

The remainder of the bill went through with little amendment, and shortly before midnight the bill was completed with the exception of a few clauses, which were laid over until the return of the other Vancouver members.

### Notes.

Mr. Stables will on Monday introduce a bill to amend the Placer Mining Act.

Capt. Tatlow will ask on Monday if it is the intention of the government to establish a mining division with a gold commissioner resident in Vancouver.

of Mines gave a tacit... the supplementary est... where the wealthy men... a land flowing with... as the smiling counten... ber attested, and there... less attention than less... Laughter.)... You see he has a... silver. (Renewed laugh... for \$11,200 for Nelson... said he had only asked... didn't know why he had... over. He was willing to... over for division among... (Laughter.)... of \$22,250 for Rossland... occasion to draw atten... fair treatment accorded... tricts, particularly West... try dollar put into trails... yield ample returns... business. ... that in the last five... tenay had paid in \$1... ding company fees, \$1... had received back in ex... \$500,000. He took up, for... comparison, the reven... in other ridings. The... orth Victoria was \$6,000... at back in expenditure;... 000 and \$10,000 in ex... yet Rossland got only... its big revenue. Trail... shipment of \$3,000,000 a... cent. Speaking of Al... that the government... e a boat to ply on the... that that district could... reached by mining en... present. ... in the last five or six... eek mining division had... million dollars, yet not a... appropriated for it. He... government also that Ross... greater service to the... was shown by mine re... had made the name of... ia famous throughout the... complained of the unfair... against the ridings repre...

position members. They... at such a policy would not... strong in the country.

Turner reminded the mem... and that that district had... by railway connection... 90 court house was being... at other expenditures were... which had not been mention... or Rossland.

claimed for Nelson and... in bringing the attention... to the wealth of British

ton believed West Koot... treated fairly in regard to... He believed thousands of... squandered in those dis... he lived at Donald he and... appropriation for \$10,000... Golden to Donald, and... and one animal ever... it.

on the item of \$16,000 for... ed it as out of proportio... and requirements of the... asked that the road from... ase lake be opened up by... oulders. A pack trail from... ett was also required to... when it would not other... e to secure it.

of \$6,500 for wharves... mentioned that the Do... ment provided for the con... wharves at different points... and he didn't see why the... not participate in these... suggested the Minister of... nicate with the Ottawa... that end. (Hear, hear.)... on and Ellison drew at... great increase in the num... in their districts and... bounty be made large.

also recommended a larg... n for the militia. The... tion existed as previously... ew companies had been... should also be remember... e militia in the recent... le.

ading of provincial board... Houston asked if part of... on would be available to... contracted by this board... scare, and which inter... could not receive pay...



Hon. Mr. Wells replied as follows: "Up to the present time the government has not considered the advisability of opening for settlement, by lease or otherwise, the provincial lands referred to." Mr. Tatlow asked the Hon. the Minister of Mines, the following question: Is it the intention of the government to establish a mining division with a gold commissioner resident in the city of Vancouver?

Hon. Mr. McBride replied as follows: "The government is collecting data with reference to establishment of such mining division."

A message was received from the Lieut.-Governor transmitting an "Act to Amend the Licenses Act," and recommending its introduction. A similar message was received with reference to the Mineral Act. The bills were introduced and read a first time.

The House went into committee on the bill to provide for the settlement of disputes in the Porcupine district, with Mr. Hayward in the chair.

Mr. Stables asked if it was proposed to impose a fee of \$25 before a case could be considered, as was the case last year? It had caused hardship in some instances.

Hon. Mr. McBride replied that the matter was receiving the attention of the government.

The committee rose and reported the bill complete without amendment. It was read a third time and finally passed.

The House then went into committee on the Vancouver and Westminster Railway Company, with Mr. Kidd in the chair.

Mr. Helmcken, who had the bill in charge, asked that the length of the company's branch lines be made "not exceeding twenty miles in length" instead of six, the ordinary length.

Mr. Oliver protested against such a step, adding that no reason had been advanced for the power sought, and the members had that very day an illustration of the ways of the road in consideration, they having put in plans for a road for which others sought a charter.

Mr. Curtis supported Mr. Oliver's objection. Mr. Martin protested against upsetting the decision of the railway committee unless reasons were given for the step. All the reasons that had been advanced were that the company wanted it.

Mr. Oliver moved an amendment that the road follow the north side of the Fraser river.

Mr. Pooley couldn't understand Mr. Oliver's opposition to a railway in his own district.

The leader of the opposition pointed out that to allow the C.P.R. to build branch lines twenty miles in length meant blanketing the whole district and shutting out competition.

They had a sample of the effect of such powers in the railway committee in the morning when the C.P.R. had opposed the Grand Forks & Kettle River railway with an old charter they had up their sleeve.

Mr. Oliver retorted to Mr. Pooley that he favored bridges and railways in his district, but he would oppose a step giving the C. P. R. power to shut off competition; while Mr. Gilmour pointed out how the operation of the clause would kill other railway enterprises.

Mr. Oliver's amendment was voted down.

The House then passed to the consideration of the following amendment by Mr. Helmcken:

"That the provision of the Railway act as to length of branch lines shall not apply to this section, notwithstanding anything contained in this act," and to add to section 30 the following words:

"Save and except in the case of any conflict, inconsistency or repugnancy between the other clauses of this act and the clauses or sections of the 'British Columbia Railway Act,' so made a part of this act, the other clauses of this act shall prevail and override any clause or section of the 'British Columbia Railway Act' so incorporated herewith, to the extent of any such conflict, inconsistency or repugnancy."

The leader of the opposition asked that whenever a clause interfered with the general act it should be so stated; while Mr. Curtis objected to making the clauses in the private act to prevail when they were repugnant to the general act.

The latter clause should always prevail as it was in the interests of the general public, while the private one was for a company.

The second section also passed. A debate followed on a motion of Mr. Helmcken to strike out clauses 32 and 34, the first of which declared it a condition upon which the bill should be passed, and binding on bondholders, that the company should carry over its lines all persons whose transportation would otherwise be a charge on the province, and all members of the legislature. The first clause was struck out. The last, which excluded Mongolians from employment on the railway, was laid over until the Labor bill is introduced. The committee then rose and reported progress.

The House went into committee on the amendment to the Vancouver city charter, Mr. Helmcken in the chair. It was decided to make the number of wards two or more, not two or ten, as originally suggested.

The committee rose, reported progress, and asked leave to sit again.

Mr. Brown asked when he might expect the return he had asked for regarding the number of votes cast in each constituency at the last election.

The Minister of Mines promised the return without delay.

The House then rose.

AUGUST 22,

## Provincial Parliament

Good Progress Made, and the Order Paper Materially Reduced.

Mineral Act Amendments Cause Discussion—Modified Chinese Exclusion Bill Carried.

Tuesday, Aug. 21st.

The order paper was well cleared this afternoon, notwithstanding that a number of matters were up, which awakened considerable discussion. The Vancouver charter amendments were finally disposed of, to the immense relief of all the members.

Prayers were read by Rev. W. Leslie Clay.

A petition was presented by A. W. Smith from S. Gibbs and others in reference to assessment work on mineral claims.

Mr. Kidd moved for a return showing the last official report on the condition of the Burnaby Small Holdings. He explained that he did so because of the interest shown in these holdings. Any one who knew the condition of the land before these holdings were taken would be surprised to see the progress which had been made. He thought it was wise to make an inspection and thus keep the holders before the public. He hoped to see the government extend the system.

The Commissioner of Lands and Works said such a return was in his department and he would present it.

Capt. Tatlow urged the extension of the system so that wage earners in the city of Vancouver might have some land on which they could raise their vegetables, etc.

Mr. Brown understood that through the neglect of a former government, some of the holders had failed to fulfill the obligations, entailed in their lease. He therefore favored the motion, which was carried.

The Land Registry Bill was taken up, when a slight amendment was added at the suggestion of the Attorney-General.

The bill was then adopted as amended. The report of the railway committee was presented by Mr. Pooley as follows:

"We have considered bill (No. 50) intitled "An Act to Incorporate the Grand Forks & Kettle River Railway Company," and have amended the preamble by eliminating that portion of the railway between Cascade City and the City of Grand Forks, at the request of the promoters; subject to which we report the preamble provided submit the said bill herewith with amendments."

The Tramways Act Amendment Bill came up for its second reading. A similar bill, the Attorney-General said, had been disallowed because of its anti-Japanese and anti-Chinese clauses. The present bill allowed companies which had the building of tramways mentioned among their powers to incorporate under the act of 1903. The bill was read a second time.

The Railway Amendment Act Amendment Act was also read a second time.

The amendment to the Elections Act, as explained by the Attorney-General, reduced the right of appeal from four weeks to two weeks. The bill passed its second reading.

The Licenses Act Amendment Bill was also read a second time.

The amendments to the Mineral Act were explained by the Hon. Minister of Mines. The second session provided for the issuance of a Crown grant to the administrator of the deceased owner of a claim. Section 11 provided that where a co-owner failed to keep up his assessments his associate might, by advertising in a newspaper in the district for three months, acquire his interest.

The last two clauses in the amending bill were as follows:

"Section 127 of the 'Mineral Act' as enacted by section 10 of chapter 33 of the statutes of 1898, and amended by section 14 of chapter 45 of the statutes of 1900, is hereby repealed and the following section substituted therefor:



# Parliament

## Made, and the Or- Materially Re- vised.

### Amendments Cause Modified Chinese Bill Carried.

Tuesday, Aug. 21st.

It was well cleared this morning that a number of amendments were finally disposed of, and the bill was passed by Rev. W. Leslie.

presented by A. W. and others in reference to work on mineral

for a return showing the condition of all Holdings. He explained so because of the Chinese holdings. Any condition of the land held were taken would be the progress which had thought it was wise to extend the system.

of Lands and Works in his department. He urged the extension of the wage earners in the might have some land could raise their veget-

stood that through the government, some of failed to fulfill the obligation in their lease. He the motion, which

Bill was taken up, amendment was added at the Attorney-General. The railway committee Mr. Pooley as follows: considered bill (No. 50) to incorporate the Grand River Railway Com-

amendment Bill second reading. A similar because of its anti-Chinese clauses. The of tramways mentioned to incorporate un-

to the Elections Act, by the Attorney-General, of appeal from four weeks. The bill passed its

of the 'Mineral Act' as section 10 of chapter 33 of 1899, and amended by chapter 45 of the statutes by repealed and the substituted therefor:

"The owner of a mineral claim who has had his claim surveyed and has filed in the office of the Mining Recorder in the mining division in which the claim is situated, a declaration by a provincial land surveyor, stating that he has surveyed the claim as required by sub-section (c.) of section 36 of this act, and has delivered to the Mining Recorder a plat of the claim and a copy of the original field-notes, and delivered two copies of the plat and one copy of the field-notes to the owner, then the owner of such claim shall be entitled to have the cost of such survey, not to exceed one hundred dollars, counted as work done on the claim as required by section 24 of this act.

"The schedule of fees attached to the 'Mineral Act,' is hereby amended by striking out 'for a Crown grant \$10' at the end thereof, and by substituting therefor 'for a Crown grant \$25.'

Hon. Mr. McBride expressed the belief that the advance in the fee would occasion little opposition, being quite reasonable.

Mr. Curtis complained that mining companies were unfairly treated. They were obliged to pay from \$50 to \$75 for a license, while an individual miner paid only \$5. Marcus Daly, for instance, was opening up a wonderfully rich property in Kereenos on the payment of a \$5 license, while many companies were paying \$50 for license for opening up unremunerative properties.

There were too many safeguards thrown round the co-owner in section 4. An individual owner lost his property if he failed to keep up his assessment, whereas a bona fide co-owner had to go to considerable expense to get rid of the delinquent co-owner. He should not be obliged to pay such a sum as was contemplated. It was a well known fact that the vast majority of claims were valueless, and to impose such a condition would work hardship.

With sections 5 and 6 he agreed. But section 7, where the fee for a Crown grant was raised from \$10 to \$25, showed that the government failed to grasp the situation in regard to mines. The metalliferous mines were taxed to death. The great bulk of revenue was derived from the mines, and it was absurd to exact a fee of \$25 for a Crown grant for 52 acres of mining land, while only \$10 was charged for a grant for 600 acres of farming land. He hoped no additional hardships would be put on the mining industry, and that this objectionable clause would be withdrawn.

Surprise was expressed by the leader of the opposition that no attention had been paid by the mining committee to the state of the mining industry as indicated in the speech from the throne. They had found defects in the law. Defects were pointed out every season, and slight changes, none of which affected the principle of the law, were made. But such being the case, what became of the suggestion that the mining law was so bad that a mining commission would have to be issued? Why attempt to better the law when it was suggested that the members were not competent to deal with the matter, and that a commission was necessary?

He did not coincide either with the suggestion to count surveys as part of assessment work. The increase in the mining license fees he accounted for by the desire of the government to make up the revenue lost through their subservience to the saloon dealers, and to their amending the License Act so that they lost from \$8,000 to \$10,000 in revenue. Our prospector was worth a thousand whiskey sellers. While they deliberately decreased the whiskey sellers' fees from \$200 to \$75, they increased the miners' fee from \$10 to \$25. In other words it required eight prospectors to make up for one whiskey seller. If this amount had to be made up there were other classes in the community who could better afford to make it up than the poor and hardy prospector.

The Attorney-General was surprised at the consistency of the opposition leader, who lived for the poor man. Such men when the time came to stand in the breach for the poor man were wanting. His honorable friend objected to counting \$100 survey as assessment work, by which a big saving was effected to the "poor" prospector.

Mr. Curtis pointed out that under the former act if the assessment work was done soon enough, the survey was allowed to count, while Mr. Martin added that his objection lay in allowing the regulation to become retroactive.

Mr. Curtis also pointed out that the

prospector didn't get any surface right, while the Attorney-General retorted that they were given the use of the land. The British Columbia mining law was the fairest and most generous in the world.

Mr. Martin—Why then do you want a commission to investigate it?

Mr. Green complained of the wearisome song of the opposition about their regard for the workmen. The regulation in regard to co-owners was one the mining communities had long desired. He had secured the insertion of this amendment in the report of the mining committee last year, but it had been struck out on the suggestion of the then Attorney-General. He (Mr. Martin) was not then so anxious about the poor prospector. The increase of fee would occasion no complaint, in view of the liberal way in which the government had treated the mining districts in regard to roads and trails.

The bill passed the second reading.

The bill regarding strikes under franchises under private gas (Mr. Helmcken) next came up for its second reading. In so moving, Mr. Helmcken said it gave him great pleasure to say that it was advanced with the consent of the government. It was in line with a policy which had already been advanced in the House. It had been fashioned on the provisions of the commonwealth bill. The Legislature undoubtedly had the right to deal with property and civil rights according to the B. N. A. Act. The bill therefore could pass criticism anywhere.

Mr. McInnes expressed his pleasure that the bill had been introduced. He himself had attempted to introduce a similar bill in railway committee, but had been defeated. He hoped, however, that the scope of the bill would be widened. He wanted the bill to extend to firms incorporated under the Companies Act.

The general public must not, however, be misled. It went a very short distance in setting the difficulty aimed at. It referred to the future. It didn't apply to works already in progress. His own bill referred to this. He hoped Mr. Helmcken would support it.

The policy of the latter's bill, the Minister of Mines said, was the policy of the government. The government favored white labor, and while opposed to revolutionary steps they were prepared to go far to safeguard that labor. He was sorry to see the member for North Nanaimo censure his colleagues in the Dominion House in regard to their attitude on the Mongolian matter.

Mr. McInnes—When did I do that?

Mr. McBride—The other day.

Mr. McInnes—No, I did not.

Hon. Mr. McBride withdrew his remark. He asked the House to believe the government when they promised to work steadily toward ameliorating the conditions occasioned by competition with Chinese labor.

Mr. Curtis—What is your policy?

Hon. Mr. McBride replied that the government's policy was one of bringing steady representation to bear upon the Imperial government. He complained that the government was being fought in a dastardly way by the opposition, who were sending typewritten reports of what occurred in committee all over the country, seeking to put honorable gentlemen on the government side in a false light.

Mr. Martin—Were there any mistakes in these? You're ashamed of the facts.

Hon. Mr. McBride—He owes up to it. Mr. Curtis—Will you tell me what you're policy is, please?

Hon. Mr. McBride chided the opposition leader with admitting sending these reports.

Mr. Martin repudiated the suggestion. What he said was that if there were misstatements in these letters it was very improper, but if they contained facts the Minister of Mines should not object to their publication.

Mr. McBride characterized this method of warfare as backhanded.

Mr. Curtis—I am interested to find the term dastardly is parliamentary, Mr. Speaker. (Laughter.)

Hon. Mr. McBride—Well, I withdraw that.

Mr. Curtis—It is equally interesting to find that backhanded is parliamentary.

Hon. Mr. McBride—I withdraw that, too. (Renewed laughter.)

Continuing Mr. Curtis said the House was assured that the government did in-

end "from time to time" being down measure of relief. He would like something definite. After the discussion which had taken place he thought the government should be ready to give some outline of their policy. It was proposed to appeal to the Imperial government. Yet there was one phase that could be dealt with by the local House which had not been used by the government. The principle of the Natal Act would be perfectly satisfactory at Westminster and he thought the government should be ready to announce whether they would support such a measure. He loyally supported Mr. Helmcken's motion though it did not go far enough. He would like to see it apply to companies which had received incorporation from the Legislature. Its operation might be postponed for two or three years so that they could adapt themselves to the changed conditions.

Mr. McPhillips had misgivings as to the effectiveness of the bill, but being a supporter of the government which had adopted it, he would give it his support. Mr. McPhillips continued at some length, when he was interrupted by the leader of the opposition, who asked on which side of the question he was speaking.

Mr. McPhillips closed by expressing the hope that the bill would accomplish the purpose for which it was designed.

Mr. Brown failed to understand Mr. McPhillips's position. He seemed to be talking against the provisions of the act and yet supported it. He himself wished to see the House go just as far as possible in checking the influx of Orientals. The great trouble with these people was that they did not become citizens of the country in which they lived.

The bill dealt with civil rights which were matters of local concern. These were entirely within the province of the Legislature and he counselled the House against admitting that the House did not possess these rights. He thought a protest should have been entered on the occasion of the disallowance of the bills last year. The government should take the position that no infringement of its rights should be allowed to pass without protest. (Applause.)

Ralph Smith presumed the bill was an expression of the government's policy on the question. It was well understood that certain restrictions were necessary in regard to labor in this province. He was convinced that some members of the House were not as loyal to the principle in the House as on the hustings. The junior member for Victoria, if he were perfectly candid, would oppose the principle. He considered the House should assert its authority to the furthest point and even risk something in order that something might be accomplished. He thought the House should go further than the bill. He agreed with Mr. Curtis that ample time should be given industries affected by such legislation to adapt themselves to the conditions. It did seem to him that the one man who wanted to see the House do nothing in regard to this matter was the junior member for Victoria and he favored the principle on the hustings. It was most essential that the House should be unanimous on this matter as the dissent of one member might have an important bearing on the Dominion House.

Mr. McPhillips denied the imputation of Mr. Smith.

Gart, Tatlow thought the introduction of the measure and the fact that he and the other Conservative member from Vancouver were supporting the measure was an answer to the remarks of the member for New Westminster that they were inconsistent. The bill embodied the principle advanced in the Conservative platform.

The motion was carried unanimously.

A message was transmitted from His Honor the Lieut.-Governor, recommending to the House a bill providing for the levying of taxes on coal and coke; a bill to amend the Assessment act; a bill to amend the Land act, and an act to accelerate the incorporation of Phoenix. All these were read a first time.

Hon. Mr. Prentice presented a return showing the number of ballot papers actually issued to voters in each riding of the province at the general election held on June 9th, 1900.

His Honor the Lieut. Governor here entered and assented to an act to make special provision with regard to the qualifications of the members of the council of the city of Sandon, and an act to pro-



vide for the settlement of disputes as to mining claims in the Percupine district of the Bennett Lake mining division.

Mr. Helmcken said his bill (No. 42) had been transferred to the name of the Minister of Mines.

Mr. McInnes asked if this meant that all the private bills would be slaughtered and that Mr. Helmcken had taken advantage of this device to save his measure. (Laughter.)

The Minister of Mines replied that there was no such intention on the government's part.

Mr. McInnes asked, then why the change? It looked as though the government had allowed the measure to remain in the hands of a private member until assured that it would meet with the support of the House, having ascertained which, they had no hesitation, brave men as they were, to undertake it. (Laughter.)

The House then went into committee on the Vancouver City Charter bill, to which a number of amendments were made, the bill being declared complete.

The Anglican Synod of the Diocese of New Westminster bill was read a second time and committed, with E. C. Smith in the chair. It was reported complete with amendments.

The Rock Bay and Salmon River Railway bill was committed, with Mr. Oliver in the chair.

Mr. Curtis moved to add the following section: "Notwithstanding anything hereinbefore contained, the company shall not have the right to purchase, lease, or use any lands belonging to the province until it has entered into a contract with the provincial government with respect to such right, and upon such terms and in such manner as the Lieut.-Governor in Council may prescribe."

Mr. Curtis said he did this on the initiative of Mr. Chas. Wilson, whose principles some of his followers in the House seemed to be forgetting. He read that gentleman's statement on the point.

Mr. Tatlow said the government had already brought in a general bill (Mr. Helmcken's) which covered the point, while Mr. McPhillips gave as his reason for opposing it that Mr. Martin's government had not allowed the then opposition to even suggest matters of policy. He held it was out of order, as interfering with the prerogative of the crown. The chairman ruled this objection out, when an appeal was taken to the Speaker. The point was being debated when that gentleman saw six o'clock.

**EVENING SESSION.**

The Speaker having ruled Mr. Curtis' amendment in order, the member for Rossland sought to have the section added as a new section.

Hon. Mr. Turner said the same ground was already covered in the bill brought in earlier in the day by Mr. Helmcken, while Mr. Hunter characterized the motion as a useless one, the ground being already covered by the general railway act.

Mr. Garden moved for the insertion at the end of clause 33 of a saving clause that where any clause of the act was repugnant to the general act the former should prevail. On a vote being taken a number of honorable gentlemen did not vote, and the chairman, after taking a show of hands, declared the amendment lost. The government members insisted upon reconsideration, although Mr. Curtis pointed out that such a rule might lead to indefinite re-consideration, and that if members did not take sufficient interest in the proceedings to vote, they must take the consequences. The amendment was re-considered and carried.

The bill was passed without further amendment, and was reported complete with amendments.

The House then went into committee on the Western Telephone and Telegraph bill, with Mr. Murphy in the chair.

Mr. Brown moved the following amendment:

"Any duly incorporated municipality shall at any time, upon giving one year's notice to the company, have the right to purchase, and the company shall be compelled to sell, any of the works and property of the company situate, lying and being within the corporate limits of the said municipality, on such terms as may be agreed upon by arbitration or otherwise, together with such rights,

privileges, and franchisees in connection with such works as the company may have acquired under the powers of this act; and upon the completion of such purchase the municipality shall have power to maintain and operate such works, and to hold, exercise and enjoy all the rights, privileges, and franchises which the company held, exercised or enjoyed in connection therewith."

Mr. Brown urged the incorporation of the amendment, stating that municipal ownership of franchises was becoming a common thing.

The promoter of the bill, Mr. Ellison, said it was already provided for in the bill in section 5, sub-section b.

Mr. Brown drew attention to the fact that the provision referred to by Mr. Ellison merely provided that the company should not come into competition with existing lines owned by municipalities. He quoted from the amendment to the K. C. Southern Railway Act for a precedent for his amendment. He ridiculed the idea that such an amendment as he proposed would discourage capital. It was better to insert such a clause in the original charter and avoid trouble in future.

A long debate followed with the result, however, that the amendment was voted down.

The remainder of the sections passed without opposition and the bill was reported complete.

The House resumed in committee on the Vancouver Northern & Yukon Railway Bill, with Mr. Munro in the chair.

Mr. McPhillips moved that sections 37, 38 and 39 be repealed. The first forbade the employment of Chinese and Japanese on the railway and this was already met with by the bill passed in the afternoon. It exposed the bill to disallowance.

Mr. McInnes said the section had already been in force for a year. It was past the stage of disallowance, and it would be most absurd, after passing such a resolution as carried in the afternoon, for the House to revoke their action, by revoking that action.

Mr. McPhillips, however, was not to be abashed. He was not going to play to the galleries, etc.

Mr. Curtis held that the vote on this section would give a clear illustration of the real wishes of the members.

Mr. Green defined his position very clearly. This legislation had stood the test. Why repeal it now? He would oppose such a clause in new legislation. The attempt of Mr. McPhillips was defeated, the following only voting for it: Messrs. Prentice, Pooley, Hunter, Hayward, Clifford, A. W. Smith, McPhillips, Rogers and Hall. Of the remainder Mr. Turner voted with the opposition, Premier, Dunsmuir, Eberts and Mr. Murphy did not vote at all.

Those who opposed striking out the anti-Chinese clause were as follows: Messrs. Turner, Garden, Taylor, Dickie, Mounts, Helmcken, Kidd, Green, Ralph Smith, Oliver, Neil, Gilmour, Stables, Brown, Curtis and McInnes. Messrs. McBride, Martin and Ellison were absent.

The bill was reported complete.

The Vancouver & Westminster Railway Bill referred back on motion of Mr. Helmcken to strike out section 31, excluding Chinese from employment, as he claimed his own bill covered this ground.

Mr. Curtis said there was no assurance that Mr. Helmcken's bill would be carried through by the government. Until that assurance was given he did not propose to consent to the clause being struck out.

On the suggestion of Ralph Smith Hon. Mr. McBride gave this assurance.

The motion then carried.

The bill was reported complete as amended.

The Crow's Nest Pass Light & Power Bill was read a second time, and the Vancouver & Lash Island railway came up for second reading. Mr. Brown suggested the six months' hoist because he believed it incumbent upon him to give some honorable gentlemen who had declared their belief in the principle of government ownership of railways where practicable an opportunity of putting their opinions into practice. This was a local, independent road not dependent on any other road for success, and was to be built to meet a demand. It was

admirably adapted to test the principle of government ownership. It would be cheaply built. None of the objections to government ownership applied here. He wanted to see it operated as a good road.

Capt. Tatlow said \$40,000 had already been expended in building the road. It would be a breach of faith to enforce government ownership.

Mr. Gilmour said he wouldn't support the six months' hoist unless the government guaranteed to build it.

Mr. Brown said that he was not opposed to building the road at all.

The Attorney-General rallied the member for New Westminster on opposing a road in his own district, whereupon that gentleman attempted to explain his position amid uproarious interruption and cries of "Order" from the other side of the House. Mr. Brown, however, was ruled in order by the Speaker and succeeded in making his position clear.

Mr. Kidd supported the bill. The Semlin government had been asked to take up the road as a tram line. They would not do so and the present company had taken it up in good faith and he would regret to see any interference with them.

The government having declared they would not build the road, Mr. Brown said he would withdraw his motion. Leave was refused and the motion voted down.

The House then rose.

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# Provincial Parliament

The Grand Forks and Kettle River Railway Bill Thrown Out.

Lively Times at the Evening Session—Mr. Charles Wilson's Status

Wednesday, August 22nd.

The noteworthy features of to-day's sittings were in the evening session, which opened with some sharp cross-firing, and ended with the defeat of the Grand Forks & Kettle River Railway Bill.

Prayers were read by Rev. W. Leslie Clay.

A petition was presented by Mr. Oliver from residents of his district asking for the construction of a railroad from the Coast to Kootenay along the south side of the Fraser river.

Mr. Munro and the Hon. Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works presented similar petitions.

The Speaker drew the attention of the House to an informality in regard to private bills dealing with Crown lands. On second reading, according to the rules, these should have been referred to a committee of the whole House.

Mr. Stables introduced an Act to amend the Placer Mining Act, and Mr. McPhillips one to amend the Queen's Counsel Act, 1899.

Mr. Oliver asked the Minister of Agriculture the following questions: 1. Did the government pay the expenses of sending Mr. E. Hutcherson to the province of Manitoba, in the year 1897 or 1898? 2. If so, for what purpose did Mr. Hutcherson visit Manitoba? 3. Did Mr. Hutcherson make any report to the government? If so, what was the nature of the report?

The reply was: 1. No. 2. Answered by reply to No. 1. 3. Mr. Hutcherson made no report to the government.

Mr. Stables asked the Hon. the Minister of Finance the following question: What was the total revenue derived by the government from the Atlin division of the Cassiar district from June 30th, 1898, till June 30th, 1900?

The reply was that the total revenue derived from Atlin mining division, including Lake Bennett division, for the fiscal years 1898-99 and 1899-1900 was \$106,417.89.

Mr. Gilmour asked the government the following question: As the promoters of the Lake Bennett and Chilkat railways were not aware of the policy of the government in reference to railway charters until they had incurred large expense in connection with their charter, does the government intend to recompense them for said expense?

This was ruled out of order as containing a state of fact and an expression of opinion.

Mr. Turner informed Capt. Tatlow that 98 1/2% was the price the trustees of the sinking fund paid for the half-yearly investment of the fund in June, 1900.

Mr. Stables asked the Attorney-General the following questions: 1. Has Capt. W. J. Rant been appointed stipendiary magistrate for the Porcupine district? If so, on whose recommendation was the appointment made? 2. Is this Mr. Rant who figured so prominently in the Atlin troubles a year or two ago? The reply was: 1. Yes; senior member of Cassiar. 2. No. This is Capt. W. J. Rant who was formerly mining recorder at Lake Bennett.

Coming to the third reading of the Western Telephone & Telegraph Company Bill, one of the bills which had passed its second reading irregularly, Mr. Turner suggested reconsidering it with the consent of the House.

Mr. Martin stamped such a motion as absurd. A day or two before the rules had been over-ridden, and now it was proposed to cap the climax by totally disregarding the rules. It seemed to him

that rules were being used merely to worry and annoy a portion of the House.

Mr. Turner said he could give two days' notice and reconsider the bill.

Mr. Eberts asked if the leader of the opposition wanted to keep the House two days longer.

Mr. Martin—No. I am sick and disgusted with the whole business. But if there is to be obstruction and annoyance to one section of the House, let us push it to the extreme and see how much annoyance and trouble we can give the whole House.

Mr. Eberts protested against the delay involved. The honorable gentleman wanted to obstruct business for two days longer, when it might be disposed of in five minutes.

Mr. Martin objected to his motives being imputed.

Hon. Mr. Eberts—Perhaps the honorable gentleman will withdraw his objections.

Mr. Martin—No. I'll withdraw nothing. I am sick and tired of the points of order being taken to burk discussion.

Mr. Turner moved that the third reading be discharged and the bill placed on orders for second reading to-morrow. This was done despite the protestations of the leader of the opposition.

The Anglican Synod of the Diocese of New Westminster Bill was reported.

The House went into committee on the Crow's Nest Pass and Power Bill, with Mr. Neill in the chair.

Some debate took place on the clause

providing for a maximum penalty of \$100 attaching to any person who posted an advertisement, or printed anything on the posts of the company. Messrs. Martin and Curtis said the sum was excessive, and such companies were already protected by the Criminal Code.

The section was allowed to stand.

E. C. Smith offered an amendment eliminating the posting of advertisements and notices, as acts involving a penalty under the section. He said he had no protection preventing the posting of advertisements on his fence or gate. Why should a telephone company have greater privileges?

Mr. Eberts drew a picture of what a terrible result would follow if posters advertising soap and pills could be posted up on these poles. In civilized communities this was not allowed.

Ralph Smith—Why have them on the poles in this city. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Stables said it would be a good thing if some of the shacks in Victoria could be entirely covered up with advertisements. (Loud laughter.)

Mr. Hayward could not understand why a farmer's fence could be plastered over with notices, while the poles of a company are protected. If a general act of protection were printed he would support it.

Mr. Oliver pointed out that by a previous clause the company might break up roads, drains, etc., without any compensation to the municipality. Yet if a notice of a school meeting was put up, this ridiculous penalty was imposed.

Mr. McPhillips held that the safeguarding of the municipality was insured by the common law.

Mr. Oliver—Then why cannot this company be content with the protection of this common law instead of seeking this extraordinary measure of protection?

The amendment, however, was voted down.

The bill was reported complete without amendment.

Mr. Curtis moved that the following be inserted as a new clause: "Provided, also, that the mortgages or bonds issued by the company shall not bear a higher rate of interest than seven per centum per annum, and the face value of such mortgages and bonds shall not in the aggregate exceed the fair cost price of the whole of the company's corporeal property when its undertaking is completed ready for operation."

Mr. Curtis explained that his object was that the company should not borrow more money than the corporeal value of the property. He had placed the interest at seven per cent., although he knew it could be got for six per cent. Under this system it would be possible to limit the tolls. It would prevent companies mortgaging their property to an excessive amount, and would facilitate the taking over of these enterprises by the government. Under this system no hardship would be worked on the company.

Mr. Hunter thought this would block companies in making extensions.

Mr. McPhillips vexed the ambient air for the thousand and first time to the weariness of friends and opponents.

Mr. McInnes expressed his sympathy with this kind of legislation. This principle had occupied the time and attention of other Houses and in the railway committee at Ottawa half the time was taken up in considering these. The Dominion House had gone a great deal further than this amendment and he said this for the benefit of some members who regarded such sections as experimental. He quoted parallel legislation at Ottawa in which similar sections had been inserted.

Mr. Brown said the amendment gave the company power to borrow all the money it required, but no more. The tendency of the times was to safeguard the public in this way and pave the way for government ownership.

Capt. Tatlow admitted force in the arguments of the opposition, but craved the same protection of this company as to others which had been incorporated this session.

The amendment was lost on the following division:

Yeas—McInnes, Gilmour, Stables, E. C. Smith, Oliver, Neill, Brown, Curtis, Munro, R. Smith.

Nays—Green, Houston, Hall, McPhillips, Helmcken, Turner, Dunsmuir, Eberts, A. W. Smith, Clifford, Fulton, Hayward, Garden, Tatlow, Prentice, McBride, Pooley, Murphy, Rogers, Hunter, Mounce.

Mr. Curtis moved that the bills be not read a third time for the purpose of moving the following amendment:

"(b.) Notwithstanding anything hereinbefore contained, the company shall not have the right to purchase, lease or use any lands belonging to the province until it has entered into a contract with the provincial government with respect to such right, and upon such terms and in such manner as the Lieutenant-Governor in Council may prescribe."

This was ruled out of order.

The second reading of the Western Telephone & Telegraph Co. Bill was then taken up, with A. W. Smith in the chair. Mr. Turner, in accordance with the course outlined by the Speaker, recommended the appropriation of Crown lands for the purposes of the company. The bill then passed its second reading and was committed and the Speaker saw 6 o'clock.

## EVENING SESSION.

The House met at 8 o'clock p.m.

Upon the motion for the reception of the committee's report on the bill to incorporate the Western Telephone & Telegraph Company,

Mr. Curtis moved in amendment that a clause be added giving the provincial government the right to purchase the company's property, after five years from the passing of the act, upon giving

one year's notice of its intention so to do, and also the amendment as proposed to other similar bills, restricting the rate of interest. The amendment was defeated.

The bill was read a third time and finally passed.

The report of the committee upon the Vancouver & Westminster Railway Bill was then taken up for consideration. Upon motion that the report be received Mr. Curtis moved to add the following sections to the bill, being similar to those moved in connection with other bills:

"(a.) The mortgages or bonds issued by the company shall not in the aggregate exceed the fair cost price of the whole of the company's corporeal property when its undertaking is completed, ready for operation;

"(b.) The powers granted to the said company shall be subject to such conditions for securing such running powers or traffic arrangements and other rights as will afford all reasonable facilities, and equal mileage rates, to all railways connecting with the company's lines as the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council determines;

"(c.) The provincial government shall have the right, ten years from the passing of this act, upon giving one year's notice of its intention so to do, to purchase all the company's property, rights and franchises at the fair market value



of its corporeal property, together with such bonus (if any), not exceeding ten per cent. of such market value, as the government may agree to pay.

"(d.) Notwithstanding anything hereinbefore contained, the company shall not have the right to purchase, lease, or use any lands belonging to the province until it has entered into a contract with the provincial government with respect to such right, and upon such terms and in such manner as the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council may prescribe."

The amendments were defeated, the vote being 21 to 12.

In connection with sub-section (b), Mr. Curtis pointed out that a similar provision had been incorporated in the Crow's Nest Railway Bill by the Dominion government.

In support of sub-section (c), Mr. Curtis appealed for support on the principle of government ownership of railways, and the fact that many members of the House were pledged to the principle.

This opened up a most interesting discussion, the leaders on the opposition side taking occasion to rub into the Conservative members in the House, namely, Messrs. McBride, Garden and Tatlow. The latter provoked the discussion in a manner, while Messrs. Curtis, McInnes and Martin attempted to show up the inconsistency of the members mentioned in failing to support government ownership of railways.

The leader of the opposition especially had a most difficult task in getting his opinion before the House, the government supporters insisting that Mr. Chas. Wilson and his platform must not be mentioned. Mr. Pooley even went so far as to say that Mr. Wilson's opinion had no weight in the House.

A. W. Smith said that he did not run on any particular platform, while Mayor Garden would not allow the leader of the opposition, he said, to force him into any false position.

The motions were lost in succession, a scene following the vote on the last clause. The Speaker was about to declare the vote lost when the leader of the opposition jumped to his feet and protested that names had been called for. The government members cried "No," and a pretty row followed. Mr. Martin said that the minority had rights and were not to be treated unfairly. The Speaker must not treat the opposition unfairly.

Cries of "Order."

Continuing amid much uproar, Mr. Martin said if they were not to be so treated there were other means to compel the Speaker to give them justice.

Mr. Eberts—Take it then.

Mr. Martin—Well I will.

Then followed loud demands for retraction, and a vote as to whether the Speaker was to be sustained or not. Mr. Eberts in a heated manner defied Mr. Martin to do his worst. Mr. Brown and Mr. Curtis pointed out that the reference was not to the Speaker personally.

Mr. Martin was further explaining his position when Mr. Prentice rose to a point of order.

Mr. Martin—Will the hon. gentleman sit down. He's making a nuisance of himself. He don't know very much, but he ought to know enough for that.

The Speaker—Order. There is no question before the House.

Mr. Martin—I know there is no question before the House. Then it goes, Mr. Speaker, other hon. gentlemen can take up the time of this House with no question before it, but the minute I attempt to do so I am brought to task.

Mr. McInnes moved as follows:

"40. No person shall be employed in, on or about any of the works of the company who is unable to read in an European language this act and the 'British Columbia Railway Act.' This section shall not apply to or affect in any way any person who is on the register of voters in any electoral district for the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia, any Indian or person of Caucasian blood.

"41. The next preceding section is hereby declared to be a condition upon which this act is passed, and shall be binding upon bondholders and all other persons in any way interested in the said company or its property. In case the said section is violated, such violation shall work a forfeiture of all powers and privileges granted by this act, but no such forfeiture shall operate except upon proceedings instituted in the Supreme court of British Columbia by the Attorney-General.

In doing so he said that the clause had been laid over from the railway committee on the understanding that it was to

be embodied in a general bill. Although Mr. Helmcken had been very anxious to forward this measure, for some reason or other the government would not allow it to be advanced yesterday, and therefore he took the present precaution.

Mr. Helmcken said he intended voting against the amendment. The House had the assurance of the Minister of Mines that his (Mr. Helmcken's) bill would become law this session. If such were done the present bill would become unnecessary.

The Minister of Mines reiterated his assurance. He regretted the member for North Nanaimo had not taken his word. The bill had been laid over to allow a number of private bill to be advanced. He was sorry his word as a minister was not taken. His name had been used in connection with the Conservative party.

The Speaker—Order. Let that go. (Laughter.)

Mr. McInnes—That is holy ground. (Laughter.)

Mr. Martin thought the words of members were no use any further. He found in the rules that if three members asked that a vote be recorded it was sufficient. These hon. gentlemen had got up and stated that they had asked for the recording of the vote. Yet it was denied them.

Hon. Mr. McBride said this might have been done if the hon. gentleman had not acted so unseemly.

Mr. Martin replied indignantly that he wasn't asking for a favor, but for his rights.

Mr. Kidd was willing to take the minister's word. This was the practice in the Imperial House.

Mr. Curtis after the experience of the evening and the scant courtesy which had been shown him was not prepared to make any concessions, or to accept assurances from any one.

Mr. Oliver expressed himself in favor of the principle, but after the government's assurance he would not vote for the amendment.

Mr. Brown accepted the minister's assurance, and this he constituted a reason for voting for it, while Mr. Green counselled Mr. McInnes to withdraw the resolution. Mr. McInnes did so and the bill passed.

On the Rock Bay & Salmon River railway, Mr. Curtis submitted the following:

"(d.) Notwithstanding anything hereinbefore contained, the company shall not have the right to purchase, lease, or use any lands belonging to the province until it has entered into contract with the provincial government with respect to such right, and upon such terms and in such manner as the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council may prescribe."

This was defeated, the report adopted, the bill reported and finally passed.

On the Vancouver Northern & Yakon Railway Bill coming up, Mr. McPhillips moved for the striking out of the clauses which he moved to have struck out of the bill yesterday. Notice not having been given of this amendment the bill stood over.

The House went into committee on the Vancouver & Lulu Island Railway Bill, with Mr. R. Smith in the chair. This was read a third time and passed.

The Pacific Northern & Omineca was taken up, with Mr. Gilmour in the chair. The bill was reported complete as amended, and the report was adopted.

The House went into committee on the Kitimaat Caledonia Bill, which was reported with amendments, and read a second time. The Kamloops-Atlin Railway Bill was also read a second time, and Grand Forks and Kettle River Railway Bill was lost on second reading as follows:

For—Messrs. McInnes, Gilmour, Stable, Brown, Garden and Eberts.

Against—Hayward, Tatlow, Clifford, Ellison, Smith (A. W.), Wells, Prentice, Murphy, Hunter, Rogers, Mounce, McPhillips and Helmcken.

The House then rose.

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# Provincial Parliament

The Supplementary Estimates Provide for a New Government House Here.

Reformatory to Be Moved to Vancouver—Mr. Brown's Referendum Bill Defeated.

Thursday, August 23rd.

The supplementary estimates were brought down this evening, and the majority of the items considered in supply. As was expected the sum of \$30,000 has been placed in the estimates for the rebuilding of Government House, an item which met with little serious objection. The reformatory at Victoria, as stated by the Finance Minister, is to be moved to Vancouver.

Mr. Brown made an ineffectual attempt to secure the endorsement of a bill embodying the principle of the referendum, and also a resolution looking toward redistribution.

Prayers were read by Rev. Mr. Clay. Petitions were read from residents of Chilliwack, Surrey and Langley praying for the construction of a railway on the south side of the Fraser river from the Coast to Kootenay.

A petition was presented from miners in Lillooet asking for the re-enactment of the clause in the Mineral Act which has become inoperative, providing that surveys may count as assessment work.

Mr. Hall introduced a bill relating to trading stamps. The bill was read a first time.

Mr. Brown introduced the following resolution:

"Whereas the constitution presupposes a fairly equal representation of the people of the province in the Legislative Assembly; and

"Whereas the present representation is exceedingly unequal; and

"Whereas unforeseen circumstances may at any time bring about a general election:

"Therefore, be it resolved, that due consideration for the rights and interests of the province make it incumbent upon this House to forthwith take such steps as will, in the event of a general election, secure to the people a more just and equal representation in this House."

The mover said it was not his intention to make a lengthy speech. This was a matter he had assured his constituents he would endeavor to remedy. Another reason for bringing it up was that he had been identified with the agitation for redistribution for ten years, and indeed it had been the means of bringing him into public life.

Continuing, Mr. Brown went into statistics to prove the justice of his strictures on the present system.

In a growing population such as British Columbia and of the topographical features of this province it was impossible to divide the population in the constituencies equally. He did not even hold that all sections should be equally represented. A city constituency containing newspapers and boards of trades, etc., were perhaps entitled to rather larger representation than other ridings where the population was scattered and there were practically no organs of public opinion. Yet ten to one was not a fair proportion and between country constituencies even, there was great disparity.

Was it right, he asked, that some gentlemen should represent ten voters while another represented only one? His proposal was based on business principles. The cure for this was to enact a measure which in the case of a general election would ensure fair representation to the people. The evil existed, and it was the duty to prevent a recurrence of a general election under the conditions which had existed at the last election. (Applause.)

Hon. Mr. Turner regarded the time as inopportune for the introduction of such a resolution. The subject would have to be taken up during the life of the pres-

ent parliament, but hardly at the present time.

He deprecated a general election again in the near future. The last one had cost nearly \$100,000.

The House did not intend bringing in such a measure this session. Next year a Dominion census would be taken, when the actual population of the province would be ascertained and the matter could be dealt with intelligently and this would certainly be done before the next general election. The hon. member was correct in the anomalies which at present exist, but he hoped that for the present he would withdraw this resolution.

Mr. McInnes said that the reason given for postponing the measure was that a census would be taken next year. If this was done there would be another excuse next year because unless the House sat very late in the year it would be impossible to base a redistribution on the census which in all probability would not be completed till March.

Mr. Curtis said that the inequalities in the representation of the province were so great that he could not understand the refusal of the government to proceed with redistribution. The government was so peculiarly constituted and supported that although in some respects apparently strong it was really a very weak combination. Part of its support might be withdrawn at any time.

Gentlemen opposite prided themselves on their British principles, but to-day they failed to act on these principles, because they were afraid that it would not result in a party advantage.

The interior was not being treated fairly in this matter. The Island and the Coast were represented out of all proportion to the other sections mentioned. On the hustings he had promised that if the Martin government were returned a fair measure of redistribution would be brought down. He thought it was fair that the present government should act promptly.

The census would hardly give a fair idea of the population in his district, as there was a large non-citizen population there. His own district should be divided into at least three on the lines of the present mining divisions.

Mr. McPhillips characterized the resolution as untimely, and so did Mr. Hunter. The latter held that there were more glaring instances of inequalities throughout the Dominion than in British Columbia. He found in the Year Book that a Mr. Martin, surely not the present leader of the opposition, who was so opposed to these inequalities, represented Portage La Prairie, with 741 votes and Centre Winnipeg was at the same time represented by one member with 2,820.

Mr. Martin said this information was incorrect, while Mr. Hunter retorted that he was reading from the Parliamentary Companion.

Mr. Brown, concluding the debate, compared governments to individuals. They are liable to sudden death, and the apparent strength of a government was not reason for deferring making a redistribution. He was not asking for redistribution in the Dominion, as Mr. Hunter seemed to think, but for redistribution in the province. If the government would assure him that they would bring down such a measure at the earliest possible moment he would withdraw the resolution.

The motion was lost on the following division:

Yeas—McInnes, Gilmour, Stables, E. C. Smith, Oliver, Kidd, Browa, Martin, Curtis, Green, Houston—11.

Nays—Neill, R. Smith, Hall, McPhillips, Turner, Dunsmuir, Eberts, A. W. Smith, Ellison, Clifford, Fulton, Hayward, Garden, Taglow, Prentice, McBride, Pooley, Murphy, Rogers, Hunter, Taylor, Mounce—22.

Mr. McPhillips asked the Minister of Finance the following question:

Will the government, upon application by the interested parties, refund to persons and corporations all such moneys as were paid twice over by reason of the passage of the "Mineral Act Amendment Act, 1899," and the "Placer Mining Act Further Amendment Act, 1899," said Acts declaring that all mining certificates should expire on the 31st May, 1899, no matter when issued?

The Hon. Mr. Turner replied: "No." Mr. Oliver asked the Minister of Agriculture the following questions:

1. Is the government aware that the "brown rot in plum" has spread to an alarming extent in the orchards of this province? 2. Has any information been circulated amongst the fruit-growers of the province as to the best methods of eradicating this pest?

Hon. Mr. Turner replied as follows:

"1. The government is aware that plum rot exists in the province. 2. Mr. Thos. Cunningham has been instructed to look into this question, and he is at present engaged in the work. The board of horticulture has also taken up and discussed the question of plum rot, as shown as follows: At the meeting of the board of horticulture, 31st October, 1898, after the reading of Mr. Hutcherson's letters of the 15th August and 15th September: On the question of plum rot being taken up, Messrs. Palmer and Anderson said that Mr. Hutcherson had stated to them that, in his belief, much of the rot which showed itself on plums when taken out of the cars at Winnipeg was contracted in the cars on the way. The whole question was referred to a committee of Messrs. Cunningham and Palmer to report on."

The House went into committee on the Mechanics' Lien Bill (Mr. Curtis), with Mr. Oliver in the chair.

Mr. Curtis submitted an amendment excluding the furnishers of material from the privilege of a lien until six weeks' wages from the owner was available to the workman.

The section was added.

A very long discussion followed on a series of amendments offered to section 14, occasioned by the old difficulty of reconciling the respective claims of the mechanic and the material men. Both Mr. Curtis and Mr. McInnes submitted amendment designed to adjust this matter, but no alteration was made to the measure.

The committee rose and reported progress.

Mr. Helmcken presented the reports from the municipal committee as follows:

"Your select standing committee on municipal matters beg leave to report as follows: Your committee submit that the 'Municipal Clauses Act' should be amended so as to exempt municipal debentures and securities from assessment, and suggest the following clause for consideration: '100a. No debenture or other instrument in the nature of a security or obligation for the payment of money issued by a municipality under this or any amending act shall be the subject of taxation, and no person by reason of his holding or owning any such debenture or other instrument shall be liable in respect of the same to taxation under the assessment Act, or any act which may be hereafter passed imposing taxes upon personal property.'"

It was received.

Mr. Curtis moved the second reading of the Deceived Workmen Bill. Its provisions were that any person, corporation or society who held out false in-

ducements to persons to take employment with them was subject to a penalty. Sometimes employers secured workmen from other localities without explaining the difficulties existing in their own. Where employers suppressed important facts in inducing workmen to enter their service they should be made to pay for it. The operation of such a law, he pointed out, would obviate many of the difficulties which had followed strikes in the upper country, where employers had introduced "scab" labor.

A vote being taken the bill was defeated on the following division:

Yeas—Messrs. McInnes, Gilmour, Stables, Oliver, Neill, Brown, Curtis, Munro, R. Smith and Houston—10.

Nays—Kidd, McPhillips, Turner, Dunsmuir, Eberts, A. W. Smith, Ellison, Clifford, Hayward, Prentice, Wells, McBride, Pooley, Murphy, Rogers, Hunter, Taylor and Mounce—18.

Mr. Brown moved the second reading of his bill regarding the referendum. The Speaker saw 6 o'clock.

## EVENING SESSION.

Upon the House resuming after dinner, the supplementary estimates were submitted and the House went into supply in order not to interfere with the debate to which Mr. Brown was contributing when the House rose, the committee reported progress and asked leave to sit again.



Speaking in support of his bill respecting grants in aid of private enterprises, Mr. Brown drew attention to the principle of the referendum involved in the bill. Generally speaking under the provisions of the bill no act by virtue of which (a) any grant, bonus, gift, or subsidy or other valuable consideration is made or given, or to be made or given, to any person or corporation by way of aid to any work undertaken or to be undertaken by such person or corporation; or (b) which revives or purports to revive any former act under and by virtue of which such grant, bonus, gift, or subsidy or other valuable consideration was made or given, or to be made or given, to any person or corporation; or (c) which extends or purports to extend the time allowed by any former act for the fulfillment of the conditions under which any such grant, bonus, gift, or subsidy or other valuable consideration was to be made or given to any person or corporation, shall come into force until proclamation of the fact has been made, and that on a petition of five per cent. of the electors the matter should be submitted to a popular vote.

Mr. Brown held that the operation of such an act would safeguard the public against reckless grants to corporations upon which the people, under the present system, had not an opportunity to pronounce.

The Speaker ruled the motion out of order, as being beyond the province of a private member to introduce.

A message was submitted from the Lieutenant-Governor recommending to the House an act to vest the title to "Discovery" Placer Claims, Atlin, in the discoverers. The bill was reported and read a first time.

On going into supply Mr. Hunter expressed his disappointment that no estimate had been provided for a bridge across the Fraser at Chilcotin, which he had been led to believe would be included in the estimates. He protested against a sum such as \$30,000 being placed in the estimates for Government House.

Hon. Mr. Turner said that he was glad to hear that the bridge at Chilcotin was so important. He had heard nothing about it or its importance till the previous day. The fact that nothing appeared for Cariboo and a large sum for New Westminster was ample reply to the charge that the government had given large grants only to ridings represented by government members. He agreed with the previous speaker that the Lieutenant-Governor ought to receive a larger salary, owing to the high cost of living and the great expense entailed in entertainment for officers and foreign ships in this port.

Mr. Rogers disputed the Finance Minister's statement that nothing had been heard of about this bridge. A month ago he had submitted a petition for this bridge.

Mr. Oliver considered his constituency badly treated. He had before complained that the promise of previous governments to advance a sum to build a road from Ladners to Westminster was not being carried out. Much had been said about there being no repudiation. This was a continuing government, and such assurances should be kept.

Mr. Stables also complained that no appropriation had been made for a pack trail from Atlin to Bennett for the carriage of winter mail.

Hon. Mr. McBride assured the member for Delta that before another session the government would take up the building of the road he had mentioned, and which they regarded as necessary.

Mr. Helmcken on the other hand congratulated the government on the appropriation of \$30,000 for rebuilding Government House. Cariboo had received a similar sum for the Cariboo road. He also congratulated the government on the large sum set apart for charities to hospitals. He hoped to see the day when there would be a hospital in every district.

The House then proceeded to the consideration of the various items in the estimates.

On the sum of \$1,800 for a surveyor and inspector of taxes and revenue, the Minister of Finance explained that this official would travel through the province and inspect the assessment rolls and offices and see that the law is properly carried out.

Mr. Martin cordially supported the proposal. Such an official was needed. He thought a similar step would be very efficacious in collecting timber dues, which corporations were continually evading. He warned the government,

however, not to make the appointment a political one.

Mr. Curtis put in a strong plea for increased salary for the stenographers and proofreaders in the printing office. He had been struck with the absolute accuracy of the documents from the government office. There was no place where accuracy was more necessary, and these officials should receive adequate remuneration. (Amplaus.)

Mr. Oliver, on the other hand, protested against further increases in salary in the present financial condition of the province.

On the item for \$500 for a resident physician at Atlin, Mr. Stables thanked the government for the necessary appropriation. A saving would be effected, because had the government been compelled to pay for the indigent patients treated in the Presbyterian hospital it would have cost them \$3,000. Later, when the general grant for hospitals was up, Mr. Stables forcibly urged the great necessity of a building there.

Mr. Martin objected to the exclusion of so-called denominational hospitals. As long as a hospital was open to all classes it should receive the same treatment as general hospitals. Mr. McPhillips supported the proposition.

Mr. Oliver objected to expending \$30,000 on an unproductive work like Government House, while Mr. Hunter held that the Dominion government should build the residence.

On the vote of \$10,000 for a reformatory at Vancouver, the Finance Minister in reply to a question by Mr. McInnes, said it was proposed to abolish the reformatory at Victoria.

The \$8,000 item for advertising drew a strong protest from Mr. Martin, who referred to the subsidizing of newspapers under the former Turner government for laudatory articles in the Colonist and other hack newspapers. He protested against this being done with the people's money.

Mr. Turner explained this sum as entailed by the elections.

Mr. Martin said that there was no expenses whatever in advertising the elections.

The Minister of Mines, explaining the item of \$3,500 for a mining and water commission, said there was no intention to enquire into or interfere with the eight-hour law.

Mr. Houston objected to the expenditure, which he characterized as useless. It would be much better to spend it on putting the assay department at Victoria into good shape.

Mr. Martin also stamped the proposed outlay as useless. The government had got itself in a hole by attempting to placate the mine owners, and had promised a commission to investigate the working of the law. The government found the House would not stand that, and they were attempting to back out with this useless expenditure. What was the reason for this commission?

Mr. Hunter rallied the leader of the opposition on his varying views in regard to this "precious" eight-hour law. He himself did not believe in interfering with the law. They had it in Cariboo thirty years ago. It didn't materially affect the province. If the law had not been passed, many of the miners would have been working eight hour shifts.

The committee rose and asked leave to sit again.

The House went into committee on Mr. Helmcken's Bill re works under franchises under Private Acts, with Mr. Dickle in the chair.

Mr. Kidd asked if the penal clauses would apply to a farmer who secured a Crown grant to certain lands.

Hon. Mr. McBride couldn't say that it would.

Mr. Kidd wished it would extend to all farming lands in the province, and also that it could be made retroactive.

Mr. Curtis moved an amendment to include companies incorporated under the Companies Act, thus enlarging the scope of the bill.

His amendment was as follows:

"4. In case of any provincial act passed since the first day of January, A. D. 1898, or hereafter passed, giving, granting or confirming to any person, body corporate, society or association, or in case of any provincial act by virtue of which the provincial government or some government official may or does give, grant, or confirm (whether by way of a charter or certificate of incorporation or association, or an Order-in-Council or otherwise) to any person, body corporate, society, or association the right of mining, smelting, refining, erecting bridges, making or operation a railway, tramway, turnpike."

Also to strike out all the words of line 18 occurring after the word "any" of said section 4, and to strike out the word "justices" wherever it occurs in any subsequent line of said section 4, and to substitute the word "justice" in lieu thereof in each case.

Also to insert immediately after the word "any," in the first line of section 6, the words "prosecution for."

Also to strike out the word "private," in the title of said bill, and substitute therefor the word "provincial."

Also to add to said section 4 the following sub-section:

"(a.) The word 'workman' shall include, mechanic, miner, artisan and laborer, but the including of these classes of persons therein shall not be construed to cut down any wider signification the word 'workman' may have."

The government objecting, Mr. Curtis withdrew his amendment.

Mr. McInnes then submitted a similar resolution shorn of its retroactive clauses. It was quite in line with the spirit of the bill to make it applicable to all companies that directly or indirectly received sanction from the Legislature. He pointed out that some companies might evade the clause by applying under the Companies' Act.

The amendment was lost.

Another amendment was offered by Mr. Curtis, providing that one justice of

the peace might try cases arising out of the bill as well as two. This also was lost as well as a trifling amendment to the phraseology to section 6.

The bill was completed with amendment.

The House then rose.



Aug. 25<sup>th</sup>

# Provincial Parliament

## Bill to Tax Coal and Coke Passed Its Second Reading Yesterday.

## Relief for Pre-Emptors of Crown Land—A Lengthy Debate.

Friday, Aug. 24.

Matters local occupied the attention of the House very largely this evening over the introduction of a land bill by the Chief Commissioner. The bill met with general approval, but opened the way for a number of speeches on the importance of the agricultural industry.

The House adjourned at 10:30. Speakers were read by Rev. W. J. ...

Three petitions, protesting against the appointment of a commission to inquire into the working of the Mineral act were presented by Mr. ... These were from Sandon, Silvertown and Kaslo, and were most voluminous.

The formal motion of the Minister of Finance on the supplementary estimates was reported and given the requisite number of readings.

Mr. Garden asked the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works the following question: Is it the intention of the government to appoint timber cruisers to thoroughly examine the timber lands of the province and to report thereon, with the object in view of setting apart timber lands to be offered for sale by public competition?

How Mr. Wells replied as follows: "The government has already taken initiatory steps towards a more extended examination of the timber lands of the province, and applying the competitive system so far as it is expedient to do."

The Land Registry bill was read a third time and finally passed, and the report of the Judgments Act, 1890, Amendment bill was adopted.

The House went into committee of the whole on the Tramways Act Amendment bill, with Mr. Mounce in the chair.

Mr. Martin gave notice of an amendment allowing tramways to be built to the boundary line. The bill was reported.

Consideration of the Railway Assessment Act Amendment bill in committee was deferred upon the request of the Attorney-General who stated that he had received a telegram intimating that a deputation from Revelstoke would wait upon the government in regard to it.

The Elections Act Amendment bill was reported complete without amendment.

In committee on the Licenses Act Amendment bill, Mr. Brown asked that a minimum penalty for infractions of the law be fixed as well as a maximum one. The bill was reported complete without amendment, read a third time and finally passed.

The following amendment was offered by Mr. Fulton but was allowed to stand over to be printed:

To insert as section 5 the following: "5. Section 24 of the 'Mineral Act,' as amended by section 5 of the 'Mineral Act Amendment Act, 1898,' is hereby amended by adding the following:

"Provided, further, that any free miner shall at any time have the right of receiving and recording a certificate or certificate of work for all or any assessment work done by him or any predecessor in title since the recording of his claim, in excess of the value for which he or any predecessor in title has already obtained a certificate or certificate of work, provided that at the time of applying for such additional certificate or certificate of work such claim is still in good standing in the office of the mining recorder, and has not lapsed or otherwise become invalid; and provided that the affidavit required by this section shall state the total amount of work done in each year since the date of record of the mineral claim, and the value thereof for each of such years."

The committed ... reported progress and asked leave to sit again.

The Finance Minister moved the second reading of the bill to tax coal and coke. He explained that he proposed an amendment to the bill whereby the proposed tax took the place of the present personal tax.

Mr. Martin mentioned the peculiarity that those coal mines which paid a royalty as annexed to their coal rights, would be placed at a disadvantage in comparison with other companies which did not. It was a question if it would not be fairer to make the tax heavier on companies paying no royalty. He also thought the exemption from other taxes should only take effect where a company was operating satisfactorily. Otherwise by practically suspending operation they would avoid taxation altogether.

The latter point commended itself to the Finance Minister, though in regard to companies which did and did not pay royalty he held that they occupied the same relative position as at present.

While agreeing that the Minister of Finance should be allowed to raise as much revenue as was reasonably possible, Mr. Helmecken feared a five cent tax was excessive. It would bear very heavily on the coal mine owners engaged in the export trade, considering the heavy import tax they had already to face in California. He feared the tax went too far. In the interests not only of the capitalists interested, but of the workmen as well who lived through their employment in these mines, he suggested a modification of the bill.

Mr. R. Smith cautioned the House against any steps which might result in visiting taxation on the workmen. He wanted the tax regulated so that the individual coal miner would not have to pay for it. He had always held that the consumers across the line who took 75 per cent. of British Columbia coal should pay a duty.

There was more coal exported from Nanaimo than from the Premier's mines. In the former case there was more danger of the tax falling on the individual workman. At present a 6 1/2 c. tariff was placed on British Columbia coal by the United States. If that duty were increased five or more cents it would mean that United States mines would be most dangerous competitors. Matters might come to such a stage that the owners might close down, in which case the brunt of the hardship would fall on the workmen.

In the Crow's Nest mines he felt also that ultimately the tax would fall on the man who dug the coal. He did not say this to depreciate the Premier's action. But there were conditions which existed which gave his property an advantage over either the Nanaimo or Crow's Nest mines. He was in a better position to calculate this tax than other owners.

Mr. Brown said the tendency of a taxed concern was to shift it on to the consumer. What the preceding speaker had said in regard to taxes falling on the individual workman applied to every industry. For instance, the sharp collection of timber dues mentioned the previous day might have the same effect. There was one way the worker could be protected—namely, to have a properly constituted authority in the country with power to fix fair wages. He wanted to impress that point on the House. To fix prices or wages by statute would be well-nigh impossible.

Mr. Hunter couldn't understand what the previous speaker had been driving at. He thought the tax would be most popular. There had been so much ranting about "coal barons" that he thought a tax upon them would have been appreciated. Yet they had two gentlemen getting up in the House and practically trying to "temper the wind to the shorn lamb," namely, the coal barons.

Mr. Smith—Nothing of the kind. Continuing, he said that the principle of a sliding scale was impracticable. Mr. Smith—Tax the profits. Mr. Hunter held that would be unfair as it would tax the good and successful manager and not the bad one. The bill carried without opposition.

The Assessment Act Amendment bill was explained by the Finance Minister as a provision to impose heavier taxes on higher incomes. Another important provision provided for a two per cent. tax on mines which realized \$5,000 or over yearly, and one per cent. on those bring-

ing less, and two per cent. on placer mines yielding a gross of over \$2,000. It was felt that these mines did not yield sufficient, and already the government was looking into a case where the returns from a large company seemed inadequate. The bill also exempted municipal and government debentures from taxation because such a tax was paid directly by the people themselves.

Mr. Curtis regretted the section had not been dropped. It meant that the tax on the mining output was doubled. The amount of revenue derived on this account would not be so large as to offset the disadvantage this tax would occasion. Such a policy would have greater effect in discouraging capital than any other proposal made during the session. Last year on a one per cent. rate they received \$31,000; on the same output under the two per cent. rate the revenue would be \$62,000, almost the estimate made by Mr. Turner. Left at its old rate and with the steady increase in the output he thought the revenue would be nearly as large as this estimate. The lode mines were not in good condition, and this certainly was an inopportune time to double a tax. It would have a very bad effect in money markets to circulate the fact that the mining tax had been doubled. This was especially the case owing to the cry that had been circulated that the Martin government desired to impose burdens on capital. Not knowing of the change in the government, capitalists would regard the increase in the tax as bearing out the statement that British Columbia had such a government. Needless to say, such a statement as he had referred to was totally incorrect.

A glance at the few companies paying dividends should deter the government from the step, especially as it was reported that considerable capital was now looking toward this province.

The bill also discriminated against the low grade properties which had to ship an immense lot of ore to insure much of a return. Such a tax might so curtail the profits of these mines that they might close down.

In the interior living was high and transportation charges excessive, necessitating high wages. Latterly one smelter had been able to secure a reduction of \$1.50 a ton, but transportation charges were still very high.

The bill also seemed to exempt free milling properties, as it taxed only those ores removed from the premises. The tax would therefore fall on the concentrates only from the free-milling properties.

He thought the tax should be at least stayed for the investigation of the mining commission, if such was to be appointed, or pending a visit to the interested sections by the Minister of Mines.

He would not raise such a strong objection were it not that two-fifths of the total provincial revenue at the present time was derived from this industry. Directly and indirectly it received one-half its revenue from this source. If the tax was increased a burden would be put on the mines at a time that they could not afford to stand it, especially as a number of small mines were just beginning to ship.

The bill passed its second reading. The Speaker says six o'clock.

### EVENING SESSION

Resuming at 8:30 p.m. the Phoenix Incorporation Bill received its second reading.

The Land Bill was taken up for second reading. The Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works explained that it was designed to relieve a large class of settlers who found themselves unable to comply with the conditions of the Land Act. It provided that pre-emptors of Crown lands in arrears of payment might have Crown grants upon payment of seventy-five per cent. of such instalment in three instalments payable before December 31st, 1901.

The explanation of the Chief Commissioner was received with great applause on both sides of the House. Messrs. Hayward, Oliver, Munro, Green and Ellison spoke in very flattering terms of the bill. Mr. Munro said it had been a subject to which he had paid a great deal of attention and had promised his constituents to attempt to secure some such concessions. Mr. Ellison expressed no surprise that such a step had been taken because



the present government was a farmers' government. He had waited on Mr. Cotton when he was Chief Commissioner asking for a similar measure. He felt that those who pre-empted bush lands ought to receive it free. Mayor Houston was glad that a Kootenay minister (Mr. Wells) had brought in a bill which met with the unanimous support of the House.

Mr. Hunter indicated that he would move for similar relief to the miners by allowing them to cut the timber necessary to build their cabins, etc.

Mr. Martin did not join in the chorus of praise. The present bill gave the settler who had fallen in arrears a decided advantage over the man who had met his obligations. Surely the man who had kept up his payments was entitled to a refund. They would be perfectly justified, he believed, in making such a demand. If it was felt that the land had cost too much in the first place, why not admit the fact and frame the law on this principle? If 25 per cent. was to be thrown off to the man in arrears why not throw it off to the man who was not in arrears? The suggestion and hint of the bill was not to comply with the act, but to go on in arrears hoping for a further rebate.

The subject of dealing with public lands, Mr. Brown said, would stand much looking into. Any giving away of land was apt to be abused by speculators. Even the pre-emption system was open to the same abuse. He took a different view from his leader on the subject. The bill, to his mind, was a measure to induce the prompt payments of sums due the province. He thought there could not be much objection from those who had met their obligations in full, as this was merely a measure of relief to those who were less fortunate. It could not be denied that as regards pre-emptions some settlers had much greater advantages than others. Some enjoyed better market facilities than others. While the bill was open to some objection he thought the general principle was correct.

Mr. A. W. Smith, emphasizing the last point of the previous speaker illustrated his remarks by mentioning that while many ridings were well watered, others depended altogether for moisture on irrigation.

The Minister of Agriculture said that every business man was obliged frequently to make concessions in connection with his accounts in order to get them in. The same principle applied here. While the principle helped some of the settlers it really helped the whole province because it brought in these long outstanding accounts.

Mr. Kidd believed that free homesteads should have been given in the first instance. Still he was glad to see the present effort at redress. He was surprised that the hon. leader of the opposition had seen fit to challenge that reform. He must know that no reform had ever been instituted that had not the appearance of being unequal. He described the difficulties attending farming in British Columbia and the serious problems confronting some of them. The farmer deserved greater attention even than the miner. The latter took from the province its resources, the other increased the assets of the country. He supported the bill.

Mr. Neill pointed out some anomalies in the present act. The magistrate retained his control over the land, as the property of the Crown, while the pre-emptor continued to pay taxes on the land.

The Minister of Mines reminded the leader of the opposition that while he was a member of the Semlin government that administration had inserted a notice in the Gazette warning the delinquent pre-emptors that unless their dues were paid within twelve months the land would revert to the Crown. This showed what a small part the farmer held in the heart of the hon. gentleman opposite. It was quite impossible to do justice to everyone on a matter of this kind.

Mr. Gilmour was astonished that the Minister of Mines should seek to blame the government of 1899, when two of his colleagues were supporters of that government. It was most unfair to seek to attach all the blame to one minister.

Hon. Mr. Prentice—I don't think I could be regarded as a supporter of the Semlin administration.

Mr. McInnes—Wonders will never cease.

Continuing, he said that not only was Mr. Prentice a supporter of that government but he was a supporter of it under most peculiar circumstances. Mr. McInnes commended the government for that step, but scored the Minister of Mines for blaming Mr. Martin for every act of the Semlin government on certain things. There were always differences of opinion and later in the evening when the vote on the Grand Forks & Kettle River Railway Bill was reached they would see an exhibition of differences of opinion on that subject even in this stable united government.

Mr. Helmcken also commended the government for its action. He drew attention to the injustice done small holders. In some instances he found men who had to pay about 350 times the value of the property. These cases deserved immediate attention, and he urged the Chief Commissioner to afford relief to these men.

The bill then passed its second reading and committed.

In reply to Mr. Helmcken's suggestion regarding small holders, the Chief Commissioner said the question of meeting the difficulties of the small holders was an important and difficult one. Long leases had advantages as well as disadvantages. The payments were counted as part purchase money, if the holders so desired. The suggestion was a good one, and would receive careful consideration.

Mr. Kidd explained a number of the difficulties attending the matter. The bill was reported complete and adopted.

The Pine Creek Discovery Confirmation Bill came up for second reading.

Mr. Martin asked if the confirmation of title would disturb any one else's claim?

Hon. Minister of Mines said it would not.

In committee Mr. Stables asked what would be the effect of confirming the title in relation to those who had built on the claim which constituted largely the site of the townsite of Pine.

Mr. Martin submitted an amendment to prevent the owners of the claim from exacting rents under the plea that they

wanted to wash the ground. His amendment placed the power of saying whether the ground was actually required for placer purposes with the gold commissioner.

Mr. Clifford entirely agreed with Mr. Martin's amendment, which he said would prevent a hardship being worked on these people.

The amendment was adopted, and the bill reported complete.

The House went into committee of ways and means, and finally disposed of the supplementary estimates.

The Pacific Northern & Omheca Railway Bill coming up for its third reading, Mr. McInnes brought in an amendment excluding Mongolians from work in connection with the operation of the road. The present bill already excluded them from construction work. The amendment was as follows:

That the following words be inserted as a new section:

"No person who is unable to read this act and the 'British Columbia Railway Act,' shall be employed in the construction or operation of the undertaking hereby authorized, under a penalty of five dollars per day for each and every such person so employed in contravention of this section, to be recovered on complaint of any person under the provisions of the 'Summary Convictions Act.' This section shall not apply to or affect in any way any person who is on the register of voters in any electoral district for the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia, any Indian or person of Caucasian blood."

Mr. Martin strongly supported the amendment, and asked why these people were excluded from construction and not from the operation of railways?

Mr. Green, who was in charge of the bill, feared the clause might expose the bill to disallowance, although generally approving the principle.

Mr. McPhillips, too, was very nervous about results, although Mr. Curtis attempted to reassure him by reminding him that he had already gone quite as far by excluding these "yellow gentlemen," as he called them, from construction work.

Mr. Martin pressed for including the clause in a general bill, and asked the government to treat the House fairly and give them the benefits of their view.

Mr. Hunter caused some pleasantries by resurrecting some definitions he claimed to have discovered of the word "Caucasian."

The amendment was defeated on almost a straight party vote as follows:

Yeas—Martin, Curtis, Brown Munro, R. Smith, McInnes, Gilmour, E. C. Smith, Oliver and Neill.

Nays—Green, Kidd, McPhillips, Helmcken, Tatlow, Garden, Hayward, Fulton, Clifford, A. W. Smith, Eberts, Dunsuir, Turner, Prentice, Wells, McBride, Pooley, Rogers, Hunter, Taylor and Mounce.

The third reading of the Vancouver Incorporation Amendment Bill being reached, Mr. Garden asked to take up the Grand Forks & Kettle River railway. This was refused, but as the next two bills stood in his name, the leader of the opposition suggested letting these two stand in order to reach the Kettle River Railway Bill.

Immediately on doing this the Premier rose and moved the adjournment of the House till Monday amid derisive laughter from the opposition, and the remark of Mr. McInnes, "Any port in a storm."

Messrs. Martin and McInnes protested against attempting to kill the bill in that manner.

Mr. McInnes, too, objected to adjourning till Monday. It was understood that a jaunt was contemplated on Tuesday and Wednesday, and he suggested letting it stand till Thursday.

This brought Price Ellison to his feet. He strongly objected to these picnics till the House was through, so that he could get home. A number of up country members were remaining in the city while their private business suffered, and it was most unfair to keep them longer than necessary.

The House then rose to meet on Monday at 2 p.m.



# Provincial Parliament

What Promised to Be the Final Session Ends Very Abruptly.

Report From the Steveston Strike Committee—The Premier's Excursion Party.

Monday, Aug. 27.

The evening session, which was expected to be prolonged all night, terminated abruptly after midnight through the action of the opposition leader who intimated that if the rights of the opposition were not respected he would use his power to prolong the session. The government therefore moved the adjournment of the House till Thursday. The members are to-morrow bound for Comox, where the Premier's mines will be examined, the House resuming on Thursday forenoon.

Prayers were read by Rev. Bishop Cridge.

A number of numerous signed petitions from Slocan, Ymir, Silverton, Nelson, etc., were presented by Messrs. Houston and Green, praying that a mining commission be not appointed.

Capt. Tatlow presented a petition from Vancouver, signed by over one hundred, protesting against the increase in the mining tax.

The committee appointed to examine into the grievances of the settlers in the E. & N. belt reported as follows:

Legislative Committee Room,  
August 27th, 1900.

Mr. Speaker:

Your select committee appointed to inquire into the claims of certain settlers within the E. & N. railway belt, beg leave to report as follows:

Your committee respectfully recommend that, as it is necessary to go thoroughly into this matter, and the time at the disposal of your committee during the present session of the House is entirely inadequate to go into the question as completely as they desire, and thus finally settle the matter, that your present select committee, Messrs. Helmcken, Oliver, Neill, McInnes, McBride, and H. Smith, be appointed a commission to sit during the recess, with authority to call and examine witnesses and report at the next session of the House.

R. SMITH, Chairman,  
H. DALLAS HELMCKEN,  
JOHN OLIVER,  
W. W. B. McINNES,  
ALAN W. NEILL.

Mr. Smith moved that the rules of the House be suspended to allow the resolution to be considered and adopted forthwith. He explained that the time had been very short for the committee to go into this somewhat complicated question. The members would have to have more time to examine into the matter.

The motion being objected to was withdrawn.

Mr. Neill moved the following resolution:

"That this House urge upon the government the necessity of negotiating with the Dominion authorities, with a view to the settlement of the dispute now pending between the Dominion and Provincial governments, as to the actual and ultimate ownership of the Indian reserves in this province, and that, pending such settlement, mutually arranged regulations may be issued, under which free miners may locate and work mineral claims on Indian reserves, and obtain rights of way through such reserves, when necessary for the working of any mineral claims."

Mr. Neill said this seemed to be a matter that was nobody's business. He thought there were more reserves, for instance, on the West Coast, than the number of Indians warranted. Prospectors went on to these reserves, not knowing them to be such, and indeed some of them were never occupied. Not only did it prevent the taking up of claims, but it blocked up the means of access to claims lying behind them, as roads

could not be made through them. Both the Dominion and Provincial governments offered no objection, nor would the Indians. It was simply a matter where a very little stood between the question and its settlement. The member for North Nanaimo had obtained a tentative assurance from the Minister of the Interior that if an arrangement could be reached with the provincial government he would be glad to assist in so far as possible.

The resolution was cordially endorsed by Messrs. Fulton and Smith. A favorable answer was given by the Minister of Mines, and the motion passed.

Mr. Garden moved the following resolution:

"That the House resolve itself into committee of the whole and a resolution be adopted, respectfully calling on the Dominion government to pass the Natal act respecting immigrants and that the same be signed by any member of this House desiring to do so.

In committee he moved:  
"That whereas the wave of Mongolian immigration is increasing in volume at such an alarming rate that it threatens to overwhelm all the industries connected with the development of the natural resources of this province, whether the fisheries, lumber, mineral or agricultural;

"That during the first six months of the present year over 7,000 Japanese alone have landed on our shores; a number of whom, however, are said to have crossed to the United States;

"And that out of a total population of say 200,000, or about 40,000 working white men, we have a probable Mongolian working population of 20,000;

"That the above proportion is continually being changed by a constant influx of these undesirable people, and white immigration is deterred by dread of competition with them;

"And that the well known low conditions of life under which the Mongolians live render it impossible for white men, with their higher standard of living, to compete successfully;

"And that, while being loyal to the throne and constitution of our country, we consider the highest form of loyalty is fidelity to our own race;

"And that British Columbia, being an integral portion of the British Empire we consider that, hand in hand with the development of its enormous natural wealth, the efforts of legislators should be to gain a population who will understand the principles of self-government and enhance the prestige of our country, besides affording an opportunity for the working people of our own race to make a respectable living for themselves and families;

"And because, also, on the broader and more general ground that civilization and Christianity are said to be particularly safeguarded and advanced under the British constitution, it is therefore unwise to permit the extension of heathenism outside the countries in which it now exists;

"Therefore be it resolved, That a copy of this resolution, signed by the members of this House as may desire to do so, be forwarded to the Governor-General in Council praying that the Natal Immigration act, or such modification of it as will suit our urgent needs, be passed and enforced, and that other legislation, which falls within the powers of the Dominion House of Commons, be passed, which may tend to remedy the evil with which this province is at present struggling."

Mr. Martin said it was the height of hypocrisy to advance such a resolution, when the mover and seconder had opposed most strenuously the exercise of the power the legislature had. Mr. Tatlow had expressed himself early in the session as anxious to strain every nerve to shut out these people, but he was found wanting when it came to a vote. He was afraid that it was more a desire to make political capital against the Ottawa government that influenced Mr. Garden. His colleague had stood for the capitalist and the C. P. B. every time, and the present was a bogus political resolution.

Capt. Tatlow said a clause preventing the employment of these people in the operation of the railways had been promised in the Railway act.

Mr. Garden declared the charge against him unfounded. He had voted against unworkable clauses in the present act, but he believed the difficulty could be met in a general act. As to

the charge that he stood with the C. P. B., he thought his action in regard to the Kettle River railway charter sufficiently answered that.

Mr. Martin—I said you stood with the C. P. B. in their successful attempt to retain Mongolians. I referred to nothing else.

Continuing, Mr. Martin said he believed the resolution was only designed to put the Liberals in a hole, while Mr. Brown moved that the committee rise, report progress, and ask leave to sit again, to allow the resolution to be printed.

Mr. Garden said the refusal of the opposition to support the resolution stamped their professions regarding the question as mere lip-service, while Capt. Tatlow charged them with attempting to shield their Liberal friends at Ottawa.

Mr. Pooley thought this the only method of excluding Chinese and Japanese, while Mr. Kidd condemned the leader of the opposition for his suggestion that the resolution was a party one. There might be another party in power in Ottawa in a few months, and he could therefore see no way in which it could be regarded as a party resolution. He supported the resolution.

Mr. Helmcken also supported the resolution.

Mr. Turner objected to the preamble, where a lot of general statements were made for the accuracy of which the House could not be asked to vouch.

After long delay Mr. Brown's amendment carried, and the committee rose.

Hon. Mr. Eberts then moved his resolution recommending the Dominion government to increase the salaries of the Supreme court judges here.

Mr. Eberts said the resolution explained itself. He had received a number of suggestions from gentlemen opposite that the judges were inadequately salaried. He hoped the resolution would be unanimously supported.

Mr. Helmcken wanted to see justice done one set of judges as well as others. With the jurisdiction of the County court judges, the office of those gentlemen was most important. He thought the province should not be called upon to pay the salaries of either the Supreme or County court judges. He moved the following resolution: "Be it resolved, That the salaries paid to the judges of the County courts of the province of British Columbia are inadequate, and should be fixed at the sum of \$3,000 per annum, which sum should be wholly borne by the Dominion government."

Mr. McPhillips quoted statistics from other provinces to prove the discrimination against British Columbia in this matter.

Mr. Curtis cordially supported both resolutions.

Mr. McInnes agreed with the resolutions. There were at present a number of County court districts without County court judges. An important statement was made at Victoria some time ago when it was stated by a minister that judges should be appointed to every County court which was created. He hoped the Attorney-General would draw the attention of the Dominion House to this matter.

The resolutions passed unanimously.

Mr. Helmcken introduced his motion in reference to the establishment of a mint in British Columbia, which was carried.

Mr. McInnes asked the government the following questions: 1. Have any special constables been appointed to enforce the provisions of the "Game Protection Act, 1898"? If so, who are they and when were they appointed? 2. Have any complaints been made by any such "specials" against any person? If so, whom?

Hon. Mr. Eberts replied as follows: "1. On the 16th of August, 1900, Robert Henry Pooley and John H. Gillespie were appointed special constables, without salary, to enforce the provisions of the 'Game Protection Act, 1898.' 2. The said special constables made no complaints against any person."

Mr. Helmcken asked the Attorney-General the following questions: 1. Is it a fact that instructions have been given to the registrar of the Supreme court at Victoria to allow and permit the mercantile agencies to search the records of the office for writs issued



against defendants? 2. Is the government aware that this right is denied by the registrar to the legal profession, unless the name of some plaintiff is given?

Hon. Mr. Eberts replied as follows: "1. Yes. About six months ago instructions were given to the district registrar of the Supreme court at Victoria, and to other district registrars throughout the country, to permit the representatives of mercantile agencies to search the records of their offices for writs issued against defendants, upon payment of the prescribed fee. 2. No." Mr. Martin in moving that a Model Railway Bill be added to the orders of the House, said he was merely carrying out a suggestion made by the railway committee. It was based on a similar bill used at Ottawa. Its provisions were based on acts of the House. Having adopted this, applicants for charters would print new clauses in brackets and the railway committee would have to consider these alone. It would save an immense amount of time. The chairman of the railway committee had approved the bill.

Mr. Pooley expressed himself as in accord with the motion. By means of it the committee could tell exactly in how far an application varied from the general act. It would very much lessen the work of the committee.

Mr. McPhillips cautioned delay and the sending of the bill to the parliamentary agents of roads intended for suggestion. The bill was more exacting than that in vogue in the East.

The Attorney-General commended the action of the leader of the opposition though he thought it might be better laid over for another session.

The leader of the opposition suggested having promoters bring in their applications next session in this shape and then if any clauses were considered objectionable they could be struck out. The great object was to secure uniformity.

Mr. Helmcken couldn't understand a "model" bill that didn't incorporate all the honorable leader of the opposition's pet hobbies.

Mr. Martin—But I've left them out.

Mr. Helmcken regarded this as an indication that Mr. Martin was becoming rational.

Mr. Hunter also supported the motion, which was carried.

The Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works presented a return of copies of all correspondence and tenders in connection with the contract for keeping open for travel that portion of the Cariboo Trunk road between Cottonwood and Barkerville during the winter season of 1899 and 1900.

The Judgments Bill received its third reading, as well as the Elections Act Amendment Bill and Pine Creek Discovery Bill.

Mr. Martin moved the addition of a new section to the Tramways Act Amendment Bill as follows:

"Section 2 of said act is hereby repealed, and the following substituted therefor:

"2. This act shall not empower any company formed hereunder to parallel with its line of tramway, in whole or in part, the Nakusp and Slocan railway, or the Kaslo and Slocan railway, but it shall not be deemed to prevent any such company from constructing works which may act as feeders to either of said railways, and no such feeder shall be deemed a parallel line within the meaning of this section."

He explained that this enabled tramways to build to the boundary line.

This was opposed by Mr. McPhillips, who held that in these days when as heavy rails were used in street railways as in railroads, this meant extending the privilege to railways. He was opposed to this.

The amendment was lost on the following division:

Yeas—Messrs. Stables, E. C. Smith, Oliver, Kidd, Brown, Martin, Curtis, Munro, Green, R. Smith—10.

Nays—Messrs. McInnes, Neill, Hall, McPhillips, Helmcken, Turner, Dunsmin, Eberts, A. W. Smith, Ellison, Clifford, Fulton, Hayward, Garden, Tatlow, Prentice, McBride, Pooley.

Murphy, Rogers, Hunter, Taylor, Dickis, Mounce—25.

The bill was then reported, read a third time and finally passed.

A message was received from His Honor recommending the adoption of a bill to amend the Municipal Elections Act. The House went into committee and the report was adopted. The bill was read a first time. The second reading was taken up forthwith, the Attorney-General urging this step owing to its importance and the bill being put down for this evening.

The rules were suspended to allow Mr. Helmcken to introduce a bill to amend the Municipal Elections Act. It follows the preceding bill this evening in committee.

The Lieut.-Governor recommended to the House a bill to amend the Public Dyking Act, 1898, which took a similar course.

Hon. Mr. Turner said it was the intention of the government next session to bring in a general act to consolidate the dykes under one board and one engineer. It had been found that 60,000 or 80,000 acres of the best possible land was made arable by this dyking system. The present act would enable the government to expend the money on those dykes, where the greatest necessity arose.

The bill was taken up in committee, and reported complete without amendment.

Mr. Hall presented a report of the printing committee recommending that the return showing the number of votes cast in the general elections of 1900 be printed. The report was adopted.

The House went into committee on the Mineral Act Amendment Bill. It was reported, read a third time and finally passed.

The Railway Assessment Act Amendment Bill was taken up in committee. The Attorney-General introduced an amendment giving municipalities the power to tax during this year lands not used exclusively for railway purposes.

The bill received its third reading.

The bill to tax coal and coke also received its third reading, after an unsuccessful attempt by Mr. Helmcken to have a rebate of one cent for prompt payment, and the addition of the following amendment by the Finance Minister:

"7. The taxes imposed by this act shall

be in addition to all royalty imposed by any other act, or in any way reserved to the use of Her Majesty, but shall be in substitution for all taxes upon the land from which said coal is mined, so long as said land is not used for other than coal mining purposes, or upon the land necessarily and actually used for the purpose of operating said coke ovens; and shall also be in substitution for all taxes upon the personal property used in the working of the said coal lands and coke ovens."

Mr. Curtis asked that the heavy penalty which attached to a false return be either struck out or made general in its application. Why should the mine owner be singled out for this penalty? He moved that sub-section 3 of section 11 be struck out. This was lost.

On Mr. Turner's amendment imposing a two per cent. tax on mines realising \$5,000 yearly or on placers yielding \$2,000, Mr. Curtis renewed his objections to increasing the tax. He read a petition from a large number of mining men who protested against the increase.

The amendment was carried.

The report coming up for adoption, Mr. Curtis moved an amendment that where a return is wilfully inaccurate a penalty of a double tax be imposed on the person making the return instead of on the mine owner.

Mr. Martin held it very insidious that the mine owner should be regarded as making a false return rather than other people.

The Finance Minister accepted the amendment and the bill passed.

Hon. Mr. Wells presented a message from His Honor recommending a bill to make a grant of certain Crown lands to the city of Vancouver.

The bill was considered in the usual way and adopted, and read a first and second time.

The House then rose to resume at 10 o'clock in the evening.

#### EVENING SESSION.

On the House resuming, Capt. Tatlow presented the following report of the special committee appointed to inquire into the circumstances in connection with the calling out of the militia at Steveston:

Mr. Speaker: Your select committee appointed to investigate the circumstances in connection with the calling out of the militia at Steveston beg to report as follows:

Your committee held sittings on the 23rd, 24th, 25th and 27th days of August, and examined the following witnesses: W. B. Wilkinson, reeve of Richmond; Edward Hunt, J.P.; Robert Whiteside, J.P.; Lt.-Col. Woranop, Capt. Heuderson, W. A. Munro, cannery manager; C. S. Windsor, cannery owner; G. W. Shay, chief of police, Richmond; Richard Lister, chief of provincial constables at New Westminster; Colin S. Campbell, provincial constable; Herbert Brooke, assistant collector of taxes; Frank R. Murray, provincial constable; Musquan Jim, Indian fisherman; Hugh Campbell, Union fisherman; Frank A. Rogers, secretary Fishermen's Union.

The evidence of these witnesses has been taken down in shorthand, but is not yet typewritten. Your committee recommend that this evidence be printed and included in the sessional papers.

In addition to the bona fide fishermen in Steveston there was a tough element from across the border, which, aided by certain agitators, caused a state of excitement and unrest; that an organized effort was made to prevent any person from fishing until such time as the union fishermen should succeed in arriving at a price for fish satisfactory to them; that the justices of the peace were of opinion that had the militia not been called out there would have been serious disturbances of the peace in the event of Japanese commencing to fish, with which disturbances, had they occurred, the provincial police admit, they would have been unable to cope. On the other hand, there is conflict of evidence, some witnesses swearing that there was no reason to apprehend danger, while others swore that they believed there would be trouble in the event of the Japanese commencing to fish.

There is no evidence to show that the provincial government were in any way connected with the calling out of the militia.

R. G. TATLOW, Chairman.

Mr. Gilmour said there was a complaint in Vancouver that the fishermen had not been properly represented. Some of the men had telegraphed that they were ready to come to give evidence, but had not been called.

Capt. Tatlow said the telegram had arrived after the evidence was all in. Representatives had been called, representing the Fishermen's Union, although only one non-union fisherman had been called.

Mr. Brown corroborated the statement. It was felt in the committee that if a report was longer deferred all the evidence would go for naught, as the committee would be dissolved by prorogation.

Mr. Kidd gave a similar explanation of the matter.

Leave was granted for the printing of some returns brought down at the instance of Mr. Rogers.

Mr. Smith asked that the standing orders be suspended to allow the House to consider the report of the E. & N. railway belt committee. The commission would cost the province nothing.

Mr. A. W. Smith opposed the suggestion.

Mr. McInnes did not understand what objection could be offered to this suggestion. It was a matter for congratulation that honorable members could be found who were willing to prolong their labors beyond the session. If these petty objections were to be constantly put forward they would find the opposition could obstruct too.

Mr. Rogers—Go ahead, we can stay as long as you can.

Mr. McInnes—Well, all right; and I hope you will enjoy it as well as I do.

The motion therefore stood.

The House went into committee on the Phoenix Incorporation Bill, with Mr. Stables in the chair.

The committee rose and reported the bill complete without amendments. It was read a third time and finally passed.

Mr. Curtis moved for the recommission of the Assessment Act Amendment Bill to strike out section 6, the section which involves doubling the tax on mines. The amendment was defeated and the bill passed.

On the second reading of the Supreme Court Bill, the Attorney-General said it was designed to reduce the sittings of



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the Court of Appeal from ten to six, which he thought was quite enough as the larger number took the judge's time too frequently from his other duties.

It was moved that the bill be taken up forthwith in committee. Mr. McInnes objected, but the Speaker held it was a new session and the motion permissible. Mr. McInnes then asked why new order papers had not been provided?

The House then went into committee on the bill. Mr. Houston submitted an amendment to further reduce the number of sittings as follows: "The Full Court will sit at Victoria four times a year and must finish all business before it during a sitting." This, he said, would make the law so plain that a lawyer could understand it. (Laughter.)

Mr. Curtis strongly opposed taking the Court of Appeal from Vancouver. For interior lawyers a trip to Victoria involved two days extra, and beside there was an immense amount of local business which originated at Vancouver.

The amendment, however, carried.

Mr. McInnes offered an amendment in relation to garnishees, which Hon. Mr. Eberts promised to consider next year "if I am here, as I hope to be."

Mr. Curtis—Do I understand that owing to the reconstruction the Hon. Attorney-General fears he may be left out. (Laughter.)

Hon. Mr. Eberts—I thought I might die.

Mr. McInnes—Oh no. The good die young. (Renewed laughter.)

Mr. Brown offered an amendment to permit applications in Chambers before the chief justice who resides in New Westminster, but who does not hold Chambers there. This was carried, although an amendment to permit applications in Nanaimo was rejected.

Mr. Fulton's amendment provided that all papers in any suit or action should be kept in one office. It was carried.

On reporting the bill, Mr. Garden moved that provision be made for the sittings of the Full Court in Vancouver, as originally provided. The amendment was lost on the following division:

Yeas—Messrs. Garden, Ellison, Tatlow, Kidd, Gilmour, Brown, McInnes, Green, Oliver, B. Smith, E. C. Smith, Stables and Curtis—13.

Nays—Messrs. Dunsmuir, Turner, Eberts, A. W. Smith, Clifford, Fulton, Hayward, Mounce, Dickie, Hunter, Rogers, Pooley, Murphy, McBride and Well—15.

Mr. Curtis took a point of order that the bill having been amended it could not be advanced through all its stages until reprinted. Messrs. Martin and McInnes ably supported the contention of Mr. Curtis.

After each speech from the opposition benches to the point of order, the government members cried loudly for the question. Finally Mr. Martin's patience broke down. He swung about in his chair and consulted his lieutenants. They were all of one mind, and Mr. Martin rose with a warning.

"If the minority are not to be protected in their rights," he said, "I doubt if the government will get business through by eight to-morrow."

Continuing, he said he had done all in his power to expedite government business, but when he did so he understood the opposition was to be accorded its rights.

Hon. Mr. Eberts accepted the challenge, and upbraided Mr. Martin, at whose request the House had been deferred till ten o'clock. This was the way he repaid the consideration he had received. Not to be outdone he moved that the bill be laid over, and intimated that the government was not to be driven on the matter.

The House then rose to meet on Thursday at 10 a.m.



1900

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Aug 2nd

# Provincial Legislature

## Labor and Chinese Restriction Form Chief Subjects of Debate.

### House Decides to Appoint a Standing Committee on Agriculture.

Yesterday's sitting of the legislature was largely devoted to debate, the interesting subjects of labor and Chinese restriction both coming up and receiving about an hour apiece, without in either instance being near ended. Mr. Helmcken's resolution, which aimed at the protection of government contracts from the abuses of sub-letting, and also at requiring payment of the locally current wage, received the general support of the house. Its passage was somewhat hindered by the amendments of Mr. McInnes, who apparently was desirous of going the senior member for Victoria one better in this regard. Two amendments were offered, the first being disposed of, and the second still under discussion when the debate was adjourned. The former one had, however, the distinction of occasioning the first division of the session.

The second debate arose out of Mr. Tatlow's Chinese immigration clause. To this Mr. Brown proposed a very drastic amendment, which was to have been followed by another from Mr. Helmcken, when, however, that gentleman moved the adjournment of the question until to-morrow.

A little routine work had followed prayers, when Mr. Helmcken rose to move the following resolution, which was seconded by Mr. Ralph Smith:

"That in the opinion of this house all government contracts should contain such conditions as will prevent abuses which may arise from the sub-letting of such contracts, and that every effort should be made to secure the payment of such wages as are generally accepted as current in each trade for competent workmen in the district where the work is carried out; and it is hereby resolved that the work to which the foregoing policy shall apply includes not only work undertaken by the government itself but also all works aided by a grant of provincial public funds, and all works carried on under franchises granted by the government, and that the aforesaid policy shall be forthwith applied to every department of the public service and to all parties now performing services for the government."

Upon Mr. Martin pointing out that this, affecting as it did the public administration and revenues, the mover stated that he had already obtained the approval of the government, to which Premier Dunsmuir then assented.

Mr. McInnes then claimed that, while a very proper resolution, it practically amounted to nothing, as there was no guarantee that it would be carried out. At Ottawa when a similar resolution had been carried, it had been shown that if a laborer suffered and sought relief, under this motion, he would get nothing but his discharge. He accordingly had two amendments to offer, one to rectify the point he had alluded to, and the other to protect the laborer from Chinese competition. The first he would do by adding the clause, "to be embodied in an act," whereby the laborer would have statutory standing, and the second by adding at the end of the resolution the words, "also that in all contracts, leases and concessions of whatsoever kind entered into or made by the government, provision be made that no Chinese or Japanese shall be employed in connection therewith."

Hon. Mr. Turner objected that the government had this latter matter under consideration at present, and so was not ready to express its policy on the case.

Mr. Martin suggested that the resolution should have come from the government directly, but that, having been once admitted by them to the house, the responsibility of amending it rested with the house.

Mr. Helmcken stated that it was but an effort "to go one better," and that, while the government were ready to approve of his motion, it was most unfair to embarrass them by introducing other features by amendment.

Hon. Mr. McBride assented to the reasonableness of Mr. Martin's suggestion that as a question of policy was involved, the motion might well have proceeded from the ministry. They were, however, at present consulting upon how best to conserve the interests of white labor, and not being yet ready to pronounce their policy, must accordingly object to any expression of such in a hasty or unguarded way.

Mr. Martin said that what he wanted was to see the gentlemen opposite vote against the amendment, while Mr. Brown added that anyone voting against the amendment must be strictly held to have voted against its principles.

Mr. Ralph Smith said that, while he had seconded the motion, he favored the amendment too.

Mr. Kidd wanted more information regarding the franchises. Municipalities had franchises, and they should be careful about affecting them.

Mr. Green would vote against the amendment, not but that he did not believe in its principles, but he did not believe in supporting the opposition in holding a club at the government's head, as they were trying to do. The house had the assurance, both of the senior member for Victoria as well as of one of the ministers, that they would deal with this question, and it was quite as well to leave it with them, instead of doing all that could be done to embarrass their efforts.

A few other short speeches led up to the division on the first amendment, which was defeated by the following vote:

Yeas—Messrs. McInnes, Gilmour, Stables, E. C. Smith, Oliver, Kidd, Neill, Brown, Martin, Curtis, Munro, R. Smith, Houston—13.

Nays—Messrs. Green, Hall, McPhillips, Helmcken, Turner, Dunsmuir, Eberts, A. W. Smith, Ellison, Clifford, Fulton, Hayward, Garden, Tatlow, Prentice, Wells, McBride, Pooley, Murphy, Rogers, Hunter, Taylor, Dickie, Mounce—24.

The second amendment was then taken up by Mr. Martin, who showed how it would apply to the renewal of timber and mining licenses. If these were held to appertain to the government had better do this, and hold them a couple of hundred years, if need be, rather than have them developed by anything but white labor.

Mr. Helmcken then asked for an adjournment in order to have time to consider the amendment, and his request was granted.

Mr. Tatlow's resolution asking the Lieutenant-Governor to advise the Governor-General that the house is of opinion that the Chinese Immigration Act, 1900, is unsatisfactory, disappointing, and wholly fails to meet the exigencies of the situation was then taken up. It was seconded by Mr. Garden, and has already been published.

Mr. Brown moved in amendment, seconded by Mr. Curtis, to strike out all the words after the word resolved in the first line, and in lieu of the words so struck out, insert: "That it is the duty of this house, in dealing with the question of Oriental immigration, to cast aside all considerations of party and political partisanship, and to take such action as will demonstrate to the world how vital and far reaching the question really is:

"That a humble address be presented to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, praying him to advise His Excellency the Governor-General that, in the opinion of this house, the Chinese Immigration Act, 1900 will prove wholly inadequate even to appreciably check the tide of Chinese immigration, while it leaves the even more threatening influx of Japanese uncontrolled; and further to advise His Excellency that it is the settled conviction of this house that unless Chinese and Japanese immigration be promptly and effectually checked, not only will laborers and artisans of European race be driven from the province, but all trades and industries other than those exclusively engaged in manufacturing for export the raw material of the province will pass into the hands of Chinese and Japanese."

Speaking to his motion, Mr. Tatlow stated that in consequence of the report of the Chapeau commission in 1884, temporary relief was given in 1887 with the result that for several years the number of Chinese entering the province averaged less than 200. In 1888 Mr. McLagan, of Vancouver, had telegraphed Sir Wilfrid Laurier, getting in reply the answer appearing in the resolution which had, no doubt, had its influence upon the election of that time. But Sir Wilfrid's promise did not affect his party, and so, in September, 1893, Mr. Fraser is quoted as saying in the house:

"I have to say it would be a retrograde move for us to pass laws to keep these people out on the ground that they are Chinamen. . . . For myself, desiring that the country shall have population, I am willing that Chinamen as well as others may come in."

Mr. Fisher last year said: "The question as to the Chinese is one that is very interesting to the people of this province. We appreciate this; at the same time these questions dealt with a foreign people coming into our midst are more or less international in their character and imperial in their nature, and we, as the government of Canada cannot altogether act without reference to imperial interests, which are paramount."

This is, however, well met by Earl Derby, who stated: "When therefore the Dominion ministers advise Your Lordships with regard to these acts you may understand that the question is not held to involve imperial interests and that you should deal with it as a Canadian question only."

In Australia the tax is fixed at \$500, and Mr. Tatlow considered that the province should be put on quite as good a footing. The Chinese being brought here by labor contractors, it follows that if the tax of \$200 be not sufficient, one of \$500 might be found to be so.

Being thus seen to be a failure from a restriction standpoint, it is easily seen that financially it is quite as bad. In San Francisco it is being found necessary to move the Chinatowns, and should like steps be necessitated here the cost would far exceed the amount remitted to the province as its quarter of the restriction tax. That some such expenditure may be occasioned would appear from the following extracts from the report of the provincial board of health. On the 29th of May, 1900, Dr. Fagan, writing of the bubonic plague states: "My suggestions may be radical, and no doubt will cause loss to many, but if we wish to protect ourselves and save the country from the possible expense of millions, we must take action. The following regulations are suggested:

1. All Chinese and Japanese to present themselves for medical examination every six months.

2. Their private houses and lodgings to be registered.

3. All buildings occupied by Chinese and Japanese to be of proper size for number of occupants, with adequate light.

4. In all cities Chinese and Japanese houses to have cement floors in basement. These suggestions would be quite costly to enforce and to meet them and many other expenses, only a quarter of the tax comes into the treasury.

Mr. Brown then followed. Before presenting his amendment, he reflected upon the campaign literature aspect of the motion, which he thought all the greater mistake because the people had spoken so decidedly against party lines. But the question was too vital to be used as a peg for politics.

Its financial aspect was but a minor matter too, and although the Dominion should keep only the costs of collection, that might well be left aside. A strong prejudice existed in the East against the cry of British Columbia and it was first of all necessary to impress upon the rest of Canada that it was neither dollars nor bigotry, but a pressing menace to white workmen. The East must be taught that these Asiatics would never make settlers, that they would never assimilate, and by their unspeakable lower standard of living could always work cheaper than white men. The Japs too had been overlooked by the mover of the motion and they were even more menacing than the Chinese. So much so that unless something were done they would drive the Anglo-Saxon back step by step from labor and craft and trade until the Asiatic owned the country.

To this Mr. Hunter very forcibly objected. He would never believe that the Asiatics would ever drive the Saxon from this soil. He had too much faith in the race.

On motion of Mr. Helmcken, the debate was then adjourned.

After a short debate, Mr. Hayward's motion for a standing committee on agriculture was carried and the committee itself will be struck to-morrow.

Mr. Stables' resolution for returns of the details of the mining laws issued for Athlun was also carried, after an explanation by himself and a short speech of approval from Hon. Mr. McBride. Mr. Martin also pointed out that some of the leases occasioning the trouble had been granted by the Semlin government.

The Notaries' Bill was then read a third time, and the bill finally passed.

The house then went into committee to consider the Liquor License bill, but did not cover more than a couple of sections before six o'clock. The chief point of interest was the right put up by Mr. Hayward on behalf of the Esquimalt license holders, who, according to Mr. Martin, had robbed the province for years, by paying \$80 instead of the \$200 fee, and were raw because they could not keep it up.

After a short debate over the adjournment, a motion to do so until to-morrow was passed at 6:30 o'clock.

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Aug 3 1900

## Provincial Legislature

### Commission Will Inquire Into Calling Out of Soldiers at Steveston.

### Day Mostly Spent in Committee —Mr McPhillips' Shop Bill.

The expected does not always happen, and so it turned out at the legislature yesterday afternoon. Visitors went over to see the continuation of Wednesday's debates, but neither the Asiatic nor the labor issue came up, and the day's work was largely devoted to Mr. Brown's motion about the soldiery at Steveston, and Mr. McPhillips' bill on early closing of shops and the hours of employment of youthful workers. The former, though consented to by the government, was pressed by the orators of the opposition, after a semi-partizan fashion, a brief but lively debate being the result. The early closing bill occupied an hour in committee of the whole, and was reported as complete with several amendments.

After prayers, which were read by Rev. Dr. Campbell, the Attorney-General introduced the bill amending the Rossland Water & Light Incorporation Act. This was received and read a first time, its single section empowering the company to sell out to the city of Rossland.

The Columbia & Western railway amendment bill, introduced by Hon. Mr. Wells, was similarly advanced. It likewise had but a single clause, which was to extend the time for selecting the lands of the land grant to that road, for one year.

Mr. Brown's motion followed. It provided that a special committee, consisting of Messrs. Kidd, R. Smith, Tatlow, Oliver and the mover, be appointed to enquire into all matters connected with the sending of the militia to Steveston, with power to send for persons and papers and report the facts to this house. To this committee, on amendment of Hon. Mr. Turner, the name of Hon. Mr. Eberts was subsequently added.

In introducing his motion, which was seconded by Mr. Munro, Mr. Brown stated that the reports concerning the situation at Steveston at the time of the calling out of the militia had been very contradictory, and as the matter was exceedingly serious and the public feeling aroused had been quite intense, he thought it but right that an investigation should be held and the actual facts ascertained, if for no other purpose than to make the public acquainted with them. Should there be any blame in the matter, it would be well to know where it properly belonged.

Hon. Mr. Eberts required some information regarding these contradictory reports. The mover's tone suggested that the government had occasioned these and was to blame. Did the honorable gentleman blame the government for the soldiers having been called out?

Mr. Brown replied that he did not blame the government in the matter. Perhaps there was no blame anywhere and the best of reasons had led up to the calling out of the militia. He did not intend to censure anyone by his motion, but thought that the public should know the facts of the case.

Mr. McPhillips questioned the right of an opposition member to introduce such a motion. It would require the expenditure of some money, and last session, when Mr. Higgins had a similar motion about the Westminster asylum, he had been ruled out of order on that very point. At any rate he was opposed to the resolution. The house was too often asked to go outside of its own business, and that was just what this motion required. They were asked to interfere, and it might be almost held to intimidate the magistrates, who had acted under the laws of the Dominion. To a certain extent the magistrates were amenable to the Attorney-General, but Reeve Wilkinson at least was not. He had been elected as reeve and so made a magistrate by the people, and so was not amenable to that department. The present was an effort, too, to make political stock of a question which, of all others, should be kept out of politics.

He also thought that it had been a good move. The presence of the soldiers, and that only, had enabled the boats to go out, and thus prevented the loss of the season. However, that was not for this house to bother about. It should mind its own business.

Mr. McInnes deeply regretted the recourse to the militia. Nothing could be a worse blow to the financial confidence in a country than such an act. He was not surprised to see the government oppose the motion. They had not acted

openly. They had kept back part of the correspondence when it had been brought down. This he then attempted to show by reading from the papers of the return, as also to show that the government had taken some steps in the calling out of the soldiers, which, by several exclamations, the Attorney-General promptly denied.

Hon. Mr. McBride thought that what he had on a previous occasion stated should have been accepted by the house. It had occurred to him then, and he was sure of it now, that Mr. McInnes was only seeking political notoriety. He could, however, only repeat the statement that the government had absolutely nothing to do with the calling out of the militia. They had stood between the two parties and had tried to harmonize them. Mr. McInnes did not, however, seek to harmonize matters, but rather to masquerade as the champion of labor.

Mr. Gilmour also talked from the assumption that the government feared an investigation, and declared that if they did not and had no part in the calling out of the soldiers, they ought to invite such a message and prove to the country that they could tell the truth.

Hon. Mr. Turner regretted that the opposition members were so ready to insinuate that the government had sent the soldiers to Steveston. A board of trade letter had suggested that course to them, but the letter had not been considered. Neither were they afraid of having a commission appointed. Mr. McPhillips had stated the case well, but in spite of that they were quite ready to have the motion passed. He thought, however, that the Attorney-General should be on the committee, and moved that his name be added.

To this Mr. Eberts objected, but in vain, that the Attorney-General might have to be a witness before the commission.

This addition, affecting as it did the number of the committee, Mr. Kidd, a member for the riding concerned, offered to resign, but on its being stated that his local knowledge would make his presence with the others all the more valuable, his name was retained.

Mr. Oliver spoke in favor of the motion, and stated that if the magistrates had abused their powers, the people should know it; and if they had not, they should be cleared of the suspicion hovering over them.

Mr. Brown closed the debate by making a plea for provincial rights, which might have been made in this instance under the Dominion law.

The resolution was then unanimously carried.

The following members were appointed to the recently established standing committee on agriculture: By the government—Messrs. Price, Ellison, Kidd, Hayward and Neill. By the opposition—Messrs. Oliver, E. C. Smith and Munro.

Mr. Ralph Smith's resolution concerning compulsory arbitration was again laid over for a day.

Mr. McPhillips' shop bill was then taken up in committee. It provided for municipalities passing by-laws to enforce the early closing of shops, also for limiting throughout the province the hours of labor for children. Several amendments were added, amongst them being the raising of the ages of boys protected to 16 (the same as in the case of girls); affording equal protection to delivery boys, and to those working inside, the maintenance of proper sanitary conveniences. Besides these, the hours of work per week were reduced from 74 to 66, including meal hours; and the penalty was raised so as to range from \$20 to \$50 for each offence.

The bill was then reported complete. The Sandon relief bill also went through its committee of the whole stage, and at 6:45 the house adjourned.

Aug 4 1900

## Provincial Legislature

### Debate Opens on Mr. Smith's Motion Referring to Ar- bitration.

### Most of the Day Spent in Com- mittee on the License Bill.

The sitting of the legislature was largely devoted yesterday to that uninteresting stage of the growth of laws which is called committee work. The liquor license bill took up the bulk of the time, without, however, being finished. Many amendments were suggested, some of them being accepted by the house, while several others were stood over for further consideration. The Jurors Act, which had been so much discussed last winter, went through the committee stage yesterday in but a few minutes, no amendments being offered.

Besides such routine work little was done. Both the opening and closing were punctuated with debates. Mr. Ralph Smith's resolution on compulsory arbitration opened the ball, but on motion of the second speaker, Hon. Mr. Turner, the discussion was adjourned until Wednesday. Before closing also a brief wordy war was occasioned by some changes suggested by the government in the make-up of the standing committee on railways.

After prayers by Rev. Mr. Rowe, Mr. Helmcken, chairman of the private bills committee, presented the fourth report in favor of the Vancouver charter amendments bill and that of the New Westminster synod.

Mr. Pooley, chairman of the railways committee, followed with a report favoring the Vancouver and Westminster and the Rock Bay and Salmon River Railway bills. To the former of these there had been added by the committee a clause inserted along the lines of the reading test to prohibit the employment of Asiatics on its construction.

Ralph Smith's resolution followed. It was seconded by the member from Kamlo, Mr. Green, and ran as follows:

"That considering the unsatisfactory nature of the present act intitled 'An Act to provide for the formation, from time to time, of disputes may arise, of Councils of Labor Conciliation and Arbitration,' chapter 109, Revised Statutes, 1897, to accomplish such purposes as expressed in title, and in consideration of the labor disputes occurring repeatedly, which ought to be immediately settled for the public good, and inasmuch as such an act would involve the expenditure of public moneys and cannot therefore be presented to this house by any private member, that this house urges the necessity of such provision as above as soon as practicable.

In speaking to his resolution, the mover urged strongly its importance and necessity at the present time in this province. There could be no question at the present juncture about wasting time over its division, neither was there any need to make it a political issue; with two such great strikes before the eyes of the public as had been lately experienced here, it was high time that some method should be devised so that influence could be brought to bear to solve such difficulties as had arisen without having to utilize the last resource, namely, that of arms. That the Dominion government was fully convinced of this need was shown by their recent enactment and by the appointment of commissioners to mediate in these questions. What was now wanted was that the province should take some such steps too. There was at present an act on the statute book concerning conciliation and arbitration, but that measure was practically of none effect, as its measures could only be brought into operation by the application of both parties to the dispute. In bad cases it was quite useless, and that just when most required. He had confined his resolution to one of general statement, and did so in highest interests of the case. It did not force or embarrass the government, who were thus in all the better position to make a definite statement that at the next session of the house they could take some action. Such a statement was all that he required at the present time.



Several suggestions might, however, be made. One of these was that a labor bureau be established by which much useful data and statistics might be collected. Another was the providing of some provision for the incorporation of trade unions. This was possible now under the Dominion laws, but a provincial statute was necessary. This would enable the employers of labor to deal with a corporate body, and so Mr. Turner's objection in the former debate would be met.

Precedents were to be had from Australia for an act of compulsory arbitration. One had been in force there, and he believed that as a result there had not been a single strike in the past six years. The two big strikes recently troubling this province had both been settled, too, by some form of direct government interference, one in one way and the other in another. The public industries and interests should be protected and he hoped that during the recess the matter would be considered by the government with the result that next session some such legislation would be introduced as he desired.

Hon. Mr. Turner, in continuing the debate pointed out the general terms in which the resolution was couched. Compulsory arbitration was not directly mentioned in it, although it was suggested throughout. Had it been more drastically worded it might not be wholly acceptable to the house. Indeed, as it was, it appeared that several of the members had not grasped its full import, and it was a question worthy of a good deal of consideration. It was reported indeed that there were unions that opposed this principle of arbitration.

Mr. Smith—Some unions do oppose it. Mr. Turner continued by expressing his doubts as to its effectiveness in a case such as that recently happening at Steveston. It would be almost impossible to enforce an award against the fishermen, and to make them go out. Were the motion passed today, it would run the risk of being voted down, and as its importance was very great, he thought it would be well to adjourn the matter until Wednesday.

To this Mr. Smith assented, but Mr. Martin would not, and arose to discuss the motion to adjourn. The government, he said, were unpleasantly fixed, its supporters might hold that this was a contentious measure, and so in conflict with the agreement that held them together. So far as the move was concerned, it was no good either. It said nothing and so there could be no advantage in any delay to consider it.

Mr. Martin was then interrupted on a point of order by Hon. Mr. Prentice, and though he managed to strike at the mover by retorting that the motion was no good, said nothing, meant nothing, and was out-raging time, the honorable provincial secretary stayed with his man and prevented him from discussing the motion when adjournment was the question before the house. The debate was then adjourned until Wednesday.

Hon. Mr. McBride then placed a motion upon the table containing a couple of orders-in-council, dated the 5th of March, regarding mining matters.

Upon a question of privilege, Mr. Martin then undertook to show Attorney-General Kerz that in 1899 the government had introduced night sessions on the second, third and fourth days of the session. Hon. Mr. Turner, however, pointed out that the then government had done so per favor of the opposition, and that when that pressure had been removed for three weeks not a night sitting had been held. Mr. Pooler ended the matter with the reminder across the floor that "chickens come home."

Another matter of privilege was raised by Mr. Smith Curtis, who complained that he had not obtained certain figures regarding the treasury in answer to his questions when the Colonist had. Hon. Mr. Turner replied that he had nothing to do with the Colonist, but that any intelligent newspaper could get figures out of last year's estimates. He had given Mr. Curtis all the information that the questions had called for so far as was possible up to date.

Bills to amend the Official Administration Act and the Bureau of Mines Act, 1890, were then introduced by Attorney-General Kerz and Mr. Martin respectively.

The Jurors' Amending Act then passed the committee stage. This provided for the empanelling juries in Allan, and abolished the old distinctions and rates of pay regarding juries east and west of the Cascades.

The Liquor License bill then occupied the committee, its many sections being slowly passed upon. Amongst the amendments suggested or accepted were the protection of larger houses, which actually accommodated the public or traveler from inroads of small hotels, whose few rooms being about all occupied by the proprietor and his family, made them to all intents and purposes only saloons. The fees already paid under the disallowed act for the last half of this year are to be returned, and payment made at the rate imposed by the new act. The opposition motion to introduce the \$10 fee to accompany applications for licenses occasioned much discussion, but was at last voted down.

To the Evidence Act amendment, Mr. Martin introduced a long amendment, regarding the protection of witnesses giving evidence which might incriminate themselves, providing that reciprocal protection was afforded in the other provinces and by the federal government. As it was not yet printed, the matter stood over until Tuesday next.

Before the house adjourned, Hon. Mr. Turner pointed out that the Railway committee was a long report and asked that Mr. Clifford's name be added. Messrs. Brown Melness and ... all opposed the motion, but after a brief discussion, it was carried.

The Kamloops and Atlin bill was on leave of the house, introduced by Mr. Helmcken and read a first time. The house then adjourned at 5:45 o'clock.

Aug. 8th  
**Provincial  
Legislature**

**A Good Deal of Work Accomplished During Yesterday's Sitting.**

**Mr. Houston Enlivens Proceedings in Committee on License Bill.**

This week was well begun at the legislature yesterday. The order paper has little by little increased in size until it is now a six-page pamphlet, and its contents were undertaken with a good deal of energy and with excellent results. The work was wholly routine and much of the time was spent in committee of the whole, four bills being in that stage. Two of these, the New Westminster Relief Act and the Trustees' Liability Act, were reported complete without discussion, and with out slight amendment, but upon the evidence bill and respecting liquor licenses, a good deal of time was spent. In either case but few changes were made, but the opposition are determined to have some recognition of their struggles, and so have given notice that upon report or third reading they will again press their first amendments. The fact that there are ten lawyers in the assembly doubtless had its effect upon the consideration of so technical a subject as the Evidence Act, and, as in the case of other professions, the lawyers were here found to differ without having a judge to set them right. The liquor license bill took up much more time, its long-drawn draughts affording opportunity for a little flare-up between the present Attorney-General and the past one, as well as having the effect of bringing Mr. John Houston to his feet in general attack upon everyone and everything.

After prayers, the fifth report of the private bills committee was presented, favoring the Western Telegraph and Telephone Company's bill, while the second report of the railways committee treated in like manner the Rock Bay and Salmon River Railway charter. To this latter bill the opposition had made ineffectual efforts in the morning to tack on an anti-Chinese reading test, and also one declaring all provincial privileges determined should the road come under the control of the government of Canada.

An amendment to the Bureau of Mines Act was then introduced by Mr. Martin. This would have the effect of doing away with examinations and giving an open door to all sorts of assayers to register and do business in this province.

The evidence bill was then resumed in committee. The section at issue was one regarding the protection of a witness from the effect of his own incriminating evidence. The leader of the opposition held that the government clause would meet that end from a provincial standpoint, but it would be inoperative against the enactments of the Dominion government. A long and complex amendment was offered by him to meet this criticism, but the Attorney-General doubted its wisdom and preferred to rest upon a clause of like tenor to the Dominion one. After a long professional argument, the government measure was sustained, but the opposition are not satisfied, neither do they appear quite at one with another, as both Mr. Curtis and Mr. Martin have different amendments to offer on the third reading of the bill.

On the resuming of the liquor license bill, the government gave notice of a 25 per cent. raise in the fees for the smaller localities. In localities of from 100 to 200 inhabitants, within a one-mile radius (Mr. Hayward's amendment), a license will now cost \$125, and when the population falls below the 100 mark, \$75 is the fee. Amongst the amendments offered by the opposition was one which, though voted down, will be again introduced by Mr. Brown, to the effect that in all localities where there are more than one hotel the ordinary fee of \$200 shall be collected. The fee for temporary selling in booths was fixed at \$15 for 48 hours. Notice has also been given of amendments to be offered by Mr. Curtis regarding the lodging and stabling accommodations to be required of licensed premises, and another by Mr. Brown regarding the sale of liquor on dining cars and steamers for consumption elsewhere.

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Aug 8

# Provincial Legislature

## The Lieutenant-Governor Gives His Assent to The Jurors' Bill.

## Telegram Announcing Stoppage of Japanese Immigration Read by Premier.

The routine work yesterday afternoon in the legislature was relieved by several little incidents that broke the monotony and at times awakened a little flutter of interest amongst the spectators as well as on the floor of the house. The old and the new Attorney-General crossed words again, the honors going once more to Hon. Mr. Eberts. That the government is not unaffected by the desire to have a short session appeared in their request, which was assented to, that Mr. McPhillips withdraw his Mortgagees' Costs bill. That, whether the heavens fall or not, the present session will not have been abortive is assured from the fact that His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor came down and by consenting to the Jurors' Amendment Act, made that a law: and lastly, after the ruling out of the McInnes labor bill as interfering with the prerogative of the Crown, the labor resolution of Mr. Helmcken was taken up and debated for nearly an hour. Some ten or a dozen bills were also advanced a stage.

After prayers by Rev. Mr. Rowe, the Premier presented the following telegram, which was read and ordered to be printed with the proceedings of the day:

"Vancouver, B. C., Aug. 7, 1900.  
"Hon. Premier Dunsuir, Victoria, B.C.:  
"Yesterday I received a cablegram from my government, to the effect that the local authorities were instructed on the 31st ultimo to prohibit entirely the emigration of Japanese from Japan to Canada, and also to the United States. I hope you will announce this to the legislature. Will confirm by mail."

**"CONSUL SHIMIZU."**  
Chairman Pooley presented the third and fourth reports of the railway committee. They approved of the Vancouver, Northern & Yukon railway bill, and recommended the adoption of the plan of a model bill now before the committee which would facilitate and produce a greater uniformity in legislation.

An amendment to the Official Administrators Act was introduced by the Attorney-General. It provides certain legal machinery for the putting of the main act into practice. The bill was read a first time.

A bill amending the Succession Duties Act was introduced by the Attorney-General and received its first reading. After providing for certain referenda to the Supreme Court for the enforcing of the provisions of the act, changes in the rates of duties are set forth. These fix the duty on estates of over \$25,000, passing to such immediate heirs as parents, grandparents and children and grandchildren to 1 1/2 per cent. up to \$100,000, 2 1/2 per cent. up to \$200,000, and 5 per cent. of estates exceeding

\$200,000 in value. The bill was given its first reading.

Upon the resumption of the Evidence bill, on report of the committee, Mr. Martin persisted in his attempt of the previous day to insert his own, or rather Mr. Smith Curtis' amendments. The effort was made the occasion of a renewal of his attack upon Hon. Mr. Eberts. He complained that that minister would not accept the suggestions, labored over as they had been, of the opposition. While claiming to be reasonable, he essayed to control the house by a brute majority, and imagined that his own sweet will should be supreme. Continuing, he repeated his arguments of the previous day about the section at issue.

The efforts of Mr. Hayward to protect the interests of some of his constituents again drew forth an attack upon Esquimalt from Mr. Martin, whose persistence in that direction is in the corridors often connected with the disheartening reception given him in that section of the province. It also brought Mr. John Houston to his feet, who, to the amusement of the house, strenuously contended that Esquimalt was not in it with Nelson and that its members were of the mossback order. While declaring himself a government man, he warned his leaders not to pay too much attention to "the dear old district." Upon some interruption the member from Nelson made his attacks more general and included Attorney-General Eberts, Mr. Brown and even Mr. McPhillips in his strictures.

The same debate also gave rise to an interchange of compliments between Mr. Martin and the present head of his old department, in which Hon. Mr. Eberts

had the last and probably the most expressive word.

In the New Westminster relief bill, which passed the committee, an amendment offered by Hon. J. H. Turner at the request of that city was accepted, extending the time for the payment of the arrears of taxation offered by the bill from the first to the thirty-first day of October.

The Supreme Court, Rossland Water and Light, Land Registry and Judgments amending bills were all read a third time. The house adjourned at 5:35 o'clock.

Hon. Mr. Eberts expressed his sympathy for the raw feelings of the leader of the opposition because his suggestion had not been adopted. Undoubtedly his alone could be the right ideas, but the present government preferred to act upon the suggestion of the Dominion government rather than follow Mr. Martin's feet amid crude and experimental legislation. The present form of the act met the needs of the province and afforded the protection required.

Mr. Martin—Not in a single instance.

Hon. Mr. Eberts—Well, you may contradict, but you simply do not know. You speak, too, of a brute majority, but what about the session of 1899? What was it that the house witnessed then? Did the government accept a single suggestion of the then opposition? Not one. The ministers had not even the courtesy to listen. They walked out. Amendments were flung back into the faces of the opposition. They would consider nothing, nor even listen.

Mr. Martin—There is not a single fact for the foundation of that.

Hon. Mr. Eberts—Well, those who were there know the facts.

The motion was negatived on the following division:

Yeas—McInnes, Gilmour, Stables, E. C. Smith, Oliver, Brown, Martin, Curtis, R. Smith—9.

Nays—Kidd, Neill, Munro, Green, Hall, McPhillips, Helmcken, Turner, Dunsuir, Eberts, A. W. Smith, Ellison, Clifford, Fulton, Taylor, Prentice, Wells, McBride, Pooley, Murphy, Rogers, Hunter, Tatlow, Dickie, Mounce—25.

The bill was read a third time and passed.

Upon the consideration of the Companies Act in committee, certain amendments of Mr. McPhillips were accepted and the committee rose to sit again.

The Rossland Water and Light Co. bill was passed without amendment by the committee of the whole and read a third time.

Committee work on the early closing of shops bill was completed with a few verbal amendments and report made. The third reading will come on to-day.

His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor then entered the house, and having taken the Speaker's chair, the clerk, Mr. Fell, announced His Honor's assent to the Jurors' Act in the words, "In Her Majesty's name, His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor doth assent to this bill," and the same became law.

The act regarding the qualification of the members for the Sandon city council then passed its third reading without comment.

There was a general turning of chairs as the McInnes labor bill was reached. Its father was about to introduce the measure when Mr. McPhillips asked whether it were in order or not. The bill affecting as it did the hours of labor and the kind of workmen to be employed in so long a list of works might be taken to be as in restriction of trade, and if it were such would be beyond the powers of

the assembly.

Mr. McInnes considered that that point should be decided in the courts and not there.

Hon. Mr. Prentice suggested that it further affected the prerogative of the crown in limiting the hours of labor of the crown's servants.

Numerous authorities were quoted, and at last Mr. Speaker Booth ruled that the bill was out of order on the grounds suggested by Hon. Mr. Prentice. From this decision Mr. McInnes appealed, but the chair was sustained upon the following division:

Yeas—McInnes, Gilmour, Stables, E. C. Smith, Oliver, Brown, Martin, Curtis, R. Smith—8.

Nays—Kidd, Neill, Munro, Hall, McPhillips, Helmcken, Turner, Dunsuir, Eberts, A. W. Smith, Ellison, Clifford, Fulton, Hayward, Garden, Tatlow, Prentice, Wells, McBride, Pooley, Murphy, Rogers, Hunter, Taylor, Dickie, Mounce—26.

Mr. McInnes then pressed for a ruling on Mr. McPhillips' objection, viz., that the bill was one in restraint of trade. Mr. Pooley urged, however, that this was out of order and suggested that Mr. McInnes reintroduce his measure without the clauses which had proved so fatal. This Mr. McInnes did later on.

The Investment and Loan Societies Amending Act was read a second time; and the Mortgagees Costs Act had come up for like treatment when Mr. Hunter intervened with tones of protest. The members had come to this session, he said, to pass the estimates and go

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Some, and yet bills like this lawyers' costs matter were being introduced daily. It was the time of harvest, and 26 members wanted to go, but these matters, which would do just as well next winter. Otherwise the present session would run on into October, and the parliament would sit six months out of the twelve. It would be a good thing for the country to have this lawyers' bill withdrawn.

Mr. Neill followed in similar strain, and urged as a bare protest that if the bill were not withdrawn it be voted down. A good deal had been heard of this fancied agreement that the opposition talked about, but whether or no, the government should be careful and not allow the house to be troubled with bills about lawyers' costs and loan companies and voting machines. These were all down, but he had yet to learn that the people were pining for voting machines. Many of them had had quite enough of voting matters for several years, and would be found ready to forget the subject. Again, this was no ordinary session, and until it ended the work of the departments could not go on, nor could the work which was so much needed throughout the country. If the session dragged on too long the rains would come, and public works could not be prosecuted. He would vote against the bill.

Mr. Eberts suggested that the measure be withdrawn, and after slight objection Mr. McPhillips assented, and the house granted the requisite leave.

The adjourned debate upon Mr. Helmcken's labor resolution was then resumed at the point where Mr. McInnes' anti-Chinese amendment came in. To this amendment Mr. Helmcken objected. However much he might sympathize in its sentiment, he did not think it should be tagged on to everything, and as it had no connection with the subject of his motion, and there was already a standing resolution of the house to cover its end, he would not consent to its being tagged to his resolution.

Mr. Speaker waited for some time, called the question twice, then at the request of a member read the amendment, called the question three times,

and no one rising, rang the division bell. But Mr. Brown wanted to speak on the subject, and persisted that advantage had been taken of him.

The opposition appeared to have been desirous of catching a vote upon the single amendment, but on Mr. Brown pressing for a chance to speak, the house consented to the renewal of the debate, and as it turned out, gave chance for the introducing of a second amendment, thus spoiling the catch-vote.

Mr. Brown spoke for some time upon provincial rights, and then reminded the government members from Vancouver and Hon. Mr. McBride of their pre-election pledges. These he hoped that they would now keep, as 90 per cent. of the people of the province were behind them.

Mr. McPhillips spoke at some length upon the constitutional aspect of the question, and severely attacked the Ottawa government for only adding \$50 to the Chinese entry tax. He pointed to the effect of the policy of the opposition regarding this matter upon the development of the country. Such a policy, hampering in every direction, would, he claimed, seriously retard all progress, and in face of Hon. Mr. Mills' threat, they would do well not to embarrass private bills with such an amendment as this. In its place he would move:

"That if any provincial aid be granted in the way of contributions from the public funds of the province or a grant of crown lands in aid of any public undertaking, that any such aid or grant be conditional upon a contract being entered into by any such person or company receiving aid or the grant of land, that no Chinaman or Japanese be employed upon any such work or undertaking."

Mr. Tatlow supported this last amendment. He was glad to have Mr. Brown remind him of the election pledges, as they reminded him of the plank in Mr. Wilson's platform on which he had been elected and which quite fitted in Mr. McPhillips' amendment. In Mr. Wilson's address they could read: "What should be done in my opinion is: Let the legislature in all acts conferring special privileges so frame the acts that the privileges are not conferred by the act itself, but the lieutenant-governor-in-council is empowered to grant them on such terms and conditions as may be agreed upon. The question thus becomes one of simple contract between the crown and the subject."

Hon. Mr. McBride deprecated the gallery play of the opposition members. This was a very serious question, but they by their daily references were dragging it into the dust. The government had been in power but six or seven weeks, but already more had been done than ever before in this matter, as was shown in the message they had just received from the Japanese authorities. This was a result of the strong and stable policy of the government that had the good of the people at heart and enjoyed their confidence. It had been suggested at the opening of the session that if the government did not act on many questions the opposition would try to do so. And in accordance with this were these many attempts to embarrass the government. However, the government was too broad and considered the matter too seriously to be caught by this sort of chaff. He hoped that the house would treat this as a serious matter and not take it up for cheap notoriety's sake, as men who were making a living out of it. Should the present opposition amendment carry, its effect upon the country might be most injurious, e. g. in the salmon canning business. The matter had not been well considered, however since they might be in their intentions.

Mr. Garden wanted Mr. Brown to understand that in his election pledges he had promised to use his best judgment in all matters, and to that the McInnes resolution did not commend itself. He was sorry to hear Mr. McPhillips state that in this matter they were powerless, as he held they could do a lot, and it might be well done, on the lines set forth by his colleague, Mr. Tatlow.

Mr. Oliver thought from Hon. Mr. McBride's remarks that the United States congress should send their thanks to this government, as the Japanese message affected that country as well as Canada.

Mr. Brown followed in an attack upon Hon. Mr. McBride, whom he accused of gallery play.

Mr. McInnes then made a fiery speech, accusing the government of a hedging policy and of attempting to shut off discussion by all sorts of technicalities. They intended, however, in spite of all to keep at this matter. The subject would never be dropped. It could be treated of under the head of contract and civil rights, as well as by provisions similar to the Natal Act. He doubted, however, whether the government were sincere in the matter, and thought that they intended to do nothing with it this session.

Mr. Ralph Smith then said he wished to speak to the question, and the debate was adjourned and the house, too, at 5:50 p. m.

## Provincial

### LEGISLATURE

#### Order Paper Almost Cleared at Yesterday's Sitting of the House.

#### The Liquor License and Bureau of Mines' Bills Cause Discussion.

Yesterday was private members' day at the legislature, and so well did the members work that by 6 o'clock the order paper was almost cleared. Private and public bills were all advanced, chiefly in the second reading, and committee stages, in which the principles and details came up for discussion respectively. Most of these were unopposed, Liquor License and Bureau of Mines Act arousing the greater amount of the afternoon's discussion, with the result that the latter, Mr. Martin's bill, was thrown out. The opposition gave their earnest also of the desire for a short session, when, amidst considerable applause, Mr. Brown asked that one of his bills be laid over for next session.

After prayers by Rev. E. S. Rowe, the report of the private bills committee, approving of the Crow's Nest Pass Electric Power and Light Co.'s bill, was read and received.

An act to prevent deception in procuring workmen was then introduced by Mr. Smith Curtis, by the provisions of which a right of damages is given to working men brought into a district without having been warned that a strike or lock-out is on. This bill is said to have been suggested by the incidents of the Slocan labor trouble, when miners were brought in by car lots and having refused to work when they found out the condition of things, became a charge upon the unions.

Mr. Brown's bill, also read a first time, provides for the introduction of the referendum principle, if requested, in case of bonuses given to industries by the municipalities.

A bill to amend the Bennett-Atlin Commission Act, 1899, introduced by the Attorney-General, extends the operation of that act over this present year and provides for the taking of another court there by a judge of the Supreme court.

The Vancouver and Western Railway bill was read a second time, Mr. Helmcken pointing out to the house that the clauses regarding a cash deposit of \$5,000 by way of forfeit, and the reading anti-Chinese test, had been inserted in the bill.

Mr. Garden moved the second reading of the Vancouver charter amending and consolidating bill, reporting that the bill was in the same state as when reported to the parliament last session. It was very necessary that the amendments of recent years should be consolidated and certain further changes made as now appeared in the bill. Besides these, however, there were some other sections which the municipal council for that city desired to have inserted.

Mr. Martin then attacked the practice of giving cities separate charters. They would be much better off under the general act, as this uniformity would be secured, and a great deal of expense and trouble obviated. In Manitoba, Winnipeg and other cities had received charters, but after some time their utility had appeared and all had been swept away, so that now all the cities came under the general act. In Ontario, too, so far as he knew, there were no charters, while in England charters had of course been granted at a time when no general act existed. He hoped that they would disappear here, but of course would not oppose the measure, as it was needed.

Mr. Helmcken pointed out that this step had been recommended three years ago by the municipal committee.

Hon. Mr. Eberts recalled the circumstances under which the charter had been granted. It had been urged then that the general act should suffice, but the springing up of the city had been so sudden that special conditions were thought to demand a charter. He remembered that Mr. Kitchin, of Chilliwack, had for years advocated that Vancouver and New Westminster should be placed under the general act. He would not think, however, of opposing the measure, as certainly the Vancouver acts needed consolidating. The second reading was then passed.

The Hastings Mill Railway bill then came up. Already Mr. Garden explained five miles of rails had been laid and a couple of locomotives and a lot of cars were in service. The B. C. Mill T. & T. Co., however, wished to extend it some 20 miles further to Campbell Lake and so were seeking a charter. The bill passed its second reading without further comment.



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The Western Telegraph and Telephone Co. Price Ellison stated, were bona fide people, with an up-to-date line running right across his riding. Already they had expended \$60,000 and had got in the best system in the world. They wanted to come down to the Coast, and were ready to submit themselves to the municipalities through which they might pass. It would be a fine step in the interest of trade to give this direct communication with the mining towns, and he thought they deserved a charter of the government. The second reading carried unanimously.

The Vancouver, Northern and Yukon, or, as they now wish to call it, the Vancouver, Westminster, Northern and Yukon, Mr. Garden stated, wanted to build a line by way of Seymour creek and Pemberton Meadows to open up the country to the north. This explanation was deemed sufficient and the bill was read a second time.

The liquor license bill was then taken up in committee-of-the-whole. First came Mr. Curtis' question regarding accommodation for the public in licensed houses. In support of it the member for Rosland alleged that an indifferent service was often found in hotels because of the existence of a lot of little houses which were practically only saloons, and diverted sufficient of the trade to spoil the business of the more pretentious places. Hon. Mr. Eberts complained that this might mean confiscation, and might in many cases simply crowd out the pioneers of the trade in young and growing places. The act as it stands did not aim at the building up of groceries, as the opposition claimed, but it must be remembered that many premises had been constructed under the old act and a change such as that suggested might work a great deal of hardship. He was quite sure that Mr. Curtis sought the best interest of his district and he did not wish to act harshly in not accepting his suggestion, but he thought in all fairness the present section might be tried for a year.

Mr. Martin then repeated his attack of a previous day upon the Attorney-General, charging him with riding rough-shod over the country and relying upon a brute force majority. From the Attorney-General he turned to what he called the "miserable little constituency" of Esquimalt, with its 310 voters, where the only hope of the licensed victuallers was to sell as much whisky as possible. In Mr. Eberts' reply even more vigorous references than on the last occasion were made to the days of 1899, when Mr. Martin, as attorney-general, had dominated the house. On that occasion he had approved of the section as a part of his own model act. After a little more discussion, the amendment was put and carried.

Mr. Martin then suggested that "the four bed rooms" mentioned in the act as it stood be exclusive of those used by the family and servants of the house, and an amendment to that effect was carried.

Mr. Hayward then brought up his Esquimalt case again by moving an amendment stating that in the enumeration of the locality for the fixing of the license for Her Majesty's forces of the army and navy on full pay should not be included. This led to a division, which stood 13 to 12 in favor of the amendment, but a mistake in the counting led to a second vote, when one member switched, and the matter was lost by one vote.

Mr. Hayward will continue his fight on the third reading of the bill, having given notice that he will then press his amendment again.

The steamboat and dining car trade was then brought up on Mr. Brown's amendment. This was to meet the case of sale of liquors to be taken off for consumption elsewhere. Mr. Munro discussed it favorably from the standpoint of prohibition in Chilliwack, while Mr. Neill considered that it would cause more harm than good on the West Coast. Mr. McPhillips also opposed the alteration and occasioned a great deal of fun by trying to take Mr. Brown's remark seriously, that he (Mr. McPhillips) stood up for free Chinese, free Japanese and free whisky. This led Mr. Brown to spoil his own joke by attempting to speak to its text, and the question being put the amendment was lost. A suggestion of Mr. Neill's led to the adoption of a uniformity of penalties under the act, and with some minor amendments the report was considered adopted complete.

The land registry amendments were then considered. These provided for the registration of plans in duplicate and some other details of a technical nature.

The technical amendments to the Official Administrators Act were then given their second reading and passed.

Mr. Curtis explained his amendments to the Mechanics Lien Act, which then passed their second reading. The chief amongst these was to give relief to the material men by fully protecting the rights of the worker. At Mr. Helmcken's suggestion the matter was adjourned to look into the status of the other provinces on this point.

Mr. Martin read the second reading of his current business amendment bill. This was intended to afford protection to assayers practicing in the province before April, 1899, similar to that given to the professions of law and medicine and others.

Mr. Neill, the father of the act, objected to the change. Assaying was not a profession, and a great deal of harm had resulted from indifferent men practicing the craft. In the case of the professions, recognized qualification had already been required, but this amendment simply let anyone in who might have been pottering at it 18 months ago. The examination was not a difficult one, indeed, first-class assayers held that it was far too easy and urged the raising of the standard. A few had been plucked at it, but these were chiefly young men just coming on, and most of them on trying a second time had got through. Already 28 had passed and these with 14 other leading assayers of the province who had given notice that they would come up for examination, deserved some consideration. He thought the amendment was intended to let in incompetent men who feared even an easy examination in their craft. He hoped the house would vote down the amendment.

Hon. Mr. McBride illustrated the need of a good standard in this craft by the results in surveying where men practicing before a certain date had been let in, with the result that abortive surveys were now giving a great deal of trouble. Two years' notice was being given so that no injustice was being given by the present act, while the complaint that its provisions forced everyone to come to Victoria was being met by the holding of examinations at Nelson.

The bill was voted down.  
The house then adjourned at 5:10 o'clock.

# Provincial Legislature

## Passed Today For Increase on Chinese Entrance Tax

## Game Bill Killed—Discussion on Labor Arbitration and Conciliation

After the opening prayers by Rev. E. S. Rowe, at the legislature yesterday, Hon. Mr. Turner presented a petition from the Phoenix board of trade in favor of the Grand Forks and Kettle River Railway Co.'s bill. Mr. Helmcken also presented four different petitions regarding the game law coming from Messrs. C. F. Newcombe, F. B. Pemberton, F. R. Gorer, G. E. Powell and R. H. Breeds, respectively. All were unanimously signed.

The Hon. Mr. McBride presented a return of all hydraulic leases granted since 1st January, 1898, in the Atlin district, with names of lessees, dates of application, name of creek or river, with location of ground on it covered by each lease; also name of applicant and lessee still in abeyance or withheld; also return of applications for water leases, number of inches applied for in each case, those granted and those in abeyance.

The Labor Regulation Act, 1900, was then introduced by Mr. Helmcken and read a first time. This regulates the employment of laborers upon works carried on under franchises granted by private acts by prohibiting, with certain exceptions, persons who cannot read the act from working thereon.

Mr. Oliver's amendments to the Municipal Clause Act were introduced and read a first time, also Mr. McInnes' further act relating to labor. This last is a repetition of his former bill, without, however, the clause relating to government works.

Mr. Brown moved, seconded by Mr. Oliver, for a return showing the number of ballot papers actually issued to voters in each riding of the province at the general election held on the 9th day of June, 1900.

This was carried. On the adjourned debate of the second reading of the mechanics lien bill Mr. Helmcken stated that he had over night looked into the matter and having satisfied himself that the workmen were properly protected, he approved of the bill.

Mr. McPhillips would not oppose the bill, but he thought the long discussion which it involved might well be stood over for next session. Should the opposition go on introducing measures in this way he would be quite justified in re-introducing his bill about lawyers' bills of costs.

Mr. Brown would not oppose the measure, although he considered it a very dangerous step to admit the material men at all. The mover, however, assured him that the rights of the laborer were given due priority and that there were other important provisions contained in his amendment. It was a matter upon which he had bestowed much care in the past. He had introduced the original bill in 1891, but had not all the details of the matter in his mind at present, and as the discussion would occupy much time he would be glad to see it stood over until next session.

Mr. Hunter advised the house to take the matter quietly. They would do well to leave these matters in, pass the estimates without delay and go home at once, leaving the bills on the order paper for next session.

Attorney-General Eberts reminded the house that this amendment simply went back to the original bill of 1898, which gave a lien to the material man after giving a proper priority to the workmen. In 1891 Mr. Brown came in and with many petitions and a long discussion, attacked the right given to the material men. Now, however, his opinions were changed, he may have forgotten many of the details, but he did at least recognize his old mistake. In 1891, when Mr. Brown had not indeed fathered the act, as he had only tried to amend it, it had been shown that the giving of a right of lien to the material men favored the smaller contractors and builders by giving them increased credit and so helping them to get along. Taking away this lien, however, helped out the big contractors at their expense. He favored the second reading of the bill.



This reading was then carried. Mr. Hall's bill respecting investment and loan societies was again stood over. The second reading of the game amendment followed. Mr. McInnes explained the changes, viz., a minimum penalty of \$50, the prevention of the carrying of firearms by boys under 16 years of age, the prohibition of keeping game in cold storage houses during the close season, and the limiting of the opening of the season for hen pheasants, quail and other closed game by orders-in-council until September, 1902.

After a short protest from Mr. McPhillips regarding the bill's being in order or not, Mr. Oliver ridiculed its changes. For a farmer to be fined \$50 because one of his boys mistook the sex of a pheasant was altogether unreasonable, and as to the stopping of boys carrying guns, the small boys were the best hunters in Delta, where a lad of 13 summers had even shot a bear.

Mr. Neill declared the game law the most contentious of all measures. If any were to be kept out of the session, surely this one should. For that reason, and not because he opposed its contents at all, he would move the six months' hoist.

This brought Mr. Martin to his feet. He was opposed to game laws, but was more opposed to such treatment as Mr. Neill suggested. The house could not be bound by any arrangement such as had been suggested regarding contentious matters, and nobody had any right to shut off discussion in this way. The members were here to serve their country, and if the making of game laws was part of that duty then let game laws be made.

Attorney-General Eberts pointed out that the measure was not very well considered. The matter of boys and firearms was already provided for in a special act for some time on the statute book; neither did he see that people should be prohibited from keeping game in storage for their subsequent use. The game law had been well discussed in 1896, when he had prepared the present act, and was still an excellent measure. If it needed any alteration it was worth while considering whether they should do as had been already done in some parts, that is to stop the sale of game entirely, and so put an end to not hunting.

The house then divided and on a vote of 20 to 14 the bill was killed.

The adjourned debate upon the Regulation of Labor was then resumed. Mr. Helmcken's resolution ran:

"That in the opinion of this house all government contracts should contain such conditions as will prevent abuses which may arise from the sub-letting of such contracts, and that every effort should be made to secure the payment of such wages as are generally accepted as current in each trade for competent workmen and for laborers in the district where the work is carried out; and it is hereby resolved that the work to which the foregoing policy shall apply includes not only work undertaken by the government itself, but also all works aided by a grant of provincial public funds, and all works carried on under franchises granted by the government, and that the aforesaid policy shall be forthwith applied to every department of the public service and to all parties now performing services for the government."

And the addition by Mr. McInnes: "Also that in all contracts, leases and concessions of whatsoever kind entered into or made by the government, provision be made that no Chinese or Japanese shall be employed in connection therewith."

And the amendment to the amendment by Mr. McPhillips:

"That if any provincial aid be granted in the way of contributions from the public funds of the province, or a grant of crown lands in aid of any public undertaking, that any such aid or grant be conditional upon a contract being entered into by any such person or company receiving aid or the grant of lands, that no Chinese or Japanese be employed upon any such work or undertaking."

Mr. Ralph Smith had the floor from the adjournment. He had seconded the original motion to which the two additions had been moved. One of these was more sweeping than the other, and both had his sympathy. He did not propose, however, to rush blindly to the support of any anti-Chinese cry, and if it could be shown that either of these were not within the powers and jurisdiction of the assembly, or would have a revolutionary effect to the prejudice of the industries of the country, he would not support them. Otherwise he was both pledged and prepared to support any measure in regard to this sub-

ject. Mr. McPhillips had discussed the constitutional side of the question, but had not made out a case against Mr. McInnes' amendment. A resolution such as this be regarded as an instruction of the house to the executive council. It did not necessitate legislation, as Mr. McPhillips had contended, but contemplated and directed the insertion of certain conditions in contracts made by the government.

It was the duty of the house to do all they could upon this Chinese question, paying due regard to the industries of the province. It was quite useless to pass fault-finding resolutions, and in their stead unanimous opinions should be expressed. If a faction stood out upon such a subject as this, there was no hope that the Dominion government would come to their aid and relieve white labor from the competition of a cheaper sort. Mr. McPhillips complained that the Dominion government was negligent, but that did not excuse him from his duty to the public. If they could not do one thing they certainly might try to do some other pointing towards the same end. If he considered that this resolution would jeopardize the industry of the province he would oppose it, but as it did not seem to him to do so, he hoped all would join him in its support. One thing was necessary above all others, and that was that they should be unanimous about it.

Mr. Curtis expressed his surprise at Mr. McPhillips' stand. With one breath he shouted ultra vires, and with the next moved a very similar though less far-reaching measure, which, however, did not go so far as Mr. Charles Wilson's suggestion. The thanks of the country were due to Mr. Helmcken for bringing up this matter, and though he had not consented to the amendment, it could not be overlooked that the stand-and-wage idea struck keenly against cheap Chinese labor. He wished to remind him, however, that on May 5, in his speech the words occurred "that he would legislate so as to give British labor the preference." Some of the members spoke of being tired of the question, but it was a question which would never die until it was settled. Much could be done by the people themselves. If they refused to employ yellow labor it would be driven out, as was happening in Greenwood to-day. He hoped that the government would not make it a party measure, but would withdraw the McPhillips amendment, and, taking time if necessary, pass a strong measure which would satisfy the country and have some effect at Ottawa too.

It was most satisfactory to British Columbia that the Premier was taking the Chinese out of his mines.

So far as the Japanese message was concerned, that arose out of the exigencies of the war, and not from the Queen's speech, as Hon. Mr. McBride

had suggested, and everybody knew that it might be abrogated to-morrow.

Hon. Mr. McBride then rose to reply. The other day they had passed severe strictures upon his remark regarding the Japanese message. They had twisted his words out of their true meaning. Upon a protest from Mr. Brown, however, he was not allowed to go on, having already spoken once to the question. The Minister of Mines then sat down, with the words that doubtless the gentlemen opposite were afraid to hear the truth from his lips.

Mr. Gilmour told the house that the opposition were not afraid a bit, but that they considered the minister's remarks very far-fetched. He thought all the members should unite in upholding provincial rights, and even if this house could do nothing to stop the Chinese from coming in, they might very well strive to stop them from working. It might indeed be one of the matters in that Hotel Vancouver agreement, but his colleagues from Vancouver were all bound by the Wilson platform, and into this Mr. McInnes' amendment just fitted.

Hon. Mr. Turner followed. He was much struck by Mr. Ralph Smith's reference to the possible effects of Mr. McInnes' amendment upon the industries of the province. He understood Mr. Smith to say that he would not support any resolution or act that was of a revolutionary character in the direction of injuring the trade or industries of the country, and he thought that Mr. McInnes' amendment was not at all of such a character, but in this he (Mr. Turner) could not agree. Mr. McInnes' amendment affected contracts, leases and concessions. Canneries were often built upon leased property, and the passage of this amendment would stop them from employing Chinese in all their operations. Take the timber leases—under such legislation as Mr. McInnes proposes, the timber industry would be paralyzed.

Then the important industry of salmon canning, employing directly and indirectly thousands of white men, many canneries being on leased lands. This great business would be destroyed. One member of the opposition had said that he would rather see the fish run up and down the rivers than have the Chinese employed in packing them. Think of the effect upon the British food supply. As many as 1,000,000 cases of British Columbia salmon had been sent to Great Britain in a single year, providing for the use of the millions of Europe many thousand tons of wholesome and cheap food yearly. Taking a good year's pack, at, say, 800,000 cases, the amount of Chinese wages on such a pack would be about \$400,000, one-half at least of which would be spent in the province, whilst the amount paid out to white men and Indians as wages and for boxes and other supplies in the province would be at least two million dollars. Now this expenditure depended entirely on being able to pack at a cheap rate. Stop this and the industry stops. If men could be got from the East, where they work for less than is paid to Chinamen here—

Mr. Curtis—You advocate cheap labor in British Columbia, then?

Hon. Mr. Turner—Well, twist my words just as you like. I know what I am talking about. This is an industry that cannot be carried on unless the packing can be done at present prices. Take that away and you kill the whole thing and sweep \$2,000,000 a year out of white men's pockets. Is not this sufficiently revolutionary?

Again, the amendment covers concessions. These are given by acts of the legislature, and the moment anti-Chinese clauses are inserted we have been warned that disallowance will follow. This is quite revolutionary.

Certain gentlemen have cried, Re-enact, Re-enact, Re-enact, but what does that mean? Simply the putting off of the Chinese difficulty for years. Now, the government I may say proposes to prevent the employment of Chinese throughout this province wherever they are not necessary. This will be the result of Mr. McPhillips' amendment. His amendment may be carried out, but the other is almost certain to result in disallowance and consequent failure. It is quite easy to see which is the better and more statesmanlike. One carries with it a certain definite prohibition; the other may possibly amount to nothing. It is said, of course, that this is but a bare instruction, and may not be always fulfilled, but instructions should be fulfilled. Only such resolutions should be passed as the government can carry out.

Upon a vote being taken, the McInnes amendment was lost by 24 to 12, the division standing as follows: Aye—Messrs. McInnes, Gilmour, Stables, E. C. Smith, Oliver, Neill, Brown, Martin, Curtis, Munro, Green, K. Smith—12.

Nays—Kidd, Hall, McPhillips, Helmcken, Turner, Dunsmuir, Eberts, A. W. Smith, Ellison, Clifford, Fulton, Hayward, Garden, Tatlow, Prentice, Wells, McBride, Pooley, Murphy, Rogers, Hunter, Taylor, Dickie, Mounce—24.

Mr. McPhillips' amendment was then accepted, and with the motion was passed without a dissenting vote.

The debate upon the restriction of Chinese immigration, also adjourned from the 1st instant, was then resumed. Like the preceding question, it was founded upon a resolution and two amendments, both of them offered in substitution of the original motion.

Mr. Tatlow had moved:

Resolved, that after repeated resolutions and addresses of this assembly, the government of Canada in 1885 introduced and carried an act to restrict and regulate Chinese immigration into Canada, the principal provisions of said act being: A poll tax on landing of \$50; no vessel to carry more than one Chinese to every 50 tons of its tonnage; every Chinese person who wished to leave Canada, with the intention of returning thereto, on giving notice of such intention to the controller at the port of place whence he proposed to sail or depart, and surrendering to the said officer his certificate of entry or of residence, to receive in lieu thereof, on payment of a fee of \$1, a certificate of leave to depart and return;

That in 1887 this act was amended and improved by the parliament of Canada;

That in 1892 the act was further amended;

That after experience the act of 1885 was found to be ineffective for the purposes intended;

That in 1896, during the general elections for the Dominion parliament, the present prime minister of Canada, the then leader of the opposition in the House of Commons of Canada, gave an assurance in the following telegram, which was immediately published at public meetings and in the press of this province:

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"Montreal, May 25, 1896.  
 "Chinese immigration restriction not a question in the East; views of the Liberals in the West will prevail with me."  
 (Signed) WILFRID LAURIER."

That until the year 1900 no action was taken by the Right Hon. Sir Wilfrid Laurier to meet the views of the Liberals of the West, who, in common with the majority of the people, were alarmed by the growing and ever-increasing injury due to the steady influx of the Chinese into British Columbia;

That legislation of this province, intended to ameliorate to some extent the condition of labor other than that of the Mongolian race, has been disallowed by His Excellency the Governor-General, on the advice of the present Dominion government;

This house in 1897 resolved:  
 "That an humble address be presented by this house to the Lieutenant-Governor, praying him to move the Dominion government to take into consideration the desirability of increasing the per capita tax on Chinese coming into the Dominion, and urging that in the opinion of this house three-fourths of all moneys received in British Columbia ports from the present tax, or (if such tax be increased) three-fourths of such revenue so increased, should be paid to this province, as the chief injury from the presence of the Chinese is sustained by the Province and not by the Dominion."

That this house has learned with deep regret that, instead of adopting an effective measure of protection against Chinese immigration, the Canadian parliament has this year adopted what is, under the circumstances, a purely revenue bill, known as "The Chinese Immigration Act, 1900," the chief provisions of which are to increase the per capita tax on Chinese coming into the Dominion from \$50 to \$100, and that one-fourth part of the net proceeds of all taxes paid by Chinese immigrants shall be paid to that province wherein they are collected;

That an humble address be presented by this house to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, praying him to advise His Excellency the Governor-General of Canada that this house is of opinion that the "Chinese Immigration Act, 1900," is unsatisfactory, disappointing, and wholly fails to meet the exigencies of the situation.

Mr. Brown's amendment stated:  
 "That it is the duty of this house, in dealing with the question of Oriental immigration, to cast aside all considerations of party and political partizanship, and to take such action as will demonstrate to the world how vital and far-reaching the question really is;

"That an humble address be presented to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, praying him to advise His Excellency the Governor-General of Canada that in the opinion of this house the 'Chinese Immigration Act, 1900,' will prove wholly inadequate even to appreciably check the tide of Chinese immigration, while it leaves the even more threatening influx of Japanese absolutely unrestrained; and further to advise His Excellency that it is the settled conviction of this house that, unless Chinese and Japanese immigration be promptly and effectually checked, not only will laborers and artisans of Europe be driven from the province, but all trades and industries other than those exclusively, or almost exclusively, engaged in manufacturing for export the raw material of the province, will pass into the hands of Chinese and Japanese."

While Mr. Helmcken proposed as a substitute:

"Whereas resolutions have been passed by this house from time to time requesting the Dominion government to increase the poll tax on Chinese immigrants into Canada;

"And whereas the Dominion government has passed an act, known as the 'Chinese Immigration Act, 1900,' increasing the poll tax from the sum of \$50 to the sum of \$100;

Be it resolved that, in the opinion of this house, the said act is ineffective and inadequate to prevent Chinese immigration into Canada;

"Be it further resolved that an humble address be presented to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, requesting him to respectfully urge upon the Dominion government that the effective mode of dealing with the question of restricting Mongolian immigration into Canada would be by either increasing the amount of the per capita tax to the sum of \$500, or by the passing of an act based on the lines of the Natal Act, known as the 'Immigration Restriction Act, 1897.'"

Mr. Helmcken made the only speech to the question. He wished always to act consistently in this matter and in the past had believed in the good effects of conciliation. By acting harmoniously and keeping the question, as far as possible, from party politics, he hoped at least that what was the desire of practically everyone on this question would be attained. It would do no good to censure the Premier of Canada, while by reasserting the principles of the standing resolution of the house on this matter, some good might be attained. Amongst other things the Imperial authorities had advised that:

"There was no difference between Her Majesty's government and that of British Columbia, as regards the object aimed at by these laws, viz., to insure that the Pacific province of the Dominion shall be occupied by a large and thoroughly British population, rather than by one in which the number of aliens largely predominates, and many of the distinctive features of a settled British community are lacking; and further:

"The exclusion of Japanese subjects either from the province or from employment on public or quasi-public works in this province by the operation of an educational test such as is embodied in the Natal immigration law is not a measure

to which the government of Japan can take exception. If the particular test in that law is not regarded as sufficient, there is no reason why a more stringent and effective one of a similar character should not be adopted, so long as the disqualification is not based specifically on distinction of race or color.

Now when the matter had been before the Commons at Ottawa he had himself wired to Sir Wilfrid Laurier, urging the total exclusion of these peoples. Of course that had not been effected, and no doubt all were disappointed when they heard that only \$50 more had been added to the tax. However, this was in the right direction. From the customs office he had learned that in 1897-8-9 there had been 7,367 Chinese immigrants enter this province and 12,106 Japanese. In the first half of the present year there had been 2,440 and 7,875 more, while since the 1st July 452 and 894 had arrived in addition, making 2,892 Chinese and 8,769 Japanese. From a constitutional standpoint they might not be able to deal directly with this subject, but they could do something in its direction. The old \$500 tax recommendation should be again urged and the hands of their friends in the East strengthened, while all the time the balance of the Canadian people could be educated upon the question. It had been urged that what Australia could do, this province could do likewise. However, that was not so. Still from Australia help might be obtained. Their Commonwealth Act contained an immigration clause similar to that in the B. N. A. Act. Their joint committee had advocated Chinese exclusion, and so from the Antipodes a like appeal would be heard at Westminster, with that from here. So much for the original motion.

With regard to the amendment of the member from New Westminster, he would not support it. He did not like it. He desired to create sympathy and not to antagonize. To take the half cake nicely might lead to getting the whole loaf.

Mr. Brown then obtained leave to withdraw his amendment in favor of Mr. Helmcken's.

A suggestion to substitute Chinese and Japanese for Mongolian in the wording of the measure was after a few minutes' discussion dropped, and on the questions being put, Mr. Helmcken's amendment was passed unanimously.

The anti-Chinese resolutions having been thus disposed of, Mr. Ralph Smith's motion regarding the arbitration of labor disputes was taken up. This too had lain over for a week, and was worded as follows:

"That, considering the unsatisfactory nature of the present act intitled 'An act to provide for the formation, from time to time, as disputes may arise, of councils of labor conciliation and arbitration,' Chapter 109, Revised Statutes, 1897, to accomplish said purposes as expressed in title, and in consideration of the labor disputes occurring repeatedly, which ought to be immediately settled for the public good, and inasmuch as said act would involve the expenditure of public moneys, and cannot, therefore, be presented to this house by any private member, that this house urges the necessity of such provision as above as soon as practicable."

Mr. Turner had the floor. The government, he stated, considered this matter to be a most important one, but the circumstances of this session were such that action could not well be taken at

this stage. Years ago they had recognized the matter by bringing in the act now on the books, and under it considerable data had been collected. That measure had not proved satisfactory, however, principally it may have been from political reasons. The government, however, was prepared to take it up again during the recess, with a view to bringing down an act next session, and he wished to assure the house that the matter would receive the utmost attention at their hands.

Upon this and in consideration of the experimental action of the Dominion government now going on, Mr. Ralph Smith expressed his willingness to withdraw the resolution, stating that he was satisfied with the pledge just given by the Minister of Finance.

Mr. Brown, however, opposed this. The Minister had not been sufficiently definite, and had said nothing about the "compulsory" side of this question. They might only go over the present act, which he claimed had never been any good. He took a lot of interest in this subject and would have prepared an act or at least a resolution on it himself before letting it drop out altogether in this way. Upon the subject a great difference of opinion existed. The acts of Australia and New Zealand differed too in the matter, and it was only right that the house should know what stand the government was going to take.

Mr. Curtis supported Mr. Brown, adding that it was not fair to cut off discussion in this way.

Mr. Hunter wanted to know what right the little handful of opposition had to lay down a policy for the government? They should wait until the government brought in their measure, and if it did not suit they might amend it, if they could. It was absurd for them to talk that way, although in Mr. Brown's case it was just what was to be expected. He never missed a chance to glorify himself before the house.

Mr. Green thought that Mr. Hunter had the right end of the argument. It was quite time enough for the opposition to find fault when the measure was brought down, and all this present talk was simply to try to make capital for themselves. The house had received the assurance of the government on this matter and surely that was sufficient.

Hon. Mr. McBride reminded Mr. Brown that he had served his country before for four years, but while claiming then to be the champion of labor, he could show little results for all his professions.

Leave was then granted and the resolution was withdrawn.

The liquor license bill was then read a third time in spite of a final effort of Mr. Brown's to check its course so that he could get in a couple of amendments, which had already been negatived by the house.

The house then adjourned at 5:35 o'clock.

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## Provincial Legislature

**Mr. Justice Martin to Be Sent  
North to the Mining  
Districts.**

**Mr. Tatlow's Bill Aimed at Re-  
striction of Chinese Is  
Introduced.**

Yesterday was a routine day at the assembly, the monotony of the formal staging of bills and similar exercises being only relieved by a visit from His Honor Sir Henri Joly, and a brief but interesting debate upon the situation in the Atlin country. The Lieutenant-Governor gave assent to several bills, and the Atlin question arose over the bill to send in a commissioner to straighten out the tangled titles to many of the mining claims, as had been done a year ago. During the discussion Attorney-General Eberts announced that Mr. Justice Martin would go up to take this work, and that the first sitting of the court at Atlin would be held on the 29th instant.

Rev. E. S. Rowe having read prayers, a couple of petitions came up. That from Phoenix, in favor of the Grand Forks & Kettle River railway was ruled out for not complying with the required formalities. The five others, regarding the game law, were received and ordered to be printed.

In the absence of Mr. Tatlow, Mr. Garden, of Vancouver, introduced the bill to regulate immigration, and Chinese immigration in particular, into this province. This provides for the issuance of an immigrant's license upon a writing test, and prohibits, on the penalty of \$500 fine, all unlicensed immigrants to reside or carry on trade, or to vote, or to work in the mines within the province. The bill was read a first time.

In committee of the whole upon the Land Registry Act amendments, some discussion ensued upon the fees charged for registering a lis pendens. Often these had included a percentage of the value of the interests concerned in the claim out of which the lis pendens arose, which was held to be a hardship, especially in mining lawsuits where large sums might possibly be concerned. The bill, however, was reported complete without amendment in this regard.

A like discussion came up over the committee work of the Judgments bill, regarding the costs and expense of re-registering judgments, but this matter was stood over for further consideration.

The technical amendments to the Official Administrators Act were accepted and the report of the committee adopted.

Mr. Curtis objected to the grading of the rates in the Succession Duties Act, and Mr. Neill pointed out how much lower they were in the bill than in England, but the system of the rating and the rates per cent. were both retained, and the report passed.

On the second reading of the Bennett-Atlin commission bill, Attorney-General Eberts pointed out that exceptional powers had been granted in the act of last year, and that it was proposed in committee on this bill to limit these. However, the titles of many claims were still in dispute, owing to re-staking time and time again. It was hoped that at an early day regular courts would be established there, and the administration of these districts be carried on upon the usual lines.

Mr. Martin would not oppose the reading, but he considered that Atlin should not now meet with such exceptional treatment. People up there seemed to have a mania for jumping claims and then expect such extraordinary remedies for their troubles. This act almost encouraged them in this form of madness, whereas they ought now to be in a position to work along under the ordinary laws of the land. The granting of such extraordinary powers to a single judge, and that without right of appeal, too, would work to the disadvantage of the district, he thought, in arousing the suspicions of possible investors in the mining properties of that part of the province. It

was a great hardship when property worth millions perhaps was at stake, to lose it without any right to appeal from the decision of a single judge. He knew what these decisions were worth and how utterly frivolous some of these judgments were. An appeal was often necessary to get anywhere near what was right.

Hon. Mr. Eberts then explained that it was in the Porcupine district that the commission was most needed at present. The boundary line had for some time been uncertain, but now it was approximately located. Between it and the 60th parallel lay the Porcupine, where numerous claims had been staked under the American system, as well as that of this province. Thus matters had become very much mixed. Indeed, Mr. Graham had advised the government that the condition of matters was quite as bad as that in Atlin last season. It might be wise, perhaps, to confine the working of the commission to this particular section, although a good deal of trouble over quartz claims was also existent in Atlin itself.

Mr. Clifford did not know anything personally of the Porcupine country, but had no doubt there was a lot of trouble there. The American and the British Columbia placer claims differed in size, which would also tend to make matters worse. There was plenty of trouble, however, in Atlin itself and he hoped a judge would be sent there soon. Last year it had been placer jumping, and this year the mineral claims (quartz) were being so treated. The tying up of titles was doing a great deal of harm in keeping back work. He knew one case, that of the Yellow Jacket, where a 5-stamp mill would have been working but for the prohibition resulting from this trouble. These things could not be straightened out by the Gold Commissioner, and he thought a judge should be sent up there without delay. From what he had heard, however, it might take the whole of the season for a judge to straighten out the trouble in the Porcupine.

Mr. Stables supported the bill if amended as Attorney-General Eberts suggested. Otherwise he would not have accepted it. Things had changed in Atlin since last year. Then the extraordinary powers had been absolutely necessary, and they had been most satisfactorily exercised by Mr. Justice Irving. Of course some people had not been satisfied, but that was inevitable, and all united in praising the straightforward dealings of the Judge. At present the troubles in Atlin were only those of any other mining district, and could be dealt with quite well by the ordinary courts. He thought it would be very unwise to send a judge up there this year with such powers as Mr. Justice Irving had exercised last year, although the boundary troubles in the Porcupine district might make it quite necessary there. In Atlin, however, the miners were relying upon the general law and attempting to abide by it, and so did not require a judge who was untrammelled by its procedure. He hoped as little delay as possible would occur in the sending of a judge.

Attorney-General Eberts then explained that the government had been pressing the matter as much as possible. It had been necessary to amend the Jurors Act before the court could be held, otherwise a jury would have had to be taken from Vancouver. This had now been done and the government had arranged to send Mr. Justice Martin up to take the court, which would begin to sit in Atlin on the 29th instant.

Mr. Clifford then gave his opinion that a right of appeal should exist in all cases coming before the court.

Hon. Mr. McBride spoke of the interest he took in the Atlin country, and so in this and all questions connected with it. For once, too, he was glad to find Mr. Martin's ideas in line with what was right in the premises. The general mineral law was, he thought, ample for the needs of that country to-day, although it must not yet be overlooked that Atlin was 1,000 miles away and for half the year reached with some difficulty. Last year the commission had achieved excellent results, but the responsibility of such extraordinary powers was enormous too. However, the matter would receive careful consideration. The government was fully impressed with the needs of the case and would strive to meet them. If, as Mr. Clifford suggested, the troubles in the Porcupine country would take all the season for a commissioner, it might be necessary to send up two officials to cover all the ground.

The bill then passed its second reading. His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor having entered the house, and being seated in the chair, Mr. Fell, the clerk of the house, read the title to the following bills:

(No. 3) An act to amend the law respecting the liability of trustees.

(No. 5) An act respecting liquor licenses.

(No. 6) An act to amend the "New Westminster Relief Act, 1890."

And announced the following: "In Her Majesty's name, His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor doth assent to these bills. Sir Henri then bowed thrice, once to Mr.

Speaker, once to the house and once to the clerk. The bills having thus become laws, His Honor retired.

The mechanics lien law was then taken up in committee. After a little discussion, during which the Attorney-General twitted Mr. Brown very ably over his change of opinion on the matter of affording any protection whatever to the men supplying material for the work, progress was reported and leave given to sit again.

Hon. Mr. Turner then explained that as the work of the day was well advanced and several important deputations were waiting to interview the ministry, an adjournment was in order.

After a little humorous discussion upon having their pictures taken, which ended in the fixing upon Tuesday at 1:50 p.m., for that function, the formal motion was put and the house adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

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## Provincial Legislature

### Hayward's Resolution Against Fraudulent Naturalization Passes the House

### Proposed Amendments to Rail- way Bill Killed in Com- mittee of Whole.

Yesterday was a dull day at the legislature. The order paper was loaded down with routine work, and item after item was successfully worried through, little of moment or interest occurring to mark their progress. Mr. Hayward's resolution concerning the alleged irregularities in the wholesale naturalization of Japanese fishermen occasioned some debate before being carried, as also did the railway charter amendments of the member from Rossland before they began to be lost.

Prayers were read by the Rev. W. D. Barber, after which reports were presented (1) from the printing committee, recommending the printing of the return of correspondence relating to the Steveston strike trouble, and (2) from the railway committee, approving of the Vancouver and Lulu Island Railway Company bill.

Four bills were then introduced and given their first readings. These were the following:

By Mr. Helmcken: An Act to Permit the Issue of Voting Machines in the Province of British Columbia.

By Hon. Mr. Prentice: An Act to Incorporate Vancouver City Hospital.

By Hon. Mr. Eberts: An Act to Confirm the Assessment Roll of the City of Greenwood for the Year 1900.

And by Mr. McPhillips: An Act to Amend the Law Relating to Costs Allowed to Mortgagees.

Mr. Hayward followed with his resolution, which was seconded by Mr. Helmcken. It related to the naturalization of Japanese, and ran as follows:

Whereas the provisions of the Naturalization Act are believed to be constantly evaded by Chinese and Japanese; and whereas it is most desirable that such practices should at once be stopped: Resolved, that it is the opinion of this house that an humble address be presented to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, respectfully requesting him to urge upon the Dominion government the desirability of amending the provisions of the Naturalization Act in such a manner as to compel all persons wishing to become naturalized to be identified before a judge of the Supreme or County courts personally.

In introducing his motion, Mr. Hayward considered that there was not much need to say a great deal. Everyone had heard the reports of the wholesale naturalization of these people almost immediately after their arrival into the country. The irregularities were very glaring and to some extent would be rectified by going back to the old system which had prevailed before confederation, of obliging all would-be citizens to come into open court before a judge and there be sworn, rather than in the private office of some notary or magistrate.

Mr. McInnes supported the measure. He had introduced it in a bill at Ottawa a year ago, but although it was largely supported, the bill had not been accepted by the government. Had a resolution such as this been sent East to strengthen his hands, his bill had very likely got through.

Mr. Martin said that he was usually opposed to all over-stepping of the lines of provincial jurisdiction. This was a matter in the hands of the Dominion authorities, but the legislature had something to do with it too, and so was very glad that the house should have the opportunity of stating its views and sending them to Ottawa. The house must remember that, while it says in the resolution that it believes that there has been evasion, yet no such have been committed. If they had occurred, the government too was responsible, as a crime had been committed, and to trace out the perjury they would be quite justified in spending a little money and making an example of some of the offenders.

Hon. Mr. Eberts informed the house that instructions had already been issued from his department to look into this matter. This was done directly after the questions had been asked about it. He would not oppose the motion, although in the case of persons residing down the coast or in such distant parts as A. I. I. if they were desirous of becoming citizens, some hardship might be entailed.

Mr. Curtis said he had heard that a large number had been naturalized in Chilliwack, and it might not be for the best of reasons, that the applications were sent up there without the applicants. Doubtless these foreigners did not know the purport of the process and it might be that some magistrates had lent themselves to the practice. It would be worth while having them looked up too.

Hon. Mr. McBride was glad to see the leader of the opposition assume a more moderate stand. A year ago or so he himself had been severely chastised by that gentleman for introducing a resolution regarding the fisheries. Mr. Martin had evidently been soothed down by the member from North Nanaimo and was becoming more reasonable at last.

Mr. McPhillips came to the rescue of the justices of the peace whom Mr. Curtis had arraigned. He reminded Mr. Martin of the way in which he had dragged that office through the mud.

Mr. Kidd thought that the resolution was not well worded. The government might well be asked to have the whole matter investigated before such representations were made to the Dominion government. He hoped that the motion would be withdrawn.

On being put, however, it was carried on the following division:

Yeas: Messrs. McInnes, Gilmour, E. C. Smith, Oliver, Curtis, R. Smith, Hone-ton, McPhillips, Helmcken, Turrier, Eberts, Clifford, Fulton, Hayward, Garden, Tatlow, McBride, Pooley, Murphy, Rogers, Taylor, Dickie—22.

Nays: Messrs. Kidd, Neill, A. W. Smith, Ellison, Prentice, Wells, Mounce—7.

The Judgment Act was again committed, and after a short discussion of a technical sort, the bill was reported complete with amendments.

The amendments to the Official Administrators Act were read a third time and passed.

In committee on the Succession Duties Act some discussion ensued over the arrangement for the increase of the rate as the value of the estate became higher. An amendment was offered by the opposition, but the government adhered to their own system, which would raise the greater amount of revenue. The bill was then reported complete without amendment.

The Vancouver & Westminster Railway Co. bill was then committed. To the report Mr. Helmcken desired to so amend the bill that if branches to the road were built their length need not be limited to six miles. The opposition refused the amendment, contending that it gave a sort of monopoly of the Lower Fraser to them. At Mr. Helmcken's request this bill was stood over.

Mr. Curtis had several amendments to offer to the bill. These struck at the mortgaging of a road for more than its original cost, and provided for the purchase of the roads by the government, should such be thought fit, after the expiration of ten years.

Several of the members took part in the informal debate, in the course of which Mr. Martin uttered a bitter tirade against promoters and like people. To this Mr. McPhillips rejoined that his "saving clauses" had so hampered rail-roading that since they were first introduced in 1899 scarcely a mile had been constructed. The C. P. R. was generally attacked by the opposition for over-bonding and excessive cost to the country, but was defended by Mr. McPhillips, who thought it had already more than paid for itself from the standpoint of a Canadian citizen.

When at length a division was reached only seven members supported the amendment restricting the bond issue. The others were being considered when the debate was adjourned, upon which the house itself adjourned at 5:40 p. m.

Sept 16

## Provincial Legislature

### The House Reports

### Debate Resolution Regarding Rail Law

Yesterdays sitting of the legislature was devoted to debate. Several bills were discussed, the first being on the refusal of a charter to the Lake Bennett railway project. The members of the committee opposing the measure, partly question strenuously, and the debate ran on for a couple of hours or more before the report was adopted. Next came Mr. Curtis' resolution reaffirming the principle of the Eight-Hour Law. To this its mover spoke at some length and after an ineffectual effort to hoist the matter for six months the debate was adjourned.

After prayers, which were made by Rev. Mr. Barber, chairman Smith of the mining committee presented his report. This concerned quartz mines and amongst several minor matters recommended that the cost of survey, irrespective of the date of the survey, be allowed as part of the required value of the assessment work. It also suggested a change regarding the assessment of the effect that the proposed legislation-out rather than discontinue by action in the law courts. The report was received.

Mr. Pooley has presented the following report from the railway committee:

The preamble of the bill introduced "An Act to incorporate the Lake Bennett railway" on the ground that the expediency of the said railway has not been satisfactorily shown, and that it is against the interests of the province to grant the charter prayed for at the present time.

Mr. Sturges proposed an amendment sending the bill to the committee with an intimation that they pass the preamble. He said as he claimed on behalf of his constituents. They were in the hands at present of a railway monopoly which absolutely controlled their shipping and trade and whose rates were a source of great complaint. The interests of the district demanded some form of competition and this could well be had under a charter such as the one now being cast out.



Hon. Mr. Turner... the policy of the government in connection with these railways had been defined by the statement that had been sent down that they ought to be chartered at a port which was opposed to this... were opposed to this... such... of prevention... energies... had already... it was the... to discourage an... to an American port... effect to the... and which regulations... increased to the detriment of the... of British Columbia and the... of the province. He felt... such a railway... long run... of the... at large, and it... at any rate of... of railways which would... terminal points in British Columbia... these important districts to which reference had been made. As to the question of the exorbitant charges to which the... had studied, by the railway at present operating in that country, he knew something about that, although he was not in any way interested in the... There were the... to be considered. It... had been made to the... of Victoria and Vancouver and... of the province generally to the... that the road could have only been built with... from the... the... has been willing to grant... concessions rather than be... of the railway even at the rates... to-day... to the rates being... it had been... if that... represent... made in the... quarter they must receive... compensation, but he felt that a company that had had the... to construct a road through a country which had been... at a very large... of money should not have the... of their enterprise snatched... from them. He would like to see... make money. He thought if that... were more... exhibited... enterprises of a like nature would... encouraged. The policy of the government, too, had been... influenced by the... that they should not encourage... building... port to the detriment of the... of British Columbia. That was the policy which the Premier had... and he knew that he was very strong upon that question. Mr. McInnes... explained that the policy had not been definitely stated in the committee, although upon it the serious step had been taken of refusing this enterprise and to another out the project. At present only one road crosses the passes to the navigable waters of the Yukon. Thus a monopoly existed and enabled them to charge the most excessive rates. For instance, while over the C. P. R. a rate of \$1.50 per ton prevailed from Montreal to Vancouver, while for the 41 miles of the road a charge of \$60 was made. This was exceedingly excessive. The White Pass Company, who were opposing this project, were trying to monopolize all the transportation up there, too. The Brackett wagon road had been bought out at one place, and the Dyea aerial tramway had been bought out in another, so that the only possible competition was now to be found by the St. Michael route up the Yukon. In view of these circumstances, the petitioners had come asking for a charter to build to Lake Bennett over the Chilkoot Pass, a project for which no opposition should have been given. Not had much been found until one night the chairman of the committee had brought in a mysterious message from the Premier, which had caused some of the members to wriggle and turn. The government had at last outlined a policy, a fair statement of which had not been given, but upon it the petition was voted down. No explanation had yet been given, just as in other matters they had preferred to keep silence while a couple of pliable members were put up to speak on their behalf. It was simply a case of standing by the monopolists—the old Turner policy, the true Dominionism of years back. Their position

on this matter was quite in line, and was against the shipping and trading public interests. Of the construction of an all-Canadian route there was no immediate prospect. The... Kitchener... Teslin was 4... long... a 41-mile line... the... province would... increasing even \$4,000 per... per mile would be... Canadian government... was little hope of this... would destroy our side of the... question argument. But then it... were built and the... both Dyea and Skagway... in Canada, and these would... short all-Canadian roads. St... to the bottom, the government... the most probably taken to help... of their friends who might be... going into this matter... Again, until quite recently... had been interested in the White Pass road, and might still have... or it. Should a line be... the... of the Island, and... from... in it, it would... out Premier. The Lake... people here in good faith. They did not... a subsidy; they would... themselves and thus... up a monopoly. For these reasons... would add the amendment. Mr. Curtis was surprised... more... nite statement was being... by government. The... that in which this bill had... in... committee was not fair. He... days... the policy was brought down. It seems to be their... at... policy at the last moment. The... for that district... it... knowing anything... the... of railroading in the... may... would fear that sufficient... would not spring up to perfectly... the enterprise. With regard to the White Pass road, it had reached... strong a position that nursing was... longer necessary. At the last... London Mr. Glynn had announced... the profits for four months... had been \$175,000, of which the working... expenses had taken about 40 per cent., while the cost of construction had been about \$200,000 per mile. The pretext... of opposing the line had... turned down... of the boundary question and... Canadian... be considered very flimsy, as... even suggested that the latter... at all within reach. The honorable minister in stating the policy of the government was only attempting to protect a monopoly. That policy was equally adaptable to the Kootenay districts should a road be required to run to the boundary. Hon. Mr. Turner—My remarks applied wholly to the North. I was speaking of ports. Mr. Curtis—Well, the honorable gentleman might do worse than fall back on a port. However, we are confronted by this position. The government makes no announcement until it is driven out at the last moment. It does not take the house into its confidence. The Colonel, however, seems to speak by the book when we look at what he says this morning. The government should explain—Hon. Mr. Eberts—And explain everything, too, that appears in thirty other newspapers. Mr. Curtis—Well, the policy ought to be explained. It might be extended to other ports of the province, and railway construction be opposed there, too. A point of order was then taken, on which, after some discussion, Mr. Speaker ruled the amendment out of order, upon which it was withdrawn by Mr. Stables. Mr. McInnes... began to refer to what had been done in the committee, but on that being ruled out of order, expressed his regret that the government relied to such an extent upon this technicality. In this he thought Mr. McPhillips was the grossest offender. When this same bill went up last winter, however, he believed that that gentleman had taken a very different stand. A week ago he had been on the other side, too, but now he had switched, just as he did on the anti-Chinese question. Mr. McPhillips—I'm not on trial. Not that I object very much, still I might as well say so. Mr. McInnes—Another reason for the government not wishing much discussion on this arises from the rumor that it was not until Monday that the bill was caucused. Then he believed that they had a hot time. Another objection to the report was that it did not give the reasons for refusing the charter. Perhaps these had not been transmitted. It was a fact that no instructions had been given to the chairman regarding the reasons of the committee's refusal. He would accordingly move that the report be referred back to the committee for reconsideration. Mr. Curtis pointed out that practically no reasons were given in the committee's report.

Here another po... at the referring to the pro... the committee occupied some time. Mr. Rogers thought there were plenty of reasons for the report. An application for an all-Canadian route was before the house, and this was a good reason for the majority opposing it. Mr. Brown at this stage remarked that a lot of time was being wasted, and all this discussion aroused by an attempt to prevent discussion. Mr. McInnes expressed his approval of this remark by shouting "Hear, hear." Mr. Gilmour thought that the report should be referred back because of the excessive rates charged. The rates of the White Pass road might have given a good rate two years ago, but because that suited them it is no argument against better and cheaper rates now. Again, this bill did not affect any foreign port. The line started up at the tunnel 2,500 feet above sea level. The government appeared to be fighting for a United States corporation, and not for the Canadian people. He then read the list of directors of the road and their Chicago and Seattle addresses. It was said at Skagway that 82 per cent. of the freight was Canadian goods, and so Canadians had all the more right to the trade. The government ought at least to take some notice of what the boards of trade throughout the province were advocating. Mr. Martin said that when the bill had been introduced and favorably reported, after a severe struggle, last year, he alone afterwards corrected this by sharing the position with Mr. Booth—had taken the point regarding its effect upon the boundary question. At that time at Ottawa all charters heading for Lyon Canal were being refused. This line admitted that an United States charter was being sought to get it into Dyea. Now the high commission may re-assemble at any time, and that question meet final settlement. He was told that this bill was now opposed for his old reasons, and if so he was prepared to stand by his guns. But the report of the committee did not say so, and the house was entitled to know what the reasons were. The report only stated that one road was enough. There ought to be some better reason given than simply that it had been so instructed by the government. There should be a minister present at

these committee meetings who could give some satisfaction upon just such points as these. For three long days the matter had been discussed, and at last it was turned down for a reason which had never before been referred to. That point of policy should have been stated at the outset, if only to help out the government followers, several of whom had voted as they were told very reluctantly. They had to be whipped into line. Cases of "Name Name" here interrupted the speaker, ending in a louder cry of "Name Name" from Mr. Rogers. Mr. Martin—Well, I don't like to say that you are the only unconscious one among them all. Returning to the subject matter, Mr. Martin said he thought that the report should be sent back and the reasons added by the committee. Mr. Oliver announced that he would support the amendment. He did so the more strongly because he doubted the truthfulness of the evidence that had been offered the committee. Of the total gross earnings of \$884,000 for four months, only \$145,000 were credited to the half on the British side of the line. Again, of the \$88,000 of running expenses, \$20,000 finally appeared to be properly chargeable to capital, and \$24,000 to interest on bonds. This evidence was false on its face. It was deliberately true and misleading. As to any possible conflict with an all-Canadian route, the Dominion government had power to disallow it should the policies clash. Mr. Pooley then essayed to speak of what was done in committee, but the opposition cried "Order!" too loudly for him. Mr. McInnes having thumped his desk with his fist in support of the point, Mr. Pooley said amidst much laughter that he did not think it was in order for a member to get up and deliberately thump his desk. Mr. Curtis then gave some figures on freight rates. From Trail to Robson \$3 per ton was the rate for the 12-mile haul. From Montreal to Vancouver the C. P. R. charged only \$25, though the distance was 2,000 miles, and yet the White Pass road charged \$60 for 41 miles of haulage. He thought they would have made concessions rather than see a charter given to a rival concern. However, competition was a good thing, and they should have it. Mr. Brown thought if the policy expressed by the government was the real reason, he had been free to vote against the bill, otherwise he would not be a party to upholding a monopoly.

Mr. ... a question at all... sufficient... He of Mr. M... of orator... self had... vote. Mr. ... is a mist... Mr. ... dered... honorable... he does... Mr. ... contradic... say so... Mr. ... that, I... (Laughter)... Mr. ... government... statements... Mr. ... I... bers will... accepting... North... Mr. ... two reason... mitted... charter... the public... could be... and the... covered... I were found... he accepts... The... port was... loving... (Yes—Mr. Stables, E. Martin, C. Nays—Mr. McPhillips, Muir, Ebert, Clifford, F. Prentice, Murphy, H. H. Mc... the report... Mr. Poole... of th... erred the... (Laughter)... adopted. Mr. Curtis... completion... of a bill... his appeal... paper, (the... ently droppe... This point... taken by... the use of... ful of the... ed in the... use of such... Mr. McIn... pression on... Mr. McIn... believed... ible for such... position... Mr. McIn... amend the... was received... So, too, w... Mr. Wells... the city of... rights on... within the... Hon. Mr. J... bill provid... committee... freedom... in the... its first... Mr. ... Eight... ran... Mr. ... affirmed... Eight... "No... grown in an... of four... in... same may... penalties... be abrogated... the enforcement... stands in... change... In introduc... disclaimed... feeling upon... he brought it... that existed... lect. Had the... nouncement... had not been... the campaign... largely disc... been express... people want... stand or wh... Many people... Commission... ed at some... all wanted to... had been chat



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Mr. Hunter—Well, I'll have to take that, I suppose, but I'm not convinced. (Laughter.)

Mr. McInnes—I only said that the government were not definite in their statements.

Mr. Hunter—That is distinctly untrue. I think that the honorable members will have to be very careful about accepting the word of the member from North Vancouver.

Mr. McPhillips then pointed out that two reasons had been given in the committee against the granting of the charter. These were expediency and the public welfare. Certain reasons could be adduced in support of the first, and the hope of an all-Canadian route covered the second. These reasons were founded on patriotism, and should be accepted as sufficient.

The amendment to refer back the report was then put and lost on the following division:

Yeas—Messrs. McInnes, Gilmour, Scables, E. C. Smith, Ower, Brown, Martin, Curtis, Munro, R. Smith—10.

Nays—Messrs. Kidd, Neill, Green, McPhillips, Helmecken, Turner, Duns-muir, Eberts, A. W. Smith, Ellison, Clifford, Fulton, Hayward, Garden, Prentice, Wells, McBrice, Pooley, Murphy, Rogers, Hunter, Taylor, Dickie, Mounce—24.

The report was then adopted.

Mr. Pooley then presented the seventh report of the railway committee, which favored the granting of a charter to the Pacific Northern & Omineca. This was adopted.

Mr. Curtis raised a question of privilege complaining of the absence of a section of a bill in the report of a speech of his appearing in yesterday's issue of this paper, (the name having been inadvertently dropped).

This point was followed by another taken by Mr. McPhillips, who disclaimed the use of the term "contaminable hand-ful of the opposition," which had appeared in the same report. He had not made use of such an expression.

Mr. McInnes: Well that was the expression on your face.

Mr. McPhillips then explained that he believed he had said "It was contemptible for such a pitiable handful of an op-position to effect such and such a policy."

Mr. McInnes then introduced a bill to amend the Municipal Classes Act, which was received and read a first time.

So, too, was a bill introduced by Hon. Mr. Wells, authorizing the transfer to the city of Vancouver of certain fish-shore rights on False Creek and Coal Harbor, within the limits of that city.

Hon. Mr. McBrice also introduced a bill providing for the appointment of a commissioner with extraordinary powers free from appeal to settle mining disputes in the Porcupine district. This received its first reading.

Mr. Curtis' resolution regarding the Eight-Hour Law was then reached. It ran as follows:

Resolved, That this house endorses and affirms that a popularly known as the Eight-Hour Law, which provides that "No person shall be employed under-ground in any metalliferous mine for more than eight hours in every twenty-four hours," and is opposed to any change in said law whereby contracting out of same may be permitted, or by which the penalties for infractions of the law shall be abrogated or suspended, but favors the enforcement of the law as it now stands in its entirety and without any change.

In introducing the subject Mr. Curtis disclaimed all desire of stirring up any feeling upon this question, claiming that he brought it up only to ally the unrest that existed in many parts on the subject. Had the government made any pronouncement upon this vital question it had not been necessary to revive it. In the campaign no question had been so largely discussed, various opinions had been expressed concerning it and now people wanted to know whether it was to stand or whether it would be amended. Many people thought that the "Mining Commission" of the Queen's Speech hinted at some interference with it and they all wanted to know what was coming. It had been charged that the law had work-

ed adversely in the mining interests, but he believed not. It had not had a bad effect at all and in principle was quite right. Serious losses had been charged to it, but these had resulted from stock broking and stamping, and when the law had been made the goat. Indirectly it had done a great deal of good by occasioning the employment of working men in three shifts. In some cases men had been employed in the day, but more work done in the night had resulted. Mr. Curtis then mentioned Mr. Davis' report of the War Eagle mine.

He then opened the opinions of the general members upon this question and read from the files of the Colonist the opinions of member after member of the government following the subject covered. Mr. Curtis then explained that these opinions did not all agree, but ended by saying the Province was a stand and try to what the result would be.

Hon. Mr. McBrice criticized his policy for all the unrest as not being supported by extensive hunting of of campaign speeches. But why had not gone further. What did he think of his own policy in this matter. Mr. Curtis said food for thought and the various opinions of the opposition, well as the government members, was not contemptible to see a man half of the story. However, he need not have troubled himself as there was no intention to interfere with this law in spite of what some friable and excited men thought. The question for the time being was settled and no good purpose could be served by bringing it up again. However, it was worth while noticing that Mr. Martin had said in Victoria on the 27th of March. Then, he practically agreed with the member from West Vancouver with whom he found some fault. Mr. Curtis himself on coming down to Victoria in March had first of all said for the mine owners to see what they could say.

Mr. Curtis: But our policy was then announced.

Mr. Eberts Smith: What about your referendum?

Mr. Green: You only announced your policy when you were forced into it.

Hon. Mr. McBrice: From Victoria the leader of the opposition went to Kootenay and his tone changed along his way. His platform, too, was cunningly worded. He wanted a way of escape and so sought to shift the responsibility to the doctrine of referendum. However, as the member from Rossland was so anxious not to get in trouble he might just as the government did not intend to eman-uate any direct issue nor interfere in the matter.

After an abortive effort to pass the question in six months' hoist through a badly formed amendment which was withdrawn soon after being offered, Mr. McInnes repeated some of Mr. Curtis' remarks, adding that the mining commission suggested in the Speech from the Throne was but a sop thrown to the mine owners. He moved that the matter be voted on at once, but the motion was lost by 24 to 10 and on Mr. Martin's motion the session was adjourned.

The house then adjourned at 6:50 o'clock.

NOTICES.

On Friday next Hon. Mr. Eberts will introduce a bill to amend the Provincial Elections Act, also.

A bill to amend the Railway Assessment Act, and also.

A bill to amend the Railway Incorporation Act, and also.

On Friday next Mr. Eberts will move that a bill to incorporate the Lake Bennett Railway Company be placed upon the orders of the day for second reading.

Mr. McInnes has also given notice that he will move to add to the Pacific Northern & Omineca railway bill the anti-Chinese reading test clause.

To the same bill Mr. Martin seeks to add a clause regarding transportation, free of charge, of all members of the legislature and all others for whom the government might otherwise have to pay.

Mr. Green will move in connection with the Pacific Northern & Omineca railway bill that the provisions of its act shall, in case of conflict, override those of the general Railway Act.

Mr. Curtis will seek to add to the five bills relating to the Vancouver & Westminster Railway, the Crow's Nest Pass Electric Power & Light Co., Western Telegraph & Telephone Co., Vancouver, Northern & Yukon Railway, and the Rock Bay & Salmon River Railway, the following clause:

Notwithstanding anything hereinbefore contained, no person shall not have the right to purchase or use any land in the Province of British Columbia in contract with the province, or in respect to the purchase of lands and in any other matter, until the general election of the province government.

Mr. Curtis then moved the Vancouver & Westminster Railway bill a committee and the members of all provinces and territories should that railway be brought under the general Railway Act.



## Provincial Legislature

### Budget Speech by Hon. Mr. Turner Feature of the Day.

### Debate Not Long and House Goes into Committee of Supply.

Hon. Mr. Turner made his twelfth budget speech yesterday, and while it was somewhat shorter than many of his former ones, the effort was at once a masterpiece. The financial policy of the government was ably and forcibly stated, and met with an excellent reception at the hands of all the members except those of the member for North Nanaimo. That gentleman expressed his dissent freely and at some length, taking advantage of the general nature of the budget debate to lead out in acrimonious attack upon the government generally and several members of the cabinet in particular. His remarks about Premier Dunsmuir, which were too long to be published in full, being of a somewhat offensive nature. Messrs. Brown and McPhillips also spoke at some length, and the debate closed before ten o'clock. The details of the estimates were at once taken up and over half of them carried by the house. No opposition was offered, although from either side of the house various suggestions were made.

The ninth report of the private bills committee was received. This favored the Kitimaat-Caledonia enterprise, and was adopted. The time for receiving reports of this committee was then extended ten days from date.

The eighth report of the railway committee was unfavorable to the Chilkat Pass Navigation & Railway Co., on the ground that it was not desirable in the interests of the province that such charters be granted. The ninth report favored the Kamloops-Atlin Railway Co. bill. Both were adopted.

Hon. Mr. Eberts introduced his bill to amend the Licensing Act. This was received and read a first time.

So also was Mr. Houston's bill amending the Water Clauses Act.

Hon. Mr. McBride introduced, amidst sundry "Hear, Hear's," a bill to relieve the volunteers of this province serving in South Africa from the regulations of the Mining Act which would affect their claims, while absent in the service of their country. The bill was received and read a first time.

Mr. Clifford then moved for copies of all complaints made by people in Atlin district against government officials there, since 1st January, 1898, and the answers given by the government thereto. He did this to bring to the notice of the house the state of affairs in Atlin. Of the 4,000 men there, two classes had arisen—the one called hydraulic men, the others miners. The latter seem to think that they are not being treated fairly—that the hydraulic men are getting the best of it. Leases are applied for which cover creek claims, but if these are not represented on Representation Day the lease-holders claim that they fall into the losses and do not revert to the crown. This made the men sore, and fancy that Mr. Graham and the other officials are not giving them their rights. From what he (Mr. Clifford) saw there last year, he considered Mr. Graham a most upright and efficient commissioner. It might be well to authorize Mr. Justice Martin to hold an inquiry into this matter and sift it thoroughly, as the individual miners had found the country and deserved every consideration. He also thought that the order-in-council regarding the holding of claims by government officers was not being enforced. Officials did hold claims there—not perhaps in their own names, but at any rate they had interests. He hoped this section would be more stringently enforced. The position of the gold commissioner there was a most arduous one, and as there was so much work to do, and living cost so high, he thought that the salaries to this and the other officers were totally inadequate to the circumstances. He trusted that substantial increases would be made. The commissioner alone should receive \$3,500. The troubles regarding these leases would be well met by a regulation forbidding the granting of leases until after three years from the discovery.

Mr. Stables emphasized Mr. Clifford's remarks regarding leases covering the creek claims. In one case on Boulder creek a claim had thus been overridden, in spite of the fact that it was then being worked. As to Mr. Graham's efficiency he was not so sure, as he had permitted the above lease, quite contrary to the section of the law. Again, this commissioner had issued injunctions in many instances, which practice had led largely to the many troubles which Mr. Justice Irving had had to investigate last summer.

Hon. Mr. McBride informed the house that these subjects had for some time been receiving attention. Regarding Mr. Clifford's suggestion preventing the issuing of leases on these creeks for three years, the government was not prepared to pass at present. The subject might well be left to the mining commission which was to be appointed. These leases, too, were largely granted late last year, and of course upon the recommendation of the gold commissioner. However, an inquiry would be made, and the placer miners would receive every consideration. The regulation regarding officials holding claims had been republished, and would also be strenuously enforced. While in Atlin last year he had found Mr. Graham an excellent official, but for the assuring of the country and the maintaining of the good name of the service, every opportunity for investigation would be given.

Hon. Mr. Turner then rose in his place and, amidst applause, began his twelfth budget speech. This was somewhat shorter than usual, but throughout its entire length was marked with vigor and skill.

In rising to move the formal resolution preparatory to going into supply, he must depart from the usual practice of referring to the public accounts of the previous year. This was occasioned by the hiatus resulting from the abortive session of February last. For while reference must be made to the accounts for the year ending June 1900, it could only go to the estimated expenditure and not the actual outlay, as the time is extended, so that the returns of August are necessary to complete the returns of the fiscal year to June. He thus proposed to start out with a clean slate.

Referring to the estimates for the year, it is found that those of receipts are

placed at \$1,757,229. From this it will be seen that the estimated revenue is \$217,989 larger than that for 1900. This increase arises as follows: first, from the land sales, \$15,000. He was informed that there was reason to expect a greater activity in settlement this year, while, regarding the \$1,000,000 of arrears in the purchase moneys of pre-emptions, the government hoped by means of certain concessions to settlers that a fair share of these payments would be got in. He thought that \$15,000 was an under-estimate rather than over the mark. Under the head of timber royalty and licenses, an increase of \$10,000 would result from some contemplated changes. Under mining receipts generally, there is an increase of \$40,000 from a similar cause. Under wild land tax, an increase is found of \$5,000, arising from a closer system of collecting this rate. The income tax shows increase of \$10,000, anticipated by a higher rate upon incomes of a larger size. He would notice too that the system already advocated by certain members of more gradual rises in the amounts of taxation to be collected in this way had been adopted.

From the provincial revenue tax an increase of \$40,000 was expected, through the more stringent enforcing of law. It had been found that excellent results might be obtained by means of the commission system, and its adoption would be made more general. A slight increase of \$5,000 appears under the head of mineral tax. This increase is on the actual receipts of last year of \$31,000 and not on the estimate of last year, which was \$6,000. In this addition the smaller properties would not be interfered with but on the larger ones the burden would be increased. The sum of \$31,000 was wholly disproportionate to the wealth and value of this industry. The increase of \$10,000 on the Chinese restriction tax was not so sure a thing. Of course the entry tax had been doubled, but this would doubtless have some effect in restricting the numbers coming in. Succession duties had been made somewhat larger, and from them \$19,000 more was to be expected. Then comes a very important matter, that of the royalty on coal, which was fixed at 5 cents per ton, besides covering the entire product of the coal and coke of all the mines of the province. This new tax was estimated to amount to \$90,000. It was not all increase, however, as some of it had in the past been included under the personal property tax, as the coal mines had been assessed under that heading. Accordingly a decline of \$20,000 had been anticipated in the returns from personality. Under the head of miscellaneous receipts \$20,000 had been fixed upon, rather than \$30,000, of last year, which had included certain refunds from the Dominion government.

While the revenue was expected to show an increase, an expenditure increase of \$343,595 was to be noticed too. Of this it will be seen that under salaries and civil government there was an addition of, apparently, \$30,000. This was not all resulting, however, from actual increase of salaries. As there was \$20,000 set apart for new appointments, and the difference of \$10,000 is practically but a return to the salaries of 1898, though not, perhaps, in all cases to full amount. It is well known that an election had just been on and large amounts of book work had accumulated. He did not say that this was the fault of the government, but it resulted largely from the unsettled state of the province, so that deputation after deputation had come down and occupied the attention of the government, and it is possible that some deserving cases had been overlooked when the salaries had been restored. As usual, increase respecting education amounted to about \$26,000, but most of the \$343,000 arose from public work. The cost of education is now becoming a very serious matter. The vote represents only the running expenses, while the building of schools and many other matters swelled the cost of education to a very large amount. It would soon be necessary to devise some relief for the province. No doubt all desired a high order of education, but the present cost looked out of proportion, and especially in comparison with its cost in the other provinces, where, however, a different system of municipal control might have some effect.

The chief item of increase, i.e., public works, approximately took \$300,000. This was a large sum, but the house would readily admit it was not an undue outlay. In the year past little had been done, and repairs even had been neglected. Works had in some instances been almost made useless because of the state they had fallen into, and it was necessary to take up the threads again and start the loom afresh. It was quite impossible for the province to go ahead unless there can be more work done on the roads, trails and public works. The province cannot increase in population and in prosperity unless money was devoted to these ends, and he was quite sure that from past experience such appropriations had been fully justified.

All these show approximately an increase in expenditure of \$500,000, while at the beginning of the year the treasury had been found not only empty, but encumbered with a deficit. In the ordinary way, a loan would be required, and though the province now is in a more settled state, it would be quite suicidal to go to Europe at present to borrow money. He thought there had been a great mistake in the Loan Act of 1896, when the remains of the loan, amounting to \$200,000, was not taken up. It is very prejudicial to keep asking for small loans, constantly going into the market. The underwriters objected to it and it injured the credit of the borrower. The underwriters practically buy the loan and resell it to the public, and the matter had been so dealt with that as a consequence most of it was left in the hands of the underwriters. To-day the same loan stands at 98, a loss of 3 per cent. to the underwriters. Unfortunately it had now gone down to 93 for British Columbia, while Canada stood at 101 and Ceylon at 100, and to-day British Columbia is, through poor policy, even lower than Nova Scotia. In the face of this, the present was thought to be a most inopportune time to float a loan, and so arrangements were made with the bank for the accommodation required. This, too, carried with it the benefit of current account, for while on this loan interest ran on for it all at once here, only the interest on what actually have been overdrawn would have to be met.

Turning to the public debt, which stood at the present time, approximately, about \$5,000,000, less the sinking fund, Mr. Turner pointed out that in 1894 it had been \$2,129,000, an increase in six years of nearly \$3,000,000. There had been expended on public works since then so much as \$4,894,000. Here then the loans had gone also \$1,508,000 from ordinary revenue of the province. In consideration for this money it has the assets of railways, public roads and public buildings scattered all over the province. In addition to this the Dominion subsidy, which was a permanent asset, would, if capitalized, amount far up into the millions. From this Mr. Turner inferred that the debt is not at all excessive, taking into consideration the assets of the province.

To show the increasing revenue of the province, Mr. Turner went back to 1894.

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Then it had been \$798,570, while in 1890 it stood at \$1,500,381, an increase of nearly 90 per cent. In the same period the expenditure had increased but 42½ per cent.

Another comparison is found in the matter of salaries and civil government, where the increase only amounted to 17 per cent. The increase under education was 59 per cent. in that same period of 1894 to 1900. The expenditures on public works had, however, almost doubled, having increased some 92 per cent. Public works had advanced proportionately with the growth and progress of the province, and this in its turn had led to corresponding advances in the budget. He remembered, in bringing down his first budget in 1887—the present was his twelfth, and he had sat fourteen years in the house—that the revenues had been \$598,252, or about a third of the present revenue. The estimates of expenditure had then been \$788,955.

It was said yesterday by Mr. McInnes that this government, like the old Turner government, encouraged monopolies to the detriment of the public. He would like to have a specific instance of this pointed to. He could show that up to 1898 this had been a most prosperous province and the policy one tending to develop its industries. No doubt the policy of this government was very different from that of Mr. McInnes. He was one destructive of industries, leading to the lowering of wages and the driving out of capital. He follows after monopoly more than the government, for if capital is affected, wages must fall, and that from the workingman's pocket. When capital can be brought and protected, the working man knows that his wages are the most insured. But the policy of the opposition was to drive out capital.

Mr. Curtis: What instance do you refer to?

Hon. Mr. Turner: I claim that this government, now charged with pandering to monopolies, has induced capital to come into the country; yes, even to your own riding.

Mr. Curtis: In Kootenay all was buoyant and business was good until December last, when reverses were experienced by British arms. That made the trouble in the Kootenays.

Hon. Mr. Turner: Well, I know something about that, and I know that that is not the case. We have heard him talk of monopolies, but they are imposing upon the workingmen.

The policy of the interregnum, as the last two years might be called, had had the same general effect. But he hoped that no such results would follow the present efforts. Speaking of the expenditure in districts as being productive, he noticed Mr. Green's smile and presumed that he thought the expenditure in the Kootenays might have been largely increased. He wished that they could have been made so, but it was a question of money. It was with pleasure that he noticed the effects of his policy in that very part of the country. In 1891, the revenue from there had been \$43,000, in 1892 \$67,000, in 1893 \$91,000, and in 1899 it had grown to \$325,000, an indication that opening up roads will lead to great expansion of revenue. This should follow also in regard to other rich sections of the province. He was speaking particularly of the northern section, a gigantic country, richly mineralised. In eight or nine years revenues from there might increase by leaps of hundreds of thousands of dollars; and also enjoy increase resulting in other parts of the province, owing to increased trade. This government hoped to be able to encourage railway construction there at a very early date.

Reference had been made yesterday to the White Pass, but it was to the White Pass road due a great deal of the present increase of provincial trade. From \$500 a ton they brought down freight to \$60, and it is the Dawson customers who pay most of that. Again, in spite of saying that it was American enterprise, but he happened to know that English people had supplied the capital.

He was glad to say that yesterday action was taken in this house regarding an all-Canadian line.

The Hon. Minister of Finance then sat down amid prolonged applause.

Mr. Brown, in the absence of Mr. Martin, then rose to reply. He did not feel much responsibility for the acts of the Semlin government attacked by the Finance Minister, although he had taken some slight part in returning them to power. The province, however, was making a sort of new beginning, and on the whole a good one. It looks as though the province will go ahead, in spite of the government now in power. (Laughter.) And so he felt like saying nothing that would draw attention to the other side of the case.

The hon. gentleman had said that the whole day was wasted yesterday. Well, that might be, but whose fault was it? The opposition did not deserve all the blame. For instance, he had heard that one government member had spoken 24 times. Again, as to the length of the session, while he had forecast some six weeks or two months, he noticed, however, that it was now a month old and the budget was just brought down, and to-day the government had eight more new bills coming in. Again, members were supposed to have been returned here because of principles that they claimed to represent. However, when they came here and thought it their right and duty to bring up such subjects as government ownership of railways or Chinese restriction, anyone doing so was said to have tried to dictate to the government or talked to the galleries. Again, when the opposition brought up questions, no matter even if the government members support them, they were handicapped at every turn and invariably voted down.

The hon. minister had departed from his usual tone in attacking Mr. McInnes. Well, that gentleman could well be left to take care of himself. Mr. Turner had spoken of the policy of the former government regarding the inducement of capital. But on this there was some conflict between the principles of the science of government and those of his policy. Again, on railway questions, in order to have roads at all the opposition had in the past to permit the vicious projects of his government to pass, and to-day all through the country outcry is heard regarding excessive railway charges. Either the policy was defective or people all over the province were misrepresenting facts. As to the British Columbia Southern, it would have been built at any rate about that time, simply on the Dominion subsidy and the Province could have saved all its enormous grants if it only liked. He must allow that there was a better way, as shown again and again by his side of the house, and he should not take the position that the government is the people and wisdom will die with them. As to gallery play, did not the Minister of Finance thump his chest and cry, "We are the workingman's friend"? He (Mr. Brown) preferred rather to stand even between all classes and the government and the law.

It was gratifying to see that the hon-

orable minister had said that the revenue would increase and that during the past three years it was much more gratifying to see some improvement in the method of spending it. In 1896 public works had had \$40,000 less than government salaries, in 1897 only \$1,000 less, while the present budget gave twice as much to works as to the salaries aforesaid. This was in the right direction, and it seemed now to depend only upon how the money could be got. He was sorry to see one vote left out, viz., that of the various fire departments. He noticed, too, that the government railways got considerably more than the opposition ones. The Skeena got more than Rossland, and Richmond twice as much as Delta. He was opposed to the revenue tax on principle, but as it caught the Chinamen he would abide by the impost. He was glad to see that the minister had some hopes that the increased tax would have some effect in excluding Chinamen, and hoped that it would. As to the royalty on coal, while many compliments were being paid the Premier, he himself thought that the consumer would pay for it.

On one point the minister had said nothing. That was about the decreases. Of these, \$25,000 was found in the returns from liquor licenses, which he thought was a move in the wrong direction.

He readily supported the policy of liberal expenditures to develop the province. As to the minister's remarks, however, about public works having been paid out of revenue in the past, while not wishing to make any hostile criticism, he could only say that in the years referred to, so far as he could make out, money had been borrowed to pay even the government salaries.

Mr. McInnes did not think that some of the statements of the Minister of Finance should go unnoticed. He would begin, however, by congratulating the province upon the amount suggested for the opening up of its rich resources. This was a province in which expenditure was necessarily at this stage in excess of the revenue. He had no sympathy in the reductions of the salaries of civil servants in 1898, and was glad to see that it was proposed to restore them.

At the same time, it was not desirable to have too big an excess of expenditure over revenue, and so new modes of devising revenue were necessary. He had told his constituents of some of these. Among these was the imposition of a royalty on coal. This the government had acted upon, but so far as he could see, it was but very little use. They had imposed a five-cent royalty, but they had not followed up the matter and made it effective, because the consumer of the coal must now pay for it. Why could not the government have declared a maximum price on coal? It had been fixed, as a matter of fact, and why not by the government? A precedent for this is found in the case of the B. C. Southern, who were forced by the Dominion government not to charge more than \$2 a ton. And yet Hon. Mr. Turner claimed to be the friend of the laboring man. But the coal mine owners have already put up the price by 50 cents a ton, which on the annual local consumption of 400,000 tons means that the consumers will pay \$200,000 more for it. Thus it is a complete delusion for the consumer to pay not only the tax, but a great deal more. Indeed, the coal mine owners may well advocate a 30-cent tax next year. In evidence of his friendship to the coal mine owners, the honorable minister has wiped out the \$20,000 of personal property tax besides.

Hon. Mr. Prentice: Will you fix a maximum rate for the wages as well?

Mr. McInnes: No; the questions are very different.

Again, the mineral revenues should be taxed too. Last year their output was over \$8,000,000, yet they paid only \$31,000, while the \$4,000,000 worth of coal is now expected to pay \$90,000. Here is a case of great inequality between the coal mine owners and those of other mines. But it would be eminently fair to put a tax on the profits of every mine. Another tax that is levied in the Old Country is 4n male domestics. This might well be enforced here, payable by the employer. Half the houses in this province have Chinese servants, and a tax of \$25 in these cases would amount to \$250,000, and probably a great deal more without doing any harm and at the same time doing much good.

Again, there might be a suitable tax on land, stronger in every way against land owners who do not occupy their lands, or held here by people who live outside of the province, and they might well disgorge a little. On this Island there are nearly 2,000,000 acres upon which no taxes were paid. He did not approve of sequestration, but there is a very grave doubt whether these lands are free from taxation or not. He did not ask the government to do anything drastic about it, but a test case might well be taken before the Supreme court, and as a lawyer (and here the house laughed a bit) he submitted that there are good tangible reasons for such a case being taken.

#### EVENING SESSION.

After dinner Mr. McInnes continued his speech by pressing a sharp attack upon Hon. Mr. Turner. While criticising his form in the budget speech, he claimed that he was the Jonah of his side, assuring the house that this, his wealth budget speech, was his last. From the Hon. Minister of Finance he turned upon the government generally, calling them the friends of monopoly and instancing the Esquimalt & Nanaimo and the White Pass railways as examples of their work. By going back over the debates of the present session, he then attempted to make out a case that they were the enemies of labor and the friends of the Chinese. The attack in time turned upon the Premier. The latter was not deserving, he claimed, of the praise so freely offered over the taking of the Chinese out of the mines. In this he urged that he was none too sincere. Chinese still worked in the mines, and no doubt they would continue to do so. The mines were treated by the workmen as other people would treat a pest. That was the reason that in spite of all the advertisements men could not be found to work there. However much the Premier might desire to make a change, the strong man of the government stood in his way, and the Hon. Attorney-General must be turned about before any good could be done.

They talk of inducing capital to come into the province, but they do not know what capital is. What is capital? Not the bagful of money, but labor, capital, the only true capital, and we develop the resources of the country.

Mr. McPhillips thought Mr. McInnes' speech a very interesting one. It might have been delivered by the leader of the opposition, what was he? He had knowledge that Mr. Turner would deliver his budget speech to-day, and it was to be expected that the leader of the opposition would be present and reply. He was absent, however, and left the task to the member for North Nanaimo. The latter gentleman's views were not in accord with the views and feelings of the vast majority of the people of the province. Had the policy of the opposition been carried out, disaster would have ensued.



That disaster was circumvented by the votes of the people, who had put in power a government which had already done much to restore confidence.

He had been somewhat amused at not finding any reference in the speeches of the opposition to Mr. Cory S. Ryder, who was at one time finance minister under Mr. Martin. (Laughter.) Mr. Ryder's chief act during his tenure of office was the saving of \$15 on the purchase of lead pencils. The departments were disgracefully neglected while the ministers were on a junketting tour of the province.

Mr. McInnes had said that in this province it was possible to put a fixed price on coal. How could it be possible? It is so, any article exposed for sale could be similarly treated and this would mean an end of commerce. He was astonished at a man of intelligence putting forward such absurd views. He must know in his heart it was impossible to accomplish any such thing. (Hear, hear.) Such speakers were simply playing to the galleries. Everyone knew that the local consumption of coal was insignificant to the amount exported. The tax on coal could be put on in a fair manner on the output at the pithead.

Mr. Brown had spoken of members occupying time. He thought the hon. member for New Westminster had erred in that respect to a greater degree than any other speaker. He was continually rising to points of order, that was of course within his right; but there was such a thing as overdoing it. He was somewhat surprised that the member for North Nanaimo should have alluded to the Finance Minister in the terms in which he did. He had never heard a word spoken against that gentleman's character. The electorate of the province had demonstrated that the attacks made against him were without foundation.

Mr. McInnes, in treating of the labor question, had misinterpreted his remarks on this point of the Hon. Minister of Finance. All were agreed that there should be no disturbances affecting the industries of the province.

Mr. McInnes had also referred to the taxation of the E. & N. railway lands. If his language of the statute was frail, could the intentions of the legislature be put at naught? If it was the intention of the legislature that the lands should be exempt from taxation, would Mr. McInnes read into the act a provision that they should be taxed?

Mr. McInnes: Circumstances alter cases. The valuable property given the E. & N. Co. had not been administered properly and if the people could find any flaw in the act they would be perfectly justified in taking advantage of it. (Cries of "Repeal it.")

Mr. McPhillips looked upon the question as a purely business proposition. It cost \$2,400,000 to build the road, and the company only got \$75,000 from the Dominion government. Where were they to get the balance to build the road? They embarked in what was then a very speculative enterprise. The hon. member for North Nanaimo was trying to analyze the conditions of to-day with the conditions of years ago.

Mr. Curtis: You say the road had cost \$30,000 a mile. How do you figure that up? What is your authority? (Cries of "It cost more than \$30,000 a mile.")

Mr. Curtis: Oh, we know those figures are only based on watered stock.

Continuing, Mr. McPhillips proceeded to score very hardly the opposition for their claims of being purists. They looked upon the government and all its supporters as a gang of boodlers. They could not get beyond that. (Laughter.)

The member for North Nanaimo had contended that the opposition were the friends of labor and the government the enemies. He (the speaker) thought the capitalists were the true friends of labor when they were afforded legitimate opportunities for the investment of money. Take the eight-hour law. The opposition took much credit for the enactment of that measure. What was the fact? The Premier for years had the eight-hour law operating in his mines.

Mr. McInnes: Is the hon. member aware that the Premier refused his workmen the privilege of forming a union?

Continuing, Mr. McPhillips did not know anything about that. He had no knowledge that the Premier had ever refused such a privilege. He would allude, in concluding, once again to the peculiar fact that the leader of the opposition was not in his seat on the important occasion of the delivery of the budget speech. What little had been asserted in criticism by the opposition was not of a very important character. In regard to the claims that the revenue of the province should be increased, all were agreed that this was desirable, and no doubt the government would give the matter its earnest consideration.

This concluded the debate on the budget, and the house went into committee on supply, with Mr. Hunter in the chair.

From half-past ten till after twelve the house then passed estimate after estimate. The items respecting public debt, civil government, salaries, administration of justice, salaries, legislation, public institutions, hospitals, administration of justice, expenses, education, transport, and revenue services were all passed. Public works were then reached, and as it was near midnight the opposition suggested going home, but were well rallied from across the floor, and the monotonous reading went on until a fair start was made in these important grants. At 12:15, however, a halt was called and the committee was adjourned.

During the passage of the various items the following incidents were noticed:

On the grant of \$1,200 for salary of an inspector of steam boilers, it was

pointed out that one man could not cover the whole of the province and that at present the up country boilers were not being looked to. The government stated that they would consider the appointment of a second inspector.

Mr. Stables pointed out that in Atlin they had a hospital erected by the miners themselves. For the material Mr. Pringle and several others had become personally responsible, and of this a balance yet remained unpaid. Work to the value of nearly \$12,000 had been given freely by the miners. He hoped this institution would receive a grant.

Mr. E. C. Smith spoke on behalf of the hospital of the Sisters at St. Eugene Creek. For several years they had done a good work, treating hundreds of patients, but had never received any consideration.

On a question from Mr. Brown, the Hon. Mr. Prentice stated that there were 21 deaf mutes in the province, eight of whom were being maintained elsewhere. It was the purpose of the government to include a sum in the supplementary estimates as with the present vote of \$3,000 would suffice to make a start upon the setting up of a local institution.

On the vote of \$300 in aid of a resident physician for Alberni, Mr. McInnes objected that there were already two doctors down there. A grant to one of these would give him an undue advantage over the other. At Parksville, however, the people for a long time had need of some such aid as this. They were from 20 to 30 miles from a doctor at present. Upon Hon. Mr. Prentice stating that no request had been made to him in regard to Parksville, Mr. McInnes broke out and said that the minister was not responsible for what he said. This roused Hon. Mr. Prentice so far that he grew cool and looking across the floor, said:

"If you will dare say that to me outside, I'll—"

Cries of order interrupted him, so he added: "Well, I'll take an opportunity to talk to you again." At the end of the sitting he did talk a bit with the firebrand from the north, but it is said that the end is not yet.

On the vote for medical attendance at the jails, Mr. Helmcken advocated the appointment of physicians, who should make regular visits. Hon. Mr. Eberts agreed to the proposition.

The vote to the Old Men's Home brought forth a suggestion from Mr. Hayward that an Old Women's Home be established. While the need for this was not so pressing as in the case of the stronger sex, yet there were several aged and infirm amongst the women of the province to whom such an institution would be a blessing. It will be considered by the government.

While congratulating the government upon the raise in the salaries of the monitors (school teachers) from \$30 to \$40 per month, and of other civil servants, Mr. Oliver, of Delta, advocated a raise, too, in the amount of the wages (as he termed it) payable to the members of the house.

Mr. Murphy, aided by Mr. Eberts, made a strong plea for bigger grants to the government offices in the Simulashan.

Mr. Helmcken recommended an increased salary for the curators of the provincial museum.

A question of Mr. Oliver elicited the information that per capita grants were being given to the city hospitals and lump sums to those at other points.

Mr. Oliver suggested that the clerks of the municipalities be made collectors of votes. The \$500 grant to the county court judges drew forth the opinions from both sides of the house that all the judges should be better paid.

All the members appeared to advocate higher salaries for almost everybody.

Mr. Gilmour and Mr. Oliver joined in vigorous protest against the way estimates are put through. But both were plainly told to try to keep up with the race.

The vote of \$5,000 to the sheriffs elicited the information that the sheriff of New Westminster earned \$650 from his office, all told, last year, and the Victoria official did not get enough to live upon.

The house adjourned at 12:20 a.m.

QUESTIONS ANSWERED.

Hon. Mr. Eberts replied to Mr. Clifford's questions:

1. Is it the intention of the government to enquire into the conduct of E. M. N. Woods, stipendiary magistrate at Atlin, on the 30th July last, in confining Wm. Queen in jail for alleged contempt of court? Answer—The attorney-general's department is making an enquiry into the facts in connection with the alleged imprisonment of one Wm. Queen, for contempt of court.

2. Is it the intention of the government to punish the deputy returning officer at Bella Coola, (B. Brynildson), for culpable stupidity in cancelling the votes of ten of the electors without cause? Answer—Unfortunately, I know of no means whereby a man may be punished for such stupidity.

Also Mr. Gilmour's questions: 1. Was an injunction issued at the instance of the government against the building of a sawmill on Deadman's Island? If so, when? Answer—No; an interim injunction was issued restraining Theo. Ludgate from cutting any trees or otherwise trespassing on said land, 16th May, 1899. This injunction will remain in force until trial of action.

2. Is it the intention of the government to move in the way of withdrawing the said injunction? If not, why not? Answer—It is not intended to remove injunction until the question as to whether Deadman's Island belongs to the Province or Dominion is decided.

3. What action, if any, is it the intention of the government to take with reference to said injunction? Answer—To proceed to trial of the injunction action now pending.

Hon. Mr. Wells replied to Mr. McInnes' questions:

1. Were any complaints made concerning the technical knowledge or building experience of A. W. Walkley, Esq., in connection with his services on the reconstruction of the Victoria court house? If so, by whom?

2. Did the government cause any inquiry to be made into the technical knowledge or building experience of the said A. W. Walkley before he was removed from his position on the reconstruction of the Victoria court house? If so, by whom, and with what result?

3. What does the government know about the technical knowledge or building experience of the said A. W. Walkley?

Answer—These questions are not in order, as they refer to questions already answered this session.

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# Provincial Legislature

**Estimates Completed at Afternoon Sitting Without Any Opposition,**

**The Vancouver City Bill Rapidly Put Through the Committee Stage.**

At the legislature yesterday the consideration of the estimates was resumed, and in a couple of hours the committee reported all their labors complete and the items all passed. The passage of these the first estimates of the Dunsmuir administration, was probably more expeditiously accomplished than had ever before been the case in this province. Little opposition was encountered, either in the debate or over the details, and so in the short space of eight hours in all both of these important duties were fulfilled by the assembly. Several bills were then staged, two of them to their final readings, and an evening session devoted to the mammoth statute from Vancouver city, practically completed its progress through committee.

Immediately after prayers, which were read by Rev. Mr. Barber, the petition of the British America Corporation and others, and of the London and British Columbia Goldfields, Ltd., regarding the mining industry in the Kootenay, were presented by Messrs. Curtis and Green.

Mr. Hall presented the second report of the printing committee, which recommended the printing of the return of detail regarding the mining leases issued in Atlin asked for by Mr. Stables.

Mr. Oliver, who had occasioned much amusement in the lobbies by championing shorter hours and longer pay for members, rose to a point of privilege. In the Colonist of yesterday he had been represented as asking for an increase of pay, but he had only said it in fun. He had made the remark, it was true, but next time he tried to be witty he would label it, "This is a joke."

The house then went into committee of the whole and resumed the consideration of the estimates. Mr. Pooley took the chair, and as a rule little debate was indulged in as the items flew by.

The vote for the maintenance of Government House was the first to be read. This provided for \$4,698 for that purpose. As it was being passed, Mr. Helmcken arose to advocate the erection of a new residence for the Lieutenant-Governor. A sum of \$12,000 was already on hand from the insurance of the burned buildings. The rent being paid at present amounted to a considerable amount and it would be much cheaper to have a building erected, which would be in keeping with the other buildings of the government and the dignity of the province. A grant of \$20,000 would probably, with the insurance money, be sufficient for this purpose.

Hon. Mr. Turner quite agreed with Mr. Helmcken and assured the house that the matter was being considered by the government. The present grant was, however, but an emergency one, and the whole of it might not necessarily be spent. The site which the province possessed was a beautiful one, and it seemed to him that the amount suggested for the cost of a proper residence for His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor should receive consideration.

Mr. Price Ellison thought \$32,000 little enough, and would be willing to see even \$50,000 devoted to this purpose. He thought then that a residence might be secured which would be in keeping with the rest of the city of Victoria. To be sure, he had voted against the present parliament buildings, but now he was quite ready to acknowledge that he was proud of the noble pile.

The vote of \$16,200 for road superintendents led to the suggestion that competent engineers be set over this work.

The grants towards the building of the Dewdney trunk wagon road from Pitt Meadows and Harrison met with the approval of Mr. Brown and several other members of the house, while the third member from Vancouver urged its extension into Vancouver by way of the proposed Hastings-Barnett wagon road.

Mr. Houston occasioned a laugh over the Nelson estimates. He had asked for \$11,000, and the Minister of Finance had given him \$11,200. Why, he did not

know, but he wished to tell the government that if he got just what he asked for there would be no trouble. The members from some other ridings were complaining that they did not get enough, and he would be quite willing to let them have the \$200 for their trails.

The votes for the Kootenay ridings evoked a good deal of discussion. Rossland and the Slokan appeared in the role of rivals for the pre-eminence in that part of the province, and the member for the former riding found a grievance in the fact that the larger appropriation went to the other camp. West Kootenay had never had a fair deal, Mr. Curtis claimed. Out of \$1,052,725 of revenue coming into the treasury from that district only \$500,000 had been returned. In a long speech he then reviewed the grants to the various ridings and made a strong plea for a larger appropriation for his part of the country.

Mr. Turner pointed out that the gentleman opposite had overlooked altogether the large sums spent in railway construction in that district.

Mr. Green objected to Mr. Curtis' claim that Rossland had let the world know that there was such a place as British Columbia, and by a lot of statistics showed that the Slokan had had the richer output and that even before Rossland was much known.

For Cassiar, Mr. Stables advocated that an addition be made to the grant by an item of \$500 for a pack trail along the telegraph line from Atlin in to Bennett. This would provide the Atlin miners with a chance of getting in mails when communication was generally interrupted in the spring and fall. Mr. Curtis interposed here, too, pointing out that to Cariboo \$59,000 was returned out of \$69,000 raised there in revenue, while in Atlin only \$16,000 was to be expended out of \$111,000 of revenue. He was closed up by Mr. Clifford, who asked what had he to do with it, the members for Cariboo had got what they asked and were satisfied.

On the vote for wharves, Mr. Helmcken pointed out that in Eastern Canada the Dominion government built the wharves, and if they could be induced to extend that policy to the Coast it would lead to a saving in the revenue of the province.

Messrs. Fulton and Ellison both advocated a higher royalty on the destruction of coyotes, when the wolf, panther, etc., bounty was reached. Coyotes were increasing in their districts and were becoming a nuisance.

On the grant to the militia, Mr. Tatlow pointed out that an increase was necessary because of the new companies lately organized in the upper country. He would not like to see the Vancouver militia receive less than they had formerly, and all the more so because of the good work that the soldiers there had done in the past few weeks. From certain reports it would appear that the soldiers were not very popular there and that a boycott was expected. These statements, however, were wholly untrue and came chiefly from paid agitators. To Mr. Fulton it was promised that the grant should be divided up equally between the various bodies of the militia.

On the vote of \$3,000 for sluice gates in Comox, Mr. Mounce explained that a dyke had been built between Courtenay and Comox, and gates put in, but the gates were poorly constructed and repairs cost about \$500 a year. He had asked for \$2,000 for the work, but the department had thought the larger sum necessary. The vote carried.

Under the vote of \$6,000 to the provincial board of health expenses, Mr. Houston brought up the bills of several shop-keepers in Nelson from whom purchases had been made on account of the recent smallpox scare there. These accounts had been refused payment, and he hoped that under this grant they would be met. The Minister of Finance assured the member from Nelson that the accounts would be looked into and paid if found to be rightly owing.

On the vote of \$1,200 for immigration purchases, Mr. Oliver asked if this was to be spent in importing servant girls. If so, he hoped that they would be relieved in some way from Chinese competition. Hon. Mr. Turner told him of the efforts of long ago when two or three shiploads had been imported. The business had not been a profitable one, however, as he himself had lost \$150 over it.

The committee then rose and reported the estimates complete.

The adjourned committee work on the Companies Bill was then taken up. A long discussion arose over an amendment of Mr. Curtis' to permit of an easier way of changing mining companies issuing non-necessariable stock into assessable stock companies. This, it was shown, would favor all sorts of freeing-out schemes on the part of company promoters, and was accordingly thrown out. The report was adopted and the bill read a third time.

The special commission bill for the settling of mining disputes in the Percu-

pine district came up for its second reading on a short explanatory speech of the Minister of Mines, who also stated that it was hoped that the commission would be enabled to leave early next week. On the passage of the reading, the bill was committed, and will be read a third time to-day.

Hon. Mr. McBride explained the bill to relieve the volunteers of the province now serving in South Africa from any possible loss through the regulations of the mining laws. To this Mr. Helmcken suggested that a similar proviso should protect their franchise rights. This, however, it was pointed out, should be dealt with under the Elections Act; and the bill as brought down was read a second time.

On its going into committee Mr. Helmcken made the further suggestion that the mining claims be granted to the soldier boys, and that some recognition of their services be extended to all the rest of them, but the government had not had time to consider this, so the bill was reported complete without amendment, and was at once given its third reading.

The Speaker then saw 6 o'clock.

## EVENING SESSION.

The evening session was devoted to the wearisome details of the Vancouver city bill. A good many spectators had gone over to the house, but one by one they dwindled away, as with sonorous tones Chairman Helmcken railed the sections through. Both Mr. Martin and Mr. Gilmour were absent, and so little opposition was given to the greater number of the sections and in the case of but one of these was there much debate. After Mr. Helmcken's rich dirge had prolonged the rolling echoes over several pages, Mr. Rogers asked that Mr. Garden's former suggestion be acted on, viz., the calling of the numbers of all sections not to be read. This was joyfully accepted, and so the 230 sections, covering some 125 pages, were all got through before midnight. Upon the house at large the bill had an empty effect, but more especially was this noticeable on the opposition side, where the electric glimmer gleamed on the shiner bottoms of many empty chairs. Early in the evening Mr. McInnes left. Others of the members who had a fortnight ago called loudly for right sessions remembered that their previous night's sleep had, through the reading of the estimates, been much shortened in its beginning, dropped out one by one, and sought their hotels, and at last no one but Mr. Brown remained to hold up that side of political opinion. Mr. McPhillips, however, had compassion on the nine times decimated ranks of what he had termed the pitiable handful, and so came up and sat beside him.

The bulk of the sections and their amendments were accepted as they came from the Vancouver council, but in many cases the house reminded the "Mayor and corporation," as Mr. Garden was quickly dubbed, that while he represented the city they, in Mr. Hunter's expression, represented the sovereign people, and explanations of various sections were often asked. Two or three sections were laid over for future consideration. An amendment of Mr. Brown's for Mr. Gilmour, providing for resort to the referendum on a petition from 1,000 of the electors was thrown out, and the sub-section sought by the city to enable them to force the telephone, telegraph and other wires to be put underground, was also rejected.

Upon the committee reporting the house adjourned at 11:40 p.m.



## Provincial Legislature

### A Petition From Some of the Leading Kootenay Mining Companies.

### House Votes Down Attempt to Re-introduce Bennett Rail- way Bill.

The house was in a working mood yesterday afternoon, and for a couple of hours the public business was pushed forward at quite as rapid a pace as the due consideration for high office and function would permit. The estimates received their final readings, a few bills were introduced and staged along, the special act for the settling of the mining disputes in the Porcupine district was finally passed, and considerable routine work accomplished. Towards the end of the afternoon, however, the high purpose of a speedy home-going weakened, and for an hour or so a desultory debate was kept up as to how many wards there should be in the city of Vancouver. One, two, five, six, ten and fifteen were the numbers favored, but at last the responsibility of deciding this momentous question was left to that city itself, and now it can divest itself in one single ward or one hundred and fifty.

After prayers by Rev. W. L. Clay, the petitions of the Kootenay mine owners were read. These had been signed by the London and B. C. Goldfields, the Hall Mining & Smelting Co., the Ymir Gold Mines, the Athabasca Mine, the British American Corporation, Le Roi Mining Co., the War Eagle, Centre Star and several other prominent mining companies, and set forth that it appeared, from Commissioner Clute's report, that already over \$30,000,000 in cash had been expended in actual mining operations in that district. Recent legislation, it stated, had, however, interfered with the successful working of these mines and had been responsible for disturbing the harmony hitherto existing between the employers and the employed, as well as proving generally detrimental to the vast mining interests of the province. The petition ended with the prayer that these matters might receive some special investigation and consideration, and the appointment of a mining commission was hinted at.

Objection to receiving these was taken by Mr. Martin upon the ground that the petitioners did not definitely state their grievance. The mining companies complained generally of the ill effect of provincial legislation upon metalliferous mining, but had apparently been afraid to state the particular law to which they objected. Technical objections were added to this, but at last Mr. Speaker ruled the petitions in order, and his division was upheld by the house.

The estimates received their formal readings and were finally passed. A message was then received from His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, transmitting a bill to amend the License Act. After defining the terms "hawker" and "peddler," the bill provides for a penalty of \$250 for neglecting to take out, or attempting to evade the payment of a license fee. An additional section also provides for a license for pack trains and freighting outfits of \$5 for six months, or \$2.50 when less than six draught animals were employed.

Upon a further message from His Honor, Hon. Mr. McBride then introduced a bill offering some amendments to the Mineral Act. This was received and read the first time, and provided for the issue of crown grants of mineral claims to the administrators of their deceased owners; also for a \$25 penalty for mining without a free miner's certificate. The other recommendation of the mining committee was also provided for by a section authorizing the advertising out of delinquent co-owners by the publication of such a notice for 90 days in a local paper. Costs of survey up to the sum of \$100 are by it also to be included in the estimation of the value of assessment work. The fee for a crown grant is proposed to be increased from \$10 to \$25.

An amendment to the Provincial Election Act was then introduced by the Hon. the Attorney-General, providing for a notice in writing to be sent by the collector to any person whose claim to vote is objected to, at least six days before the hearing of these objections. This was received and read a first time.

A bill containing the correction of a clerical error in the Railway Assessment Act was then offered by Hon. Mr. Eberts, and was received forthwith and given its first reading.

Upon the consideration of the bill appointing a commissioner to settle the mining disputes in the Porcupine district, Mr. Stables raised a question about the \$25 which had been exacted for costs before any case was considered in Act in last year. In reply, the Minister of Mines stated that this matter of detail had not yet been settled by the government. No doubt it might work a hardship in some quarters, but it also had some good effects, in that it kept all sorts of petty complaints being rushed before the commissioner upon the most frivolous pretences. The bill was then reported on complete without amendments, and was given its final reading.

In moving that the Lake Bennett Railway bill be re-introduced and read a second time, Mr. Stables stated that he desired some further information about the policy of the government. This was purely a provincial matter and with it the Dominion government had no business at all. He favored an all-Canadian route as heartily as anyone, but when was it coming? The people of his district had had a most unfortunate experience in the old all-Canadian route. Thousands of them had, upon information from Ottawa that an all-Canadian wagon road had been completed to Teslin lake, essayed to get in to the gold fields by that way, and the consequent disasters were still fresh on the minds of many. His constituency was in great need of railway competition, as the rates charged by the present road were excessively burdensome, and he hoped the house would consider this method of affording the district some measure of relief. The resolution was seconded by Mr. Curtis, but it elicited no debate, and was negatived on the following division:

Yeas: Messrs. McInnes, Gilmour, Stables, Oliver, Brown, Curtis, R. Smith, Houston—8.

Nays: Messrs. Kidd, Neill, Green, Hall, McPhillips, Helmcken, Turner, Dunsmuir, Eberts, A. W. Smith, Ellison, Clifford, Fulton, Hayward, Garden, Prentice, Wells, McBride, Pooley, Murphy, Rogers, Hunter, Taylor, Dickie, Mounce—25.

The adjourned committee on the Vancouver & Westminster Railway charter then resumed its labors, and the various questions yet unsettled were taken up. Mr. Oliver objected to the provision permitting this company to build branch lines of more than the usual six-mile length, urging that it practically gave the petitioners a blanket charter for that part of the country, his own district included. He moved in amendment that no right be given them to bridge the Fraser river and to build on its south side, not that he did not want the bridge and a railway running through his district, but because there was no definite project to undertake these enterprises, and thus the field would be covered to the hindrance, it might be, of other people who were willing to undertake such works. The debate ran on for some time, but when it was made to appear that the object was to permit the construction of a line to Steveston, the provision was adopted.

The amendment offered by the opposition, authorizing the cancellation of the charter, if the road did not carry free all persons whose fares would be a charge upon the treasury, was voted down, after Mr. Hunter had shown its political nature, as it appeared that it would enable a government, by holding the axe over the company's head, to cough up as election purposes might require.

When the anti-Chinese and Japanese labor clauses were reached, Mr. Helmcken moved that the committee suspend its operations until the Labor bill had been considered, as its general provisions would cover the matters to be affected by the sections then reached. And it was so.

The Vancouver charter was then reached, and as Messrs. Gilmour and Martin were present, Vancouver was divided against itself, and the rest of the house sat back in their chairs to see their way of "living together in unity." Messrs. Garden and Tatlow tried to get the house to accept the recommendations of the council of that city, to which their colleagues, in several instances, objected. The number of wards was the dry topic that occupied the debate for an hour or so, and at last it was decided that the council could by by-law create as many wards as it chose upon a basis of population and assessed value. This last combination of polls and dollars led to many questions and theories, but the theory of the grave member from Richmond took the cake. This was that the number of inhabitants in a certain district be multiplied by their assessed value, and the square root of the product being taken should constitute the measure of equality which should govern the division of the city.

The committee upon this bill reported progress, and at 5:50 o'clock the house adjourned.

The members legislature yesterday a big day's work and other bills. Helmcken's some debate, winning and handing over for its debates were tion, who attempted to insert anti-Chinese of their own bills; but as pressing a general, their effort Proceedings with the Lieutenant-Governor went to a coup.

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## Provincial Legislature

### House Passes the Second Reading of Mr. Helmcken's Labor Bill.

### Good Deal of Committee Work Accomplished—Mineral Act Amendment.

The members worked hard at the legislature yesterday and accomplished a big day's work amongst the private and other bills. Chief of these was Mr. Helmcken's labor bill, which, after some debate, was given its second reading and handed over to the government for its further steps. Most of the debates were occasioned by the opposition, who attempted time and again to insert anti-Chinese or such like clauses of their own devising into the several bills; but as the government is now pressing a general bill to cover the matter, their efforts were generally in vain. Proceedings were varied by a visit from the Lieutenant-Governor, who gave assent to a couple of bills.

After that Rev. W. L. Clay had read the prayers, a petition from the miners at Lillooet was presented by Mr. A. W. Smith, requesting that cost of surveys be counted in as part value for assessment work.

Upon his motion regarding the Burnaby Small Holdings, Mr. Kidd spoke highly of the progress made in the reclaiming of these plots of land. It would be well, however, to have an occasional report upon the matter not only with a view of keeping the land holders up to the conditions of their lease, but of keeping this admirable system before the public. It might also thus lead to the opening up in a similar way of other sections of the public domain which were contiguous to the city of Vancouver.

After that the Hon. Mr. Wells had stated that the government would offer no objection to the motion, Mr. Tatlow spoke of the interest even in the city of Vancouver in this system of land holding which he hoped would be so extended as to permit of many more townfolks being enabled to thus build up suburban homes for themselves. Mr. Brown then spoke of a rumor that he had several times heard to the effect that all the holders of these five acre lots were not fully performing the conditions of their agreement, which could not but be a grave injustice to those who were fulfilling these clauses. Of course this could not be laid to the fault of the present government, but there was no doubt that some one had neglected their duty in the past and that the matter should be looked into. The resolution was then passed.

Mr. Pooley, chairman of the railway committee, introduced the tenth report of that body, which favored the Grand Forks & Kettle River bill, amended by eliminating that portion of the railway between Cascade City and the city of Grand Forks, at the request of the promoters. The report was read and received.

On the second reading of the Tramway Act, Hon. Attorney-General pointed out that this was practically the re-enactment of the measure of 1894, which had been disallowed because of an anti-Chinese clause. The bill was then read a second time.

The bills amending the Elections Act and the License Act were given their second reading. To the latter a section was further added providing for a \$200 tax per day on circuses and menageries holding their shows outside municipal areas, as had been done at Kamloops and elsewhere, thus hitherto escaping a license fee.

Upon the second reading of the committee on the Lands Registry bill the Attorney-General explained the clause to be added respecting registration of tax sale deeds, and the reading passed.

Hon. Mr. McBride, on the second reading of the amendments to the Mineral Act, explained that these provided for the issuing of a crown grant to the representatives of a deceased owner; also for a penalty for mining without a free miner's certificate. The clause providing for advertising-out had been taken

from the regulations in some of the States, where this means of dealing with delinquent co-owners had been found most successful. The issuing of the certificate of improvements was one of the most important of the provisions of the act. Upon this the procurement of a crown grant depended, and so it should be most closely guarded. To this end a section was also offered. The fee for a crown grant was also, it was proposed, to be amended from \$10 to \$25, while the costs of survey up to \$100 were to be counted in on the assessment work.

Mr. Curtis opposed the increasing of the miners' burdens, especially in its initial stages. This would be done by the increasing of the fee for a crown grant. He did not think that the advertising-out clause would work evenly in the case of co-owners who were behind in their contributions, and promised to offer some amendments to it when the proper time arrived. As it was also the companies engaged in mining labored under difficulties that were not imposed upon the individual miners, as they were taxed \$50 or \$100 a year, which imposed the individuals escaped. It must be remembered, too, he thought, that most of the claims vended in the end turned out to be worthless. That was invariably the way in a mining country.

Mr. Martin was much surprised at the bill. From the speech from the throne he had thought that the government considered the mining industry and law as in a deplorable state, and yet the amendments offered had been of quite an ordinary sort. He noticed that none of the principles of the mineral legislation of the province were being interfered with, and yet it was generally hinted that so bad had things become that a mining commission must issue in order to have matters righted. As to the amendments suggested, he would not say much. The manner of dealing with delinquent co-owners was without doubt a difficult one, and he supposed that the government were trying to do justice to the miners by this provision. With the idea of counting in the cost of survey in making up the assessment work, he did not at all agree. Its original object had been to induce people to take out crown grants for their properties, but its success was quite doubtful. With the member from Rossland he joined in lamenting the increase in the fee for a crown grant for a mine. However, he readily understood the position of things. The government had to look around to find methods of making the loss to the treasury arising out of the reduction of the amount they were raising from that portion of the liquor traders that might rightly be styled whiskey sellers. They had reduced the fees for these and now had to tack it on to other people, and so eight poor prospectors had now to make good the sum taken off the whiskey sellers' shoulders.

The Attorney-General was surprised at the tone of Mr. Martin's remarks. That gentleman and his friends always posed as the friends of the poor man and that at great length, and yet in this very bill the inconsistency of his claim was quite apparent. In this very act he was found opposing the clause which allowed the poor man to save \$100 by having the cost of his survey applied to make up the amount of the assessment work.

Mr. Green thought that it was getting a little tiresome to hear the members of the opposition sing so much of their song of the working man. Of course they were his only friends. But the house was getting tired of hearing so much about it at their own lips. So far as he could see the provisions of the bill were in favor of the better administration of mining matters and were beneficial to the miner and prospector as well. The increase in the fee for a crown grant besides would necessarily affect the prospector. Most of the claims before they reach that stage are out of the prospector's hands, and if they were not their value would more than meet any objection that might be made on that score. He was glad to see the government doing all that they could to foster this most important industry.

This reading of the bill was then passed.

In moving the second reading of his bill respecting work done under franchises granted by private acts, Mr. Helmcken was glad to state that the measure had received the approval of the administration. During the recent campaign this had been one of the most vital questions, and he asked the house to notice that the bill was very general in its scope, and while not striking especially at any particular class, was undoubtedly in the interest of the laboring classes generally. The subject had occasioned a most interesting debate in the Imperial House of Commons over the Australian act of union the Commonwealth bill. This bill, like the Canadian B.N.A. Act, which had indeed been taken as its model, contained certain clauses regarding aliens, and was being discussed in May

and June last, the very months. In the English debates, Hon. Mr. Chamberlain had said:

"But the second principle which I ask the house to assent to and to which we have given application by certain amendments is that wherever the bill touches the interests of the Empire as a whole, or the interests of Her Majesty's subjects or of Her Majesty's possessions outside of Australia, the Imperial parliament occupies a position of trust which it is not the desire of the Empire, and which I do not believe for a moment it is the desire of Australia, that it should fulfill in any perfunctory or formal manner."

Mr. Asquith also stated, "On the other hand, I entirely agree with the right hon. gentleman, that we in this Imperial parliament are by the necessity of the case the ultimate custodians and trustees of Imperial interests; that that is a duty we cannot abdicate without being false to the mandate which sent us here, and however wide and authoritative may be the representations made to us from any part of the Empire, we are bound to interfere, and we have not only a right, but a duty to interfere if those plans when carried into effect should be inconsistent with the welfare of other parts of the Empire or offer menace or danger to our Imperial interests."

These remarks arose over the sections in that bill which referred to (1) naturalization and aliens and (2) the people of any race other than the aboriginal race in any state for whom it is deemed necessary to make special laws. And from them it would be clearly seen where the ultimate power of dealing with this urgent question was located, and also that this power was highly appreciated its duty and responsibility with regard to the distant members of the Empire. The act which is at present being discussed is, however,

wholly within the powers of this assembly. It has been carefully framed to meet the needs of the case and would do so without bringing the assembly into ridicule or expressing a seriously disturbing influence upon the economic conditions of the province. It falls under the head of property and civil rights, while the wider measure aiming at the restriction of the aliens from coming into the province must, everyone else to the contrary, be left to those Imperial trustees who, as above stated, freely acknowledge their responsibility and profess to be ready to do their duty.

Mr. McInnes was very pleased that the bill Mr. Helmcken brought in so far a measure upon this so important a question. He had himself attempted to introduce a similar principle through certain amendments to the charter bills before the house without, however, except in one instance, any success. In looking over this act he had found, however, that it did not go far enough, and he proposed that its provisions be extended not only to all chartered companies, but to all companies being incorporated under the Mineral Companies Act. But while pleased with the bill so far as it went, he could not but point out that its scope was wholly confined to the future. It would be well, he thought, to make it retrospective, and so bring more signal relief to the laboring classes of the province.

Hon. Mr. McBride was glad to announce that the policy of this bill was the policy of the government. The government had decided views upon the restricting of Asiatics with a view of offering some relief to white labor. So far as the attack of Mr. McInnes made a few days ago upon the present administration at Ottawa was concerned, he thought that that gentleman had made out a very fair case. But he did not think that the gentleman from North Nanaimo was entitled to take all the praise as himself for the efforts made at Ottawa in this behalf by the members from British Columbia. Col. Prior and several others may not have made such fiery speeches, but they had done able work upon this very subject. It was hardly a graceful act for him to criticize his colleagues from this province at Ottawa, as he had done.

Mr. McInnes—When did I criticize them?

Hon. Mr. McBride—Oh, the other evening. However, I am willing to admit that the honorable gentleman hardly knew what he was saying the other day.

On Mr. Speaker calling his attention to the fact that this was hardly in order, the honorable gentleman gracefully withdrew the objectionable remarks, and continuing, stated that the question was one which should be treated in a statesmanlike way.

A few days ago Mr. John C. Brown had named a few of the gentlemen on the government side, calling on them to fulfil their election pledges to the people about this very matter. Now, personally, he was quite prepared to stand by every pledge that he had ever made, but he was going to use his own judgment



and that carefully, too, in what he did, and in spite of all that the bolding gentleman opposite might say, he was not going to be rattled by these or any hasty or ill-considered suggestion. It was all very well to say that the leader of the opposition had taken up the Manitoba railway question and had forced the Dominion government to change policy, but it was nonsense for them to try to bulldoze the Imperial house.

Mr. Curtis: Well, what is it that you are going to do? You speak of broad and statesmanlike measures, but are you going to do anything at all?

Hon. Mr. McBride: Well, it was fore-shadowed in the speech from the throne that representations would be made both to the Dominion and Imperial authorities, in the hope that the needs of the province would be recognized. Besides this it was proposed to pass such acts from time to time as the difficult circumstances of the case would authorize. The government was giving the matter every consideration with a view to benefitting the condition of affairs, and not with the object of degrading it to the common level of party politics. He understood that a great many statements of various members had been taken down, and that typewritten copies were being sent about the country. This, he thought, was a dastardly proceeding.

Mr. Martin: Well, were you misrepresented at all? Was there anything in it that you're ashamed of?

Hon. Mr. McBride: Then you typewrote it, did you?

Mr. Martin: No.

Mr. McBride: Perhaps you're ashamed to admit that you sent out those typewritten reports to which no reply can be given. It seems to me a most back-handed course to take.

Mr. Curtis: I must again ask the hon. gentleman what the policy of the government upon this question of Asiatic labor and exclusion is. What are you going to do about it?

Hon. Mr. McBride: Well, I cannot supply the gentleman with facilities to understand the statements I have so clearly made.

Mr. Martin: No, you have none to spare.

Hon. Mr. McBride: Oh, I am not like the leader of the opposition. I have no doubt but that the member from Rossland has struck some applications to his leader and has only met with disappointment.

Mr. Curtis: The government's policy, as outlined, seems to me only shirking the question. They are treating it unfairly. They refer it to Imperial politics and speak of passing such and such acts from time to time, but that will not satisfy the country. There is one feature in which there can be no possible doubt as to the rights and power of the province, and that has again and again been pointed out, viz., enacting of clauses similar to the Natal Act, and the government seem to refuse to set upon it. The government ought to be ready to take the house somewhat more honestly into its confidence.

Mr. McPhillips pointed out that the former legislation of the leader of the opposition—when he had been the power—as attorney-general, had only led to disallowance and in disgrace to the province. While he would support the present bill, yet it was not without some doubts as to its constitutionality, and he would warn the house of the danger that they ran in passing such a measure. Again, members of the opposition repeatedly urged upon the government the need of passing a law like the Natal Act when they well knew, or at any rate should know, that the measure was wholly outside of the powers of this legislature to pass.

Mr. Curtis: Well, how is it that you a few days ago opposed our resolution as being unconstitutional and immediately brought in a similar amendment yourself?

Mr. McPhillips: My amendment was quite constitutional, and the present bill may, perhaps, be so, too, but what I find fault with is the way in which during the campaign some gentlemen did not hesitate to deceive the electorate by saying that they would pass a Natal bill when they well knew that it was not in their power to do so. It would be a good thing for those gentlemen to look into the powers of this assembly and so know why they should cease to urge upon the government measures whose only end would be to make it look ridiculous.

Hon. Mr. Lieutenant-Governor then entered the chamber and expressed the assent of the crown to the Bandon Relief bill and the bill providing for a commission to settle the mining disputes in the Porcupine district.

Mr. McPhillips concluded by hoping that this bill would prove an effective one, as there was no doubt but that it was much closer to the powers of this assembly than any enactment that had yet been introduced.

Mr. Brown thought that the measure should go to its furthest possible limit, as the sooner these Asiatics were driven

against some other measures, but on being assured to the contrary, resumed his seat, while twitting the government, as though they had been afraid to father the measure until after its second reading had been passed.

Upon a message from the Lieutenant-Governor a bill regarding the imposition of a royalty upon coal and coke was introduced, and on being considered in committee was read a first time. Upon coal the rate is fixed at 5 cents and upon coke at 9 cents per long ton.

On the further message from the Lieutenant-Governor, a bill to amend the Assessment Act was introduced, and after being committed was given its first reading.

On a further message from His Honor, the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works introduced an act to amend the Lands Act. This provides for a rebate of 25 per cent. of the purchase money in arrears on pre-emption claims if paid in equal half-yearly instalments in December, 1900; June, 1901; and December, 1901. The bill was read a first time.

The bill to accelerate the incorporation of the city of Phoenix was then put through committee and given its second reading.

A return was then presented by the Hon. Mr. Prentice, setting forth the number of ballots cast in the various constituencies during the recent elections.

The committee work upon the Vancouver City Bill was again resumed and at last concluded after a few minor amendments had been introduced. Amongst these, however, an interesting one was introduced by Mr. Brown, for Mr. Helmcken, who was sitting as chairman of the committee. This asserted that the employees of the city should be paid the local current wage. Mr. Garden pointed out that already this was being done, in fact that common labor was being paid 4 cents more than other laborers there, as they were getting 24 cents per hour. The amendment was, however, accepted. The committee then reported and the report was adopted.

The act regarding the English Church Synod of New Westminster was then read the second time and on being committed was reported complete with amendments.

Mr. Oliver took the chair for committing the Rock Bay & Salmon River railway bill. The various sections were passed along swimmingly until Mr. Curtis' amendment was reached. This was intended to introduce the contract system, by which anti-Chinese clauses could be inserted in the agreement between the government and the company regarding any grant or any other subsidy which might be made. The section ran as follows:

"Notwithstanding anything hereinbefore contained, the company shall not have the right to purchase, lease or use any lands belonging to the province until it has entered into a contract with the provincial government with respect to such right, and upon such terms and in such manner as the Lieutenant-governor-in-council may prescribe."

In advocating his amendment, Mr. Curtis showed that it was framed upon the lines suggested by Mr. Charles Wilson, and as such should receive the support of all the gentlemen who had followed that defeated leader.

Mr. Tatlow pointed out that, although he thoroughly believed in the spirit of the amendment, he would prefer not to see the charters encumbered in this way, as they had a general act before them which would bring all these acts under the operation of the principle embodied in the amendment.

The question was then raised that the amendment was out of order, and the debate upon this point lasted until Mr. Speaker saw 6 o'clock.

EVENING SESSION.

On the house re-assembling at 8:30, the amendment was in order, and on being put was lost. The remaining sections and the preamble of this bill were then passed, and the report of the committee was received by the house.

The house then went into committee to consider the Western Telegraph & Telephone Co.'s bill. Here, too, the monotonous reading of clauses followed for some half hour or two, and was only broken when Mr. Brown's amendment, running as follows, was reached:

"28. Any duly incorporated municipality shall at any time, upon giving one year's notice to the company, have the right to purchase, and the company shall be compelled to sell, any of the works and property of the company situate, lying and being within the corporate limits of the said municipality, on such terms as may be determined upon by arbitration. Wherever, however, with such rights, privileges and franchises in connection with such works as the company may have acquired under the powers of this act; and upon the completion of such purchase the municipality shall have power to maintain

and operate such works, and to hold, exercise and enjoy all the rights, privileges and franchises which the company held, exercised or enjoyed in connection therewith."

This led to a general discussion in which a number of the members took part. Mr. Garden stated that this company, in coming to Vancouver, should it ever reach that point, would not be able to enter that city on any nominal terms, and certainly the time had now been reached when the telephonic service, as well as electric light, tramway service and waterworks, might be expected to be taken over by the cities. Mr. Price Ellison, who had the bill in charge, stood to his guns, however, and the amendment was finally negatived.

The bill was then reported complete.

Committee work on the Vancouver, Northern & Yukon charter was then undertaken. Its clauses were all speedily passed upon, until at last one was reached which would repeal the anti-Chinese clauses inserted in 1899. These, it was shown, conflicted with the letter of the Minister of Justice, and then the old anti-Chinese debate was again worked through in all its length. Again Messrs. Curtis and McPhillips monopolized the debate, but it seemed that Mr. Green's few words carried the day. That member from the Slokan pointed out that the sections were now over a year old, that the bill had not been disallowed, and that it was in the right direction. The section was then put and carried. Another section was put and carried changing the name of the company to that of the Vancouver, Westminster, Northern & Yukon Railway Company. The committee then reported the bill complete as amended.

Upon Mr. Helmcken's request the house then went back to the Vancouver & Westminster Railway bill, one of whose clauses—the anti-Chinese section introduced into the bill by the opposition when it was before the railway committee—had been left over at the request of

the member having charge of the measure. Mr. Helmcken then moved that this clause be struck out, as the matter was thoroughly covered by the Labor bill, which had now passed its third reading, and which he had every confidence the government would carry through, they having taken charge of the measure.

Mr. Brown then essayed to spring a new subject of debate upon the house. This he did by moving that the Vancouver & Westminster Railway bill be given the six months' hoist.

Mr. Helmcken here interjected: Why, we will have it finished before then. Part of it is built now.

The member for New Westminster, continuing, urged that as many members on the government side had declared themselves in favor of government ownership of railways, this was an excellent opportunity to put their opinions into practice. Of course he would only submit such an amendment as he now made on the understanding that if it carried the government take over the undertaking and complete and operate the road. It was an excellent line to make a beginning on. It was purely a local line, independent, too. Its success was practically assured from the start, and it was a cheap road to build.

Mr. McPhillips followed, stating that nothing declared the absurdity of these principles of the opposition more than this speech of Mr. Brown's. The opposition know well that the government was elected upon the policy of the government not owning the railways of the country, and yet he ventured to base his motion on the false promise to the contrary effect. It was ridiculous to attempt to do anything with questions so utterly absurd as this one was. The whole matter was almost contemptible. Mr. Tatlow urged the necessity of passing this bill. It had been up last session and in good faith the promoters of the road had already expended \$40,000, having completed the grade.

Mr. Gilmour would not support the six months' hoist unless the government gave a guarantee that it would go on with the building of the road. It was a much-needed piece of line and the country could not afford to see it temporized with.

Mr. Brown then tried to explain that his motion was only offered on the understanding that the government take over and complete the road, reimbursing the promoters for their costs and expenses in the matter.

Hon. Mr. Eberts pointed out that the member from New Westminster had been guilty of grave inconsistency. He had been eager to give the six months' hoist, but when reminded that his own riding might be interested and above all that even the gentlemen behind him would not follow his ridiculous lead, then he wanted to creep out of it.

Mr. Brown then essayed to speak again, but a chorus of laughter and cries of order drowned out even his stentorian voice.

Mr. Kidd spoke briefly in support of the bill, and pointed out that negotiations were now in progress between the company and the municipality of Rich-

mond reg combined which wa Delta wit room to pressing r The qu ond read Messrs. E it. The Pa way bill v ing, and bill to an was with cial com The ho o'clock.



AUGUST 23

## Provincial Legislature

### Private Bills Occupy the Attention of the House All Day.

#### Mr. Stables Introduces His Proposed Amendments to the Placer Act.

Yesterday was private bills day at the legislature, and the rapidly approaching end of the session made the day all the more valuable to those interested in this important kind of measure. To the various bills the opposition were constant with their amendments and the same speeches that the house had listened to on various previous occasions were made again and again. Slowly, however, progress was made, and when the house adjourned, shortly before midnight, all the bills, with but one exception, had been advanced, several of them in fact to their final passing by the house.

The Rev. W. L. Clay opened the sitting by reading the prayers, after which Mr. Oliver, of Delta, presented a petition from Surrey and other municipalities with reference to the necessity of a railway from the Coast to Kootenay on the south side of the Fraser river. A similar and numerously signed petition from Chilliwack was also presented by Mr. Munro, as well as another of like effect from Langley by Hon. Mr. Wells.

Mr. Speaker at this stage pointed out that many of the private bills were out of order, upon the ground that crown lands were affected by several of their provisions. The usual practice of printing these sections had been to have them appear in italics until consent of the government had been obtained, but this had this session been generally neglected, with the result that their existence was seriously jeopardized. After some discussion the matter was agreed to be dropped until one of the bills affected should be reached.

A bill to amend the Placer Mining Act was then introduced by Mr. Stables and read a first time. In this the junior member from Cassiar would do away with all distinctions between creek, bar, bench or hill claims, and give them all a uniform size of 250x250 feet. Two discovery claims of 500x250 feet each would be allowed. Side-line stakes not less than 100 feet apart would be required. The mining recorder should furnish printed notices for posting up, and in cases of re-recording or the abandonment of claims these would be required to be posted on the claims, as well as at the office. Instead of 72 hours a prospector should have 15 days in which to record, and each record should be accompanied by an affidavit, which practically excludes all work by an attorney. No leases should be granted, for three years, of any ground within 1,000 feet of a creek after gold had been discovered there.

The honors of the professional silk, which Mr. McPhillips had so strenuously upheld last session, were the subject of a bill introduced by him to amend the Queen's Counsel Act.

Upon the third reading of the Western Telegraph & Telephone Co. bill being reached, the discussion upon the point of order as above raised by Mr. Speaker was again resumed. Mr. McPhillips pointed out that the bills did not grant crown lands, but only contained a provision for such granting. Hon. Mr. Turner suggested that the rule be suspended and the matter thus cured; but Mr. Martin, who had assumed the duty of upholding the rule, absolutely refused to make any concession. The opposition had, he claimed, time and again suffered through the strict enforcement of the rules of order, their discussions having been repeatedly shut off by points raised against them by the members across the floor, and he proposed now to see the rule strictly adhered to. The house had overlooked the point and the thing had been done, and he would not consent to anything to which objection might be taken.

mond regarding the construction of a combined rail and public traffic bridge which would connect the islands of the Delta with the mainland. There was no room to doubt, he thought, about the pressing need of such a road.

The question was then put and the second reading of the bill passed, only Messrs. Brown and Curtis voting against it.

The Pacific, Northern & Omineca Railway bill was then given its second reading, and on motion of Mr. Oliver, his bill to amend the Municipal Clauses Act was withdrawn and referred to the municipal committee.

The house then adjourned at 11:20 o'clock.

Hon. Mr. Eberts pointed out that this was simply obstruction, as by notice of motion the occasion could be covered, but this would take a couple of days more time, and all wanted to end the session as early as possible.

But the leader of the opposition was obdurate, and after some further discussion Mr. Ellison, who had charge of the bill, suggested that the matter be held over a little longer. This was agreed to.

The reports on the Vancouver City bill and the Anglican Diocese of New Westminster were then received and the bills read a third time.

Mr. Neill then took the chair in committee and proceeded with the reading of the sections of the Crow's Nest Pass Electric Light & Power Co.'s bill. As these were going through Mr. E. C. Smith opposed the section imposing a special penalty for the cutting of lines or other such molestations, and contended that the company's interests were fully covered by the general law of the country.

Mr. Tatlow pointed out that such a section had been included in various other similar acts, and was commonly found in the charters of these companies. Besides, this line ran through vast tracts of country where any such molestation as was referred to would be a very serious matter.

Messrs. Martin, Curtis and Brown all in turn urged that the general law should be taken as sufficient for this purpose. On a party division the amendment was voted down.

But Mr. Smith from South East Kootenay was not to be satisfied, and he sent up another amendment striking out the words forbidding the posting of advertisements and bills on telephone companies' poles. He did not think the poles should have any more protection than his front fence. Mr. Hayward, too, thought that the poles were quite as good places to stick bills on as were the farmers' barns and buildings. The aesthetic tastes of Victoria and Kootenay were then compared at some length, only to end in a hearty laugh over Mr. Stables' remark that a lot of the old shacks of the capital would look much better if covered with circus bills. Finally a division was reached, and the original section was sustained.

The bill was then reported complete without amendments. On its third reading, which was then proceeded with, Mr. Curtis moved that the following section should be added:

"Provided also that the mortgage or bonds issued by the company shall not

bear a higher rate of interest than 7 per cent. per annum, and the face value of such mortgages and bonds shall not in the aggregate exceed the fair cost price of the whole of the company's corporeal property when its undertaking is completed ready for operation."

This, he claimed, would have a beneficial effect in keeping down the rates and also conserve them the better for future purchase by the government or by a municipality.

Mr. Hunter considered that such a section would greatly deter any people from putting their money into such an enterprise; it would also prove an obstacle to possible extensions of their works.

Mr. McPhillips urged that the house had already passed upon this clause, and that it would be quite as reasonable for the member from Rossland to bring in a bill prohibiting farmers from raising more by mortgage than their farms were worth. This sort of thing was only frittering away the time of the house.

Mr. McInnes showed that the railway committee at Ottawa had often insisted on a like clause.

Mr. McPhillips, however, stated that in England such a provision was not thought necessary.

Mr. Brown urged that the trend of the times was that the government should eventually take over these enterprises; and a clause such as this would facilitate such a proceeding.

Mr. Tatlow contended that as this clause had already been voted down, it was not fair that this company should meet with different treatment. In case it did, the enterprise might be tied up, or at any rate seriously handicapped.

On a division the motion was lost. Mr. Curtis then essayed to bring up another of his opposition amendments. This had been voted down by the house on a previous occasion, but on a point of order was now ruled out, and the bill was given its third reading.

The Western Telegraph & Telephone Co.'s bill was again taken up on the request of Mr. Price Ellison, who explained that its promoters had now been here some five weeks, and that it was the fault of the house, and not of the promoters, that the oversight had been made. Upon various motions the work



of staging this bill was then gone over again, on the proper consent having been obtained at the proper stage, regarding the crown lands it again began to forge ahead, and had reached the stage of committee of the whole when Mr. Speaker saw 6 o'clock.

#### EVENING SESSION.

On the house resuming its labors, Mr. Murphy took the chair in committee of the whole and the sections of the Western Telegraph & Telephone Co.'s bill were taken as read and passed. The report was then considered, but at this stage Mr. Curtis moved that sections be added, giving the province the right to buy out the company in five years' time, at a fair market valuation plus not more than a ten per cent. bonus; also that the company's bonds or mortgages issued should not bear more than six per cent., and should not exceed the cost of the company's property ready for operation.

This was opposed by Mr. Price-Ellison, upon the grounds that it was against the best interests of the country to so hamper and restrict such a bona fide enterprise. The company already had 30 tons of wire on hand to use in this work, they had spent large sums of money over their already existing lines, and had one of the best telephone systems in the world. It was no tin-pot machine to talk into, but was the clearest and best that could be had, and was far ahead of the systems of the Coast towns, so far as he had experience of them. The amendment was, without further debate, negatives on a division of 16 to 12, and the report having been adopted, the bill was given its third reading and passed.

The report upon the Rock Bay and Salmon River Railway bill was then reached, and again Mr. Curtis moved his amendments, as in the last bill, regarding issuing of bonds or right of the province to purchase the property; also that Lieutenant-Governor in Council should determine as to running powers and traffic arrangements with other roads; also that the company shall not have the right to purchase, lease or use any lands belonging to the province until it has entered into a contract with the provincial government with respect to such right, and upon such terms and in such manner as the Lieutenant-Governor in Council may prescribe.

They were, however, voted down. Upon the receiving of the report on the Vancouver & Westminster Railway bill, Mr. Curtis introduced severally the first three of his former amendments, and on the last one spoke at some length upon the platform of Mr. Charles Wilson and the Conservative party, all members of which, he held, must support his amendments.

Mr. Tatlow said that nothing gave him greater pleasure than to see the gentlemen opposite studying the platform of the Conservative party, and hoped that such pursuits will do them good. On a recent occasion, however, of the Chinese immigration resolution, they had not been quite so enthusiastic.

Mr. A. W. Smith said that he had heard much about Mr. Charles Wilson and his platform, but although he was a Conservative himself, Mr. Wilson played no part in the recent election in his constituency, and whatever the gentlemen opposite might say, he wished they would remember that he had not been elected on such party lines.

Mr. McPhillips here inquired about wasting the time of the house. These resolutions had all been up before, and while he admitted their mover's zeal, yet he thought that the member from Rossland might well show a little more discretion.

Mr. Gilmour thought that Mr. McPhillips should apply his own remarks to himself, as if his speeches were only couched they would be found to have wasted more time in the house than anything else.

Hon. Mr. Prentice thought that the fourth member from Vancouver should put a stopper on that sort of talk, as few members were zealous and painstaking than was Mr. McPhillips, who was also beyond doubt one of the most useful members of the legislature.

Mr. Rogers hoped that they would not waste time in talking over what Mr. Chas. Wilson had advocated. That gentleman was not in the house, and so was outside of the question.

Mr. Martin reminded the house that there had been a Conservative party in the field during the election, although little of it was now left. Its members, however, had been pledged to certain views and the house might most reasonably now expect to see those views receive their support.

Mr. Tatlow reminded the leader of the opposition that if there had been a Conservative party, there was a day, too, when he was turned down by the Liberal party in Vancouver, and so he was not authorized in introducing Liberal and Conservative questions into the present discussion.

Mr. Martin continued by stating that this platform, upon which two of my colleagues from Vancouver were elected, directly bears upon that question. Some of the members of the house were elected because they had given their adherence to, it may be, this very principle, and now how can they

avoid supporting it, when a resolution in that direction is offered from our side of the house?

Hon. Mr. Eberts—Is that the reason you vote for it?

Mr. Martin—No. (Laughter.)

A point of order was then raised to the effect that the discussion was straying too far from the subject of the amendment, and Mr. Martin, in a strenuous struggle, complained that he and his following were not getting their rights.

Mr. McPhillips—There's not many of them.

Mr. Martin—Well, that may be true, but they are more than the number of the Conservatives who were elected and you are a president of the Conservative Association. He then continued to speak upon the Wilson platform, and to talk at the members of that party sitting in the house, naming the minister of mines and his colleagues from Vancouver.

Mr. Garden at last arose and stated as one of the gentlemen who followed the leadership of Mr. Charles Wilson, he wished to express his resentment at Mr. Martin's remarks. He believed in government ownership, but with regard to this particular line it would be quite impossible to carry it out, as it was but a part of the C. F. R., and the government could not buy out the whole of that. He did not choose either to be hurried by any remarks that the leader of the opposition might make.

The point of order being insisted on by Mr. Speaker, Mr. Martin became somewhat abusive and adopted a threatening tone. He was interrupted by Mr. Prentice, upon whom his heated remarks were then turned, the latter gentleman, however, turning them aside with the remark "insulting."

The amendments were then voted down on this division:

Ayes—Messrs. Ralph Smith, Green, Munro, Curtis, Martin, Brown, McInnes, Stables, Smith, Oliver, Kidd, Neill; 15.

Nays—Messrs. McPhillips, Helmcken, Garden, Tatlow, Hayward, Fulton, Clifford, Ellison, Smith, Eberts, Mounce, Dickie, Taylor, Hunter, Roger, Murphy, Pooley, McBride, Wells, Hall, Houston, Prentice; 22.

Mr. McInnes moved to amend the report by adding the following resolution, which was seconded by the fourth member from Vancouver:

"No person shall be employed in the construction or operation of the undertaking hereby authorized who is unable to read this act in an European language, under a penalty of five dollars per day for each day every such person employed in contravention of this section, to be recovered on complaint of any person under the provisions of the Summary Convictions Act. This section shall not apply to any person on the register of voters for the legislative assembly of British Columbia, or to any Indian or person of Caucasian blood."

He did so, he stated, because, while it had been inserted in the railway committee, yet the house had repealed it on a subsequent evening.

Mr. Helmcken pointed out that this point was governed by his bill, which the government had now taken over.

Hon. Mr. McBride regretted that the member from North Nanaimo did not see fit to take his word upon questions such as this. He could, however, only regret his former assurance that the bill contained the government's policy and that they hoped to make it law. As a minister of the crown his word for this should not be doubted.

Mr. Martin—His word does not go for much.

Mr. McBride—I can quite understand you're feeling somewhat raw over this grievance and can only by that explain your uncalculated attack upon the speaker of the house. You were quite beside yourself.

This amendment, too, was then negatived on a similar division to the preceding one, and the bill was read a third time.

Mr. Ralph Smith was called to the chair for the committing of the Vancouver and Lulu Island railway bill, which was soon reported complete and read a third time. So, too, was the Vancouver Northern and Omnibus, while the Kitimaat-Caledonia and the Kamloops-Atlin bills were each given their second reading.

The Grand Forks & Kettle River railway bill was then reached and its second reading was negatived by a vote of 14 to 5.

The house then adjourned at 11:40 o'clock.

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AUGUST 24

# Provincial Legislature

## The Supplementary Estimates Presented in the House Last Night.

### Appropriations for a New House for the Lieutenant Governor.

The feature of yesterday's proceedings in the legislature was the bringing down of the supplementary estimates. Introduced during the evening when the galleries—and particularly the ladies' gallery—were well filled, the short speeches on the various items occasioned much interest for a couple of hours. The fair visitors of the capital thought with the joy of a pleasure anticipated of a Government House that is to be, for which \$30,000 had been appropriated, while the cooler calculators saw the interests of the province advanced by grants of \$10,000 for a Bad Boys' Home in Vancouver and \$20,000 for the hospital at New Westminster. The wants of Kootenay were fairly met, too, and all that was lacking in the general harmony of the province was a bridge across the Fraser up in the high altitude of Chilcotin. Of the other matters of yesterday, Mr. Brown's attempt to throw an apple of Paris, in the shape of the redistribution question, into the chamber proved barren, and as an inopportune measure was voted down out of sight, while the referendum legislation of that same member was ruled out of order as subversive of the constitution and "revolutionary to an extreme."

Rev. W. L. Clay said prayers at the legislature yesterday afternoon, after which the petitions from Chilliwack respecting the Coast to Kootenay railway, and from Lillooet regarding the Mining Act, were read.

Mr. Brown then moved a resolution, which was seconded by Mr. McInnes, urging the government to bring down forthwith a new measure of redistribution. He had been returned to the house on a former occasion upon this very question, and although for 10 years he had had little to do with it, he thought attention might well be called to the anomalies at present existing. For example, one gentleman sitting in this house represented a constituency having some 202 votes, another one having 1,600, and another a city with 2,601 votes. Another city, with 3,062 votes, has also four members. These glaring anomalies were inseparable to the growing stage of a new country, and so rearrangement and adjustment from time to time was necessary, although he would not advocate anything like a mathematically equal or a chess board system of redistribution. The circumstances of the various constituencies were such as often to entitle one to somewhat more representation than another. He advocated that the matter be taken in hand without further delay, as otherwise they might not have a chance to do so. Dissentions might arise, as was the case with the last government, but one, and so an election come on without provision having been made for a more equal system of representation.

Hon. Mr. Turner considered that the time was most inopportune for such a matter to be brought up. The end of the session was rapidly approaching and the members were not desirous of devoting their time to such a discussion at the present time. It was perfectly true that certain anomalies did exist in the present system of representation of the province. With new towns springing up in different parts of the province this was inevitable. However, there was no immediate need of this matter being taken up. The present government was a strong one, no clouds affected its horizon and a general election was a long way off. This was a good thing, too, as the recent election had cost the province over \$100,000. The people, too, had had quite enough of elections and they wanted the public business to be properly advanced. Again, a resolution such as this is of little use unless it is promptly acted upon. To do this was not opportune at the present time, as if a little patience were exercised the Dominion government's census, which would be taken next year, could be utilized in dealing with the subject. The

last redistribution measure had, too, been quite recent, so late indeed as 1898, when additional members for Kootenay, Vancouver and Casiar had been added. After the census the matter could come up and be properly disposed of.

Mr. McInnes was very pleased to hear the hon. minister acknowledge that some anomalies did exist, but he thought that an effort should be made to heal it at once. Regarding the census, it would not very likely be taken before next March, and so nothing could be done until the session after the next one. If, however, the government would agree to bring a measure down next session, he would consent to have the resolution withdrawn.

Mr. Curtis did not agree with Hon. Mr. Turner, that the present was not the proper time to right this grievance. In Kootenay it was a constant source of complaint that they were not given their rights. He considered, too, that the government consisted of such a combination that its future was by no means well assured. After the present arrangement had come to an end, the government might itself dissolve, and share the fate of the Semlin administration. As a British citizen, he claimed a fair share in the representation. For some time past the interior had not received its rights, in fact, not one measure had ever treated it equitably. He had advocated at the hustings a new measure based not only upon population, but also having some regard to the area of the ridings, and he would now urge the same upon the house. He considered that some relief should be

granted immediately, and after the taking of the census any legitimate corrections should be made. Regarding his own riding, it should be divided into three at least, with centres at Rossland, Grand Forks and Trail.

Mr. McPhillips here raised the question of wasting time, and held that so soon as the census was taken would be plenty of time for the taking up of this matter.

Mr. Hunter showed by reference to the various other provinces that similar inequalities existed elsewhere. Even in the province of Manitoba in 1891 a gentleman called Joseph Martin had represented Portage la Prairie when it possessed only 700 votes. Of course that gentleman could not be the present leader of the opposition, as he would not sit when so great an inequality existed as did in the case of Centre Winnipeg, which for 2,700 votes had but one member.

Mr. Martin—Those figures are wrong.

Mr. Hunter—Well, you cannot quarrel with me; you must quarrel with the figures in this hand book.

Mr. Brown then explained that he would have introduced his resolution at an earlier day but that certain information for which he had asked had been late in coming down. If the government would agree to bring in a measure next session he would be only too glad to withdraw the motion. So far as the census was concerned, it must be remembered, too, that its figures did not follow the provincial sub-divisions of the country, and in a former instance had been seriously objected to by the gentlemen opposite.

The motion was then lost on division by 24 to 10.

Mr. Oliver then took the chair, and the committee resumed its labors upon Mr. Curtis' Mechanics Lien bill. Various amendments extending the right to the workers in mines were introduced as well as various other matters, and after a lengthy consideration, the bill was reported to be again printed.

Mr. Helmcken then presented a voluminous report from the municipal committee report from the municipal council, also of the bills of Messrs. McInnes and Oliver. It was taken as read and received.

In moving the second reading of the Deceased Workmen's bill, Mr. Curtis explained the sections of the measure. Very frequently when employers of labor have trouble with their employees they often send elsewhere for laborers, without advising the latter of the strike or other trouble in progress at the work. This he would make punishable, and in doing so, claimed to only extend the principle of the Dominion Alien Labor law. He then told the story of one or two such lots of laborers who had been taken into the Kootenay during the strike up there.

The house received the measure in chilly silence. No one spoke on it, and the second reading was negatived on the following division:

Ayes: Messrs. Houston, Ralph Smith, Munro, Curtis, Brown, Gilmour, McInnes, Oliver, Neill, Stables—10.

Nays: Messrs. Helmcken, Kidd, McPhillips, Hayward, Clifford, Ellison, A. W. Smith, Eberts, Dunsmyr, Turner, Prentice, Wells, Murphy, Pooley, Hunter, Rogers, Taylor, Mounce—18.

Mr. Speaker then saw 6 o'clock.

### EVENING SESSION.

Upon Mr. Speaker taking the chair at 8:30 o'clock, the Hon. Mr. Turner pre-

sented the supplementary estimates. The consideration of them, amounting in all to \$132,003.50, was deferred to a later hour in the evening.

On the second reading of the bill respecting grants in aid of private enterprises, Mr. Brown explained that it simply extended to provincial affairs the provisions already in force in the municipalities, conferring the right of the people to vote directly upon all subsidies to be given by the government to any promoters or promoting corporations. This would protect the people from the acts of the government in all these cases in which grants were given contrary to the express desire of the people. Besides protecting the people it would also protect the government from grasping corporations. It would be of especial use in preserving the assets of the province.

Mr. Helmcken—What is parliament for?

Mr. Hunter—Never mind him; let him go on.

Mr. Brown, continuing, spoke at some length upon the referendum principle and took his seat.

Mr. McPhillips raised a point of order against the bill, as affecting public lands and property, and so for that reason not being such a bill as a private member might introduce. It interfered also with the rights contained in the Constitution Act.

No one spoke to the point, and after a few minutes' waiting it was ruled that the point was well taken. A more serious objection lay, however, in another point, which was that even the government itself could not introduce. Such a bill would divest the government of responsibilities placed upon it by the B. N. A. Act, responsibilities of which they had not the right nor the power to divest themselves. It would be quite a revolutionary matter, and while possibly it would be representative government, it certainly would be robbing the country of responsible government.

Upon a message from the Lieutenant-Governor, the Hon. Mr. Prentice introduced a bill vesting the title to the "Discovery" claim, in Atlin, in the discoverers, Fred Miller and Kenneth McLaren. The bill was received in committee and reported to the house.

Upon the house going into the committee of supply, Mr. Hunter complained that no provision had been made for a bridge across the Fraser at Chilcotin. This complaint was emphasized by reference to certain grants in Kootenay, as also to another grant, one of \$30,000 for a Government House in Victoria. He did not begrudge this item, but he wished to point out that no statutory right existed for providing such a residence as this. In this connection he thought that His Honor was not paid nearly enough by the Dominion government and hoped that the government would make due representation to Ottawa to that effect. He wanted, too, to have that bridge at Chilcotin.

Hon. Mr. Turner replied that he had not heard of this bridge until a day or two ago, but if it was so important a

work the house would do well to take some steps at an early date regarding the matter. He was glad, however, to hear the senior member from Cariboo speak so kindly of the high office of the Lieutenant-Governor. It was notoriously the fact that the allowance to His Honor was not what it should be. Situated at the gateway of the sea, the office entailed a great deal of entertaining, much more so than in many other places. This was much augmented to by the fact that the naval and military stations were located so near the Capital.

Mr. McPhillips said it was not fair to see the Lieutenant-Governors in the other provinces get \$10,000, while here but \$9,000 was paid, and that in spite of the fact that living was much more expensive. The case of the judges was to the same point.

Mr. Stables raised an objection because the pack trail from Atlin to Bennett had not been provided for. This work was a most necessary one, providing as it would a mail route into Atlin during a season when it was almost entirely cut off from the rest of the world.

Mr. Oliver reminded the house of an uncompleted road to his riding. Upon it the municipality had expended about \$3,000 and was now waiting for some time past for a similar expenditure on the part of the government.

Hon. Mr. McBride explained that the Delta road had been undertaken upon a new system by a former government. While looking cheap on its face, the government wanted to look into the matter and it was hoped at an early date to make some arrangement for the completion of this work.

Mr. Helmcken congratulated the government upon its liberal policy regarding the grant to a government house. This was all the more heartening from the fact that this great province requires that such a residence be in keeping with its dignity.



AUGUST 25

## Provincial Legislature

### Government Brings In a Bill to Aid the Pre-emptor.

### The Supplementary Estimates Are Passed—Adjournment Till Monday.

Public bills day was well kept at the legislature yesterday, a dozen of these measures having been staged along several of them even passing finally. As a rule business was not expeditiously followed, but after dinner a couple of hours were devoted to a great many speeches upon the Land Act, in spite of the fact that the house was unanimous upon the question, and, generally speaking, querulous at the loss of time. The sum of \$44,750 was also passed in consideration of the supplementary estimates, to meet the debts found payable by the present administration as heirlooms of their predecessors.

After prayers by Rev. W. L. Clay, Mr. Green presented several yards of petition from Sandon, Silvertown and some other Sloacan points, protesting against the appointment of a mining commissioner. These numerous signatures had all been obtained in a day or two, and the petitions being unrolled, trailed for some distance behind the page as they were being carried up to Mr. Speaker. Upon the formal motion of the Minister of Finance, the supplementary estimates were reported upon and given their several readings.

Mr. Garden took the floor on behalf of the Grand Forks & Kettle River Railway bill. Notice of a motion had been given by Mr. Green, as the defeat of the second reading of the bill had led to its removal from the order paper, and it was now desired to have it reinstated. On leave being given, Mr. Garden pointed out that the negative vote of Wednesday night had only ruled that it should not be read "now," and consequently he was in order in asking that it be set down to be read at some other time.

Mr. Green explained that the circumstances of the lateness of the hour had occasioned its second reading being then negative. The bill was an important one, and for that reason should not be allowed to be dropped. After a debate upon the point of order, in which Messrs. Ebooley, Helmcken and several other members took part, the motion was carried and the bill restored to its former stage.

Upon the motion of the Attorney-General, the Land Registry was read a third time and finally passed. The Tramway Act amendment then passed the committee stage, and were reported complete with amendments. The Elections Act amendment was also similarly advanced.

The License Act amendment then passed the committee stage, and being reported, was given its third reading and finally passed.

Mr. Oliver then took the chair in committee to consider the Mineral Acts amendments. To these several more were offered in addition, amongst which a couple came from the member from Kamloops. Mr. Fulton urged that the orders-in-council of the 5th of March last be included in the bill. These already had the effect of law without being incorporated in the act. They also required some alteration, as the obvious intention of the orders was not conveyed by their phrasing. He also advocated the acceptance of mineral claims as well as those made by provincial land surveyors. At present some clashing was to be found between these two classes, and the maintaining of the distinction would also affect the taking of the costs of survey as part of the assessment work. The sections were laid over to be printed.

The Hon. Mr. Turner then moved the second reading of the act to impose a tax upon coke and coal. The bill would, he stated, require to be somewhat amended, as there was no desire to collect both a tax on the quantity of the output and another on the assessment of the works as personal property.

Mr. Martin pointed out that under this bill the companies already paying a roy-

alty on the coal they raised were subjected to a further tax, so that the inequality between some of the companies would be continued. Regarding the exemption of the land taxes from the ground occupied, he would suggest that when the mine was standing idle the ordinary taxes should be collected. Otherwise there was no reason why coal mines should not enjoy the same exemption that metalliferous mines now have.

In reply the Hon. Mr. Turner stated that there had been no intention to alter the inequality referred to by the leader of the opposition. That had been created by the crown grants of the coal lands and the properties carried the royalty in their very titles.

Mr. Helmcken pointed out that so far as the foreign coal trade was concerned, the coal of the province had to bear a handicap of 67 cents a ton in the San Francisco market. While reminding the house of the importance of this great industry and the large numbers depending upon it for their livelihood, he would not suggest that the tax would close down the mines, but the tax was still sufficiently large to have, in these days of close competition, no small effect upon the close figures at which business was being done. This tax would result in a large addition to the revenue, and that very sum being taken all in a lump must have a corresponding effect upon the industry. He suggested that it was too large and its imposition, even if decreased, should be gradual.

Mr. Ralph Smith was not very anxious about the coal operator, but he did wish to consider the rights of the laborer. It was almost needless to say that the consumer paid such rates as these. The greater portion of the output of Nanaimo went across the line, and he had often thought that for every ton that went there, a small sum should be taken from the American pockets and go to the public treasury. Adding a sum such as this to the customs duty which had to be paid would give the Puget Sound mines some further assistance in competing with the product of Vancouver Island. At San Francisco, too, the price was fixed by competition, and so the increased cost might only come back and result in the lowering of wages here at home.

Mr. Brown explained that every tax was liable to have just such objections as these brought against it, and urged that the operation of the tax be carefully watched, and if it did not work out evenly the first year, it might very properly be amended at a later time.

Mr. Hunter confessed that he was at sea over this matter. He had failed to understand the speeches of the hon. gentlemen from Nanaimo and Victoria city. They had spoken on behalf of the coal mine owner, while for years the country had resounded with their cry to tax the coal owner.

The bill then passed its second reading. On the second reading of the Assessment Act amendment, Hon. Mr. Turner explained the changes in the rates of the income tax, which increase on an easy and graduated scale, as the amount of the income grew larger. Further changes were also made in the mineral taxes. As to placer mines, the output up to \$2,000 was exempted, while in the output of metalliferous mines, only one-half the tax was to be exacted on an output up to \$5,000. The rate of taxation had here been increased from 1 to 2 per cent.

Another important change was found in the proposal to exempt government and municipal bond holders, not only from the provisions of the income tax, but also from being included under the head of personal property.

Mr. Curtis held that if the tax upon mining industries were doubled, he thought that the small amount of the increase in the revenue would not nearly make up for the other unfortunate effects of such an impost. Last year only \$31,000 had been raised, while in the estimates for this year \$35,000 was set down to the credit of this branch of the revenue. With the old 1 per cent. rate, however, the increased output of ore during the coming year would amount to nearly as great an amount. To have the cry go out now, however, that the taxes on mines in British Columbia was doubled would add greatly to the present difficulty in securing capital to open up the mines. It dealt unfairly, too, on the low grade properties. Many of the Kootenay mines were of this sort. Inasmuch as such ore existed, and only the handling of great quantities at the present high rates of freights and labor made any returns profitable.

He noticed that free-milling properties, too, were exempted as long as the ores were treated on the premises. This would mean that only the concentrates would come under the tax, and they amounted to but 10 per cent. of the output. The present time was not only inopportune, but it must be remembered that at present about \$400,000, or two-fifths of the revenue raised in the province, was derived from the mining industry. The imposition of a 2 per cent. tax would, he thought, result in over \$100,000 of revenue to the province.

The bill then passed its second reading, and Mr. Speaker saw 8 o'clock.

He was glad to see a further grant of \$1,000 towards the building of hospitals and charities. It was one of the best ways of spending money that could be found, and hoped to soon see the hospital system extended to every riding in the province.

The motion then passed and the house proceeded to consider the estimates. Of these the majority were small sums, but the first of the larger ones, that of \$1,800 salary for a new official to inspect and revise the assessment rolls.

Hon. Mr. Turner pointed out that by this means it was hoped that a greater equality in taxation would be obtained and besides that a great deal more revenue would reach the treasury. Some years ago a government auditor had been appointed, and with excellent results, and a good appointment in the present instance should be equally beneficial.

Mr. Green objected to the item, holding that a local man must know much more about proper assessment than a travelling stranger.

Mr. Martin thought the idea was an excellent one and urged that a proper and competent man be given the office. The same official might also do good work in looking up the returns from timber and timber leases. All such institutions as banks and large corporations had an inspecting system, such as this, and found it work admirably. The item then carried.

Under an additional vote of \$15,000 to hospitals and charities, Mr. Stables returned thanks for a grant of \$500 in aid of a resident physician at Atlin. On the vote of \$6,000 to assist in building hospitals, the same member made an earnest plea for an appropriation from this sum in aid of St. Andrew's hospital in Atlin. A reference to the fact that this was a Presbyterian institution, Mr. Martin urged that the fact of a hospital being a denominational affair should not stop it from receiving some assistance from the government, so long as their doors were open to the general public. He did not see why a Presbyterian or a Roman Catholic hospital should not receive help here as they do in many other parts of Canada.

The \$30,000 grant to the rebuilding of Government House, Victoria, brought Mr. Oliver to his feet. Pointing to the deficit of about \$600,000 for this year, he contended that the house should not lend itself to such an unproductive work as the one intended here.

Mr. Helmcken and several other gentlemen spoke in favor of the vote, which was then carried.

Upon the estimate of \$10,000 towards the construction of a reformatory at Vancouver, it was announced that the present institution in Vancouver should be closed up.

An additional grant of \$2,000 to the board of health was shown to be intended to meet certain unpaid bills arising out of the smallpox scare at Nelson.

Last but not one in the estimates came one for \$3,500 for a mining and water commission. This was opposed by "fourteen words" from Mr. Houston. The mining commission was worse than nonsense, but that money spent on the assay office at Victoria would enable bullion difficulties to be settled here and save the country from the alien arbitrators of Denver or San Francisco. Mr. Martin construed the vote into a menace to the eight-hour law, but on the Minister of Mines again repudiating this the item was carried.

The sum of \$44,750 was then voted to pay the debts of the province left as an heirloom to the present administration, and the consideration of the details thereof was left over to to-day.

The bill to regulate labor which Mr. Helmcken had introduced was then considered in committee. Messrs. Curtis and Melnes spent an hour or two offering amendments, but these were voted down, and soon after midnight the committee reported the bill complete.

The house then adjourned at 12:20 a. m.

On the hot dinner, the was reached given without The amend then explained was a meas signed to m Settlers' As lows:

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On the house resuming its sitting after dinner, the Phoenix incorporation bill was reached and its second reading was given without discussion.

The amendment to the Land Act was then explained by Hon. Mr. Wells. This was a measure of but one section designed to meet the suggestion of the Settlers' Association, and ran as follows:

"Pre-emptors of crown lands who, at the time of the coming into force of this act, are in arrear in the payments of installments of purchase money required to be paid by section 24 of the Land Act shall, on conforming with the provisions of the Land Act, except as hereby altered, be entitled to obtain crown grants of their pre-emptions upon payment of 25 per cent. of such installments still unpaid on or before the 31st day of December, 1900, 25 per cent. on or before the 30th day of June, 1901, and 25 per cent. on or before the 31st day of December, 1901, and without any further payment of interest, or arrears of interest; and on payment in full of all such installments of unpaid purchase money, but without any further pay-

ment of interest, or arrears of interest, if such payments be made after said 31st day of December, 1901, but on or before the 30th day of June, 1902."

Mr. Hayward, the chairman of the agricultural committee, expressed his hearty approval of the bill, and congratulated the government upon bringing down a measure which would be so well and so favorably received throughout the country as this would. Mr. Munro spoke in a similar strain, as also did Mr. Oliver, of Delta.

Mr. Green congratulated the government that at last they had been able to please the farmer members in the house to such an extent as to draw out their congratulations and for a short time stop their kicking. (Laughter.)

Mr. Houston added his little joke that one minister had at last come out of Kootenay and pleased the whole house.

Mr. Priece Ellison said that it was just what should have been expected as the government had long been known as "the farmers' government." For years past it had been this party that had served the best interests of the agriculturist, meeting his needs at every turn. He was very glad to see such a measure brought before the house. It certainly was one of which the whole country would approve and the agricultural portion of it in particular. The farmers of British Columbia in many instances labored under great disadvantages and he hoped that the present bill was a forerunner of one which might well be expected, namely, free homestead grants to settlers. This was all the more needed to-day from the fact that the settlers had to fall back upon timber lands and here it was both difficult and costly to make a home and a livelihood.

Mr. Hunter was glad to see the farmers pleased, but held that the miner should not be overlooked, and he would like an amendment to the effect that the miner get free timber for his works and cabin until his claim had begun to pay. To this the government expressed its consent.

Mr. Martin considered that the bill offered a premium to one man in arrears which might be considered to be an injustice to those who had paid up. If the settlers had a grievance, and they in many cases had many difficulties, the case should be met fairly and under some general rule with due regards to a homestead policy. In the case of the remission of the arrears upon lands in the Dominion land belt and there those who had paid up thought that they had a grievance and were applying for a rebate. He then spoke at some length about the land system of Manitoba and expressed his approval of Mr. Ellison's suggestion of free homesteads.

Mr. Brown disagreed with Mr. Martin upon this subject, which he considered not a matter of land policy, but one of a financial sort. He was wholly in favor of the measure. The farmers often had great difficulties to meet through lack of roads and other causes. This was very noticeable in Dewdney, where in some instances the progress of improving the land could not be anything else than slow. This industry should receive every encouragement, and the whole system of administering crown lands might well be revised.

Mr. Rogers thought the measure a good one and also spoke in favor of Mr. Hunter's suggestion regarding timber for the miners.

Hon. Mr. Turner was glad to see that Mr. Brown had seen fit to refute Mr. Martin's remarks. The latter gentleman had stated that the bill was a bonus to non-paying, but he considered that the contrary was just the case. The bill was

a bonus to paying us. It was a great pity that so much of the purchase money had fallen behind, but in every kind of business some such sort of thing was a very common matter. In such cases the men who did pay in full were not supposed to have suffered from the fact that with another dollar a claim had been compromised. With regard to the Dominion lands, no doubt some of the settlers who had paid up were applying for a refund, but he understood that these claims were in no case being considered. There was nothing parallel either in the case of the Manitoba lands.

Hon. Mr. McBride called the attention of the house to a Gazette notice of the Selmin government, when the leader of the opposition had belonged to that party. This stated that unless all these arrears were paid before a certain date they ran the risk of being declared forfeit. This notice showed the tender mercies of that gentleman towards the hardy settler. It was only fair to say, however, that this notice had not appeared over Mr. Martin's name, but over that of the chief commissioner of lands and works, Mr. Cotton. The notice had, however, shown how indifferently the government of that day had considered this matter. By them the pre-emptor and the speculator had been put on an equal footing, which was a case of gross injustice to the former.

Mr. A. W. Smith said that while Mr. Brown had made some reference to the difficulties of the lower Fraser, but on the upper Fraser these were far greater. Below no one was more than a few miles from a railway or a steamboat, but in his constituency things were far different. While the present bill would meet with approval there, he wished to remind the government that other works were needed to relieve the settler there. Amongst others of these was some system of trunk ditches by which water in large quantities could be brought in for irrigation. The government had been very free to spend money to keep the water off the lands of the lower river, where there was too much of it, and it for the same reason should be willing to help in bringing water on the lands up above where it was so badly wanted.

Mr. Kidd was only sorry that something like this had not been done long ago. Twenty-six years ago he had not been so well dealt with as he should have been. He had for years advocated free grants and still believed in that system. So great were the disadvantages here that the farmer deserved every consideration at the hands of the government.

Mr. Neill pointed out that pre-emption claims paid taxes from the date of the pre-emption record. This was he thought, a baseless anomaly. The land could not be considered for some time at least to be productive, and so could not

pay for its own taxes. Again, the pre-emptor did not own the land, and from his own pocket had thus to pay taxes on the property of the crown.

Mr. Gilmour approved of the bill, but thought much of the need of the settler arose from the fact that they liked a bar room better than their lands. He then attacked Hon. Messrs. Prentice and Wells for not refuting Hon. Mr. McBride's remarks about the Selmin government.

Mr. McInnes raised his voice to cry, "Mr. Speaker, wonders will never cease," and proceeded to follow up Mr. Gilmour's attack on the two ministers of the crown. This subject being ruled out of order, he expressed his assent to the bill and advocated even greater favors to the actual settler.

Mr. Helmcken followed in the paying of tributes, and soon turned aside to discuss the small holdings system. He thought it worked hardly at times, giving some instances in support of his contention.

The reading was then passed, and in committee some clerical errors having been corrected, the report thereon was adopted.

Upon the question of small holdings being again raised, Mr. Kidd spoke at some length upon the subject, advocating that while greater attention should be given to these by the government, great care should be taken regarding any alterations in the system under which the lands were held.

The house on resuming its labors in supply considered a vote of \$44,750 to meet certain debts of the past government. The various items were formally passed.

On the second reading of the bill vesting the title of Discovery claim in Atlin in Messrs. Miller and McLaren, the Hon. Mr. Prentice stated that this was the original discovery in the Atlin district, and that it had been staked according to the Northwest Territory laws, as the boundary line had not yet then been fixed. On a question from Mr. Martin the Hon. Mr. McBride stated that this had been the first case considered by Mr. Justice Irving, and that the bill had been submitted to and approved by him. The

matter had been submitted also to the Selmin government, and he understood that just such an act had been contemplated. As soon, however, as Judge Irving had left jumping began, and now some shops, a part of Pine City, stood on it. In passing this they would not get full discovery claim, according to the British Columbia laws. The bill was then read a second time and immediately taken up in committee of the whole. An amendment by Mr. Martin protecting the householders of Pine, was accepted and the bill being reported, it was then read a third time and finally passed.

On the third reading of the Pacific, Northern and Omineca Railway bill, Mr. McInnes moved the following section as an amendment:

"No person who is unable to read this act and the British Columbia Railway Act, shall be employed in the construction or operation of the undertaking hereby authorized, under a penalty of five dollars per day for each and every such person so employed in contravention of this section, to be recovered on complaint of any person under the provisions of the Summary Convictions Act. This section shall not apply to or affect in any way person who is on the register of voters in any electoral district for the legislative assembly of British Columbia, any Indian or person of Caucasian blood."

Upon the debate which followed, the greatest stress was laid upon the prohibition of Chinese labor from the operation of the road. The opposition again and again repeated their old arguments, while their opponents relied upon the restrictive measures of the general act. The usual speeches already oft reported were made and the amendment was lost upon the following division:

Ayes: Messrs. Neill, Ralph Smith, Curtis, Gilmour, Martin, Brown, McInnes, E. C. Smith, Stables, Munro—11.  
Nays: Messrs. Kidd, Green, Hall, McPhillips, Helmcken, Garden, Tatlow, Hayward, Fulton, Clifford, Ellison, A. W. Smith, Mounce, Taylor, Hunter, Rogers, Murphy, Pooley, McBride, Wells, Prentice, Turner, Dunsmuir, Eberts—24.

The bill was then read a third time and finally passed.

Mr. Garden then essayed to bring in the Grand Forks & Kettle River Railway bill, but the house decided to adjourn, and after some discussion about the day, did so until Monday afternoon. This was at 11:35 p.m.



AUGUST 28

## Provincial Legislature

**Very Little Business Remained  
When the House Reached  
Adjournment.**

**A Number of Important Reso-  
lutions Passed—Bills Pass  
Third Reading.**

Yesterday's sitting at the legislature was marked by the passage of a series of important resolutions, all upon subjects relating to the jurisdiction of the parliament of Canada, and all urging strenuously the rights of this province. It is needless to say that all carried, and that so far as the desires of the assembly could reach, the judges of this province should be better paid, the Indian lands opened to prospectors and miners, a mint should be established and a Natal Act passed to keep out the ever-crooping-up Chinese. A large number of other bills were also advanced through their final stages, but the desire half expressed by several of the members, that all the bills of the session should be polished off at one long night sitting, was unfulfilled.

Bishop Cridge read prayers, after which Messrs. Green and Houston took turns in presenting petitions signed by hundreds of merchants, business men and miners from various parts of their ridings, against the appointment of a mining commission.

Ralph Smith, chairman of the special committee appointed to investigate the complaints of certain settlers on the Esquimalt & Nanaimo railway belt lands (Rothwell's report), presented a report recommending that the commission be empowered to sit during the recess, and to present its findings next session, as the consideration of this subject would require more time than the present session would permit. After some discussion, the matter was stood over for further consideration.

Mr. Tatlow presented a petition from certain residents of Vancouver against the Assessment Act; but on it appearing that the petition did not comply with the rules of the house, it was, on leave of the house, withdrawn.

Mr. Neill's resolution regarding Indian reserves was then reached. Its text was as follows:

That this house urge upon the government the necessity of negotiating with the Dominion authorities with a view to the settlement of the dispute now pending between the Dominion and Provincial governments, as to the actual and ultimate ownership of the Indian reserves in this province, and that, pending such settlement, mutually arranged regulations may be issued, under which free miners may locate and work mineral claims on Indian reserves, and obtain rights of way through such reserves, when necessary for the working of any mineral claims.

In support of it Mr. Neill pointed out that in his riding the large number of small reserves, often unoccupied by the natives, made this matter a very serious grievance. The question was an old one, and had been banded back and forward 'twixt here and Ottawa for some time. He believed that the Dominion government was now not unwilling to co-operate with the provincial authorities in effecting some remedy, and he hoped that the matter would not be treated by the government as a hackneyed annual. It was often found, too, that quartz veins led into some of these reserves, and so could not be followed, and that reserves had often to be crossed to get at mineral properties, and also contained the sites most accessible for roads and wharves.

Mr. Fulton pointed out that during the past two years this question had been shifted back and forth between the two governments, and in the interests of his constituents he hoped that some settlement of it would soon be reached. Previous to two years ago the Dominion government had granted mining leases of such lands, but since then they had regularly replied that the right to grant these leases was in dis-

pute. He thought that by a little trouble this matter could be settled, just as some six years ago the similar question regarding minerals in the railway belt had, through the efforts of the late Hon. Mr. Davie, been successfully solved.

Mr. A. W. Smith had found the matter a source of complaint in his riding, too. Some time ago a reserve had been created on the Bridge river, and several miners had been driven off their properties and had suffered considerable loss. Many other instances of similar trouble could be mentioned, and he hoped that the government would take some steps in that direction. He knew only one case where a lease had been secured covering lands included in Indian reserves, but it had taken fully two years to get it through. He would support the resolution.

Hon. Mr. McBride saw no reason why the resolution should not meet the unanimous approval of the house, and he was pleased to be able to inform the house that the government had already taken some steps by corresponding with the Dominion government in the hope of effecting a settlement. There were several applications for leases now before the department regarding lands affected by the reserve question, and the government was fully aware of the importance of the matter, and would use their utmost endeavors to effect a satisfactory solution.

The motion then passed unanimously. Mr. Garden then introduced his anti-Chinese resolution. This was an appeal to the Dominion government to pass a measure restricting immigration after the manner of the Natal Act. The resolution spoke for itself and ran as follows:

That whereas the wave of Mongolian immigration is increasing in volume at such an alarming rate that it threatens to overwhelm all the industries connected with the development of the natural resources of the province, whether the fisheries, lumber, mineral, or agricultural;

That during the first six months of the present year over 7,000 Japanese alone have landed on our shores; a number of whom, however, are said to have crossed to the United States;

And that out of a total population of say 200,000, or about 40,000 working white men, we have a probable Mongolian working population of 20,000.

That the above proportion is continually being changed by a constant influx of these undesirable people, and white immigration is deterred by dread of competition with them;

And that the well known low conditions of life under which the Mongolians live render it impossible for white men, with their higher standard of living, to compete successfully;

And that, being loyal to the throne and constitution of our country, we consider the highest form of loyalty is fidelity to our own race;

And that British Columbia, being an integral portion of the British Empire, we consider that, hand in hand with the development of its enormous wealth, the efforts of legislators should be to gain a population who will understand the principles of self government and enhance the prestige of our country, besides affording an opportunity for the working people of our own race to make a respectable living for themselves and families;

And because, also, on the broader and more general ground that civilization and Christianity are said to be particularly safeguarded and advanced under the British constitution, it is therefore unwise to permit the extension of heathenism outside of the countries in which it now exists;

Therefore, be it resolved, that a copy of this resolution, signed by the members of this house as may desire to do so, be forwarded to the Governor-General in Council praying that the Natal Immigration Act, or such modification of it as will suit our urgent needs, be passed and enforced, and that other legislation which falls within the powers of the Dominion House of Commons, be passed, which may tend to remedy the evil with which this province is at present struggling.

Mr. Martin thought that this was a peculiar resolution to come from his colleague from Vancouver. There was little use in suggesting that the Dominion government were negligent in their duty when in this very assembly everything that could be done was not being done. It was remembered that both the mover and the seconder of the motion (Mr. Tatlow) had already opposed every effort of the opposition to have anti-Chinese clauses inserted in railway charters, timber leases and many other contracts entered into by the government regarding the natural resources of the province. Again, he had no doubt that the political opinions of Mr. Garden had no small weight in leading him to suggest that his (the speaker's) friends at Ottawa were slack

in doing their duty, and he did not propose to sit still and see these friends of his accused unjustly. The present resolution he considered to be but a political move, and not one arising from principle, as its mover had repeatedly placed himself on record as only supporting half measures upon this matter.

Mr. Tatlow considered that the attack of Mr. Martin upon himself and Mr. Garden was both wholly uncalled for and wholly without foundation in fact. Mr. Martin was well aware that the government had assured the house that a general measure covering this question would be passed, and that one of the sections would refer particularly to the case of railway charters. Upon this assurance they had been quite justified in opposing the numerous amendments offered from across the floor, by which the opposition had endeavored to encumber and hamper the various bills that had come before the house. These had accordingly been voted down, but he considered that there were quite enough members in the house to pass the general measure which would cover the whole matter, whether the opposition favored it or not.

Mr. Garden fully concurred in the remarks of Mr. Tatlow, adding that, so far as the charge of working for the C. P. R. was concerned, he had only to remind the member making it that in another matter—the Grand Forks & Kettle River railway bill—they were both working hand in hand against that corporation. He had thought that everyone in the house was at one upon this matter, and when he saw gentlemen of the opposition captious in their criticism concerning it, he could not but consider that their efforts had all along been moved by a desire to play to the country and embarrass the government, and their many speeches upon the matter but lip service.

Mr. Hunter expressed his sympathy with the honorable leader of the opposition at feeling somewhat badly on seeing the wind taken out of his sails over this question. It had not the form of the old stereotyped resolution, but had all the ear-marks. Civilization was mentioned, and Christianity was mentioned, and heathendom was mentioned, and it was along the lines that they all wanted, and so the opposition should be content to see it passed.

As the resolution was somewhat long and had not been printed, some objection was then made to passing it without an opportunity of carefully considering the statements that it contained. After a brief discussion, in which the opposition criticized the position quite freely, it was moved in amendment that it be dropped until the resolution could be printed, and on a division of 14 to 11 the amendment was carried.

In introducing his motion regarding the salaries paid by the Dominion government to the Supreme court judges of the province, Hon. Mr. Eberts reminded the members of the remarks made on either side of the house upon this question. Here both sides were in absolute agreement, and beyond mentioning the fact that mining and admiralty cases added to their labors a variety of law scarcely met with by many Eastern judges, he would let the resolution speak for itself.

Whereas, in the opinion of this house, it is apparent:—

That the work of the courts of British Columbia is rapidly increasing, latterly to such an extent that it became necessary to create three new registries of the Supreme Court during the year 1900, and five new registries during the present year;

And that the five judges of the Supreme Court of British Columbia are constantly called upon, in the discharge of their duties, to adjudicate upon matters of magnitude, especially where mining interests are concerned;

And that the questions coming before the said judges for adjudication are, as regards the weight of litigation in other provinces, out of all proportion to the population in this province;

An that, in addition to the duties above referred to, the said judges were last year constituted a Court of Appeal from the Territorial Court of the Yukon, without any provision having been made for remuneration for such extra duties;

And that the judges of the provinces of Ontario and Quebec who occupy positions corresponding to those of the judges of the Supreme Court of British Columbia are paid by the Dominion government one thousand dollars per annum more than the judges of this province, although the cost of living here is much greater than the cost of living there, with the result that the salaries of the judges here are, in effect, further reduced by at least twenty-five per cent.

And that the principle of an increase of salary as a fair compensation for an increase in the cost of living has been recently recognised by the Dominion government in the case of judges of the Yukon Territory by making them an extra allow-

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ance of \$2,000 per annum in consequence of the great cost of living there;

And whereas this house is of opinion that it is unfair that our judges should, in respect of compensation, be placed on a worse footing than the judges of Ontario and Quebec occupying corresponding positions as above mentioned;

Therefore, be it resolved, that an humble address be presented to His Excellency the Governor-General of Canada, praying that the judges of the Supreme Court of British Columbia be placed on the same footing, as regards salary, as the judges holding corresponding positions in the provinces of Ontario and Quebec.

Mr. McPhillips, in support of the resolution, offered the following figures regarding salaries paid elsewhere: In Ontario the Dominion government paid the judges at the following rates: Four judges were paid \$6,000 a year, while 11 more received, \$5,000. In Quebec, too, two judges got \$6,000, while 18 received \$5,000, and 14 others were paid \$4,000 a year.

The motion then passed, as did also its sequel regarding the County court judges. This was offered by Mr. Helmcken. During a recent debate the extra grant of \$500 to three judges for sitting as stipendiary magistrates had been discussed, and at that time all agreed that the sum should not be a charge upon the treasury of the province. The resolution ran:

Be it further resolved, that the salaries paid to the judges of the county courts of the province of British Columbia are inadequate, and should be fixed at the sum of \$3,000 per annum, which sum should be wholly borne by the Dominion government.

Mr. Helmcken's resolution regarding a mint was then reached, and without discussion was unanimously passed. Its text was as follows:

Whereas the establishment of a mint in Canada will be of great benefit, commercially and otherwise;

And whereas the province of British Columbia is the most suitable province wherein it should be established;

Be it therefore resolved, that an humble address be presented to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor requesting him to communicate with the Dominion government urging upon that government the desirability of the establishment, at the earliest possible date, of a mint, such mint to be erected in the province of British Columbia, or some other means of securing to the commercial community of Canada the full benefit and otherwise of the output of gold in the Northwest Territories and of this Province.

In moving the adoption of a model railway bill, Mr. Martin reminded the house that the railway committee had in one of its reports recommended that uniformity in regard to these charter bills be secured by insisting on a common form. This was the case at Ottawa, and it was upon the model used there that the one offered in his resolution was framed. Besides the usual sections which were contained in some form or other in all these bills, it was provided that special ones could be added, if desired, but that these latter must be marked by being bracketted. The committee would thus be able to pass without loss of time upon all but these particular clauses. Another point was the requirement of insisting in the newspaper advertisement notices of these special clauses, so that parties whose rights might possibly be infringed or affected by the provisions of the bill should be the better able to protect themselves. He had consulted with the chairman of the committee upon the matter, and the model bill had met with his approval.

Mr. Pooley, the chairman of the committee, stated that he fully agreed with the views of the leader of the opposition. It would save his committee a great deal of time and labor and prove a great convenience. He had himself examined this bill and had found it a good and fair one.

Mr. McPhillips considered that the change was a somewhat important one, and so should not be accepted too quickly. He suggested that the matter be held over until further information regarding it could be gathered. There were some sections in the bill, too, to which exception could be taken and which appeared to him to be somewhat more drastic than were the provisions of the Dominion model.

Hon. Mr. Eberts gave Mr. Martin great credit for the interest and labor that he had bestowed upon this subject, but as the matter was so important, it occurred to him that the matter might well be left to a special committee to consider during the recess and report next session. This was the more reasonable, he thought, because there were some differences between the present model and that of the Dominion committee, which probably arose from the differences between the two general acts.

Mr. Martin came to the defence of his offspring, urging its immediate acceptance. If adopted now its provisions would cover the acts coming up next session, and then should any defects be discovered they could at that time be made good.

Mr. Helmcken could not agree with Mr. Martin's suggestion to pass it now and amend it afterwards. The leader of the opposition had a great many pet sections, which he was always trying to tack on these bills, and doubtless, from his standpoint, no bill would be a perfect model without these. It would be a good idea to let it stand until next session, by which time the Speaker's decisions and other authorities could be looked up and a good model draughted.

Hunter quite agreed with the motion. The two gentlemen of the railway committee, who had framed the model, were to be congratulated upon their labors, which would save further committees many hours of valuable time.

The resolution was then passed unanimously. The Judgment Bill, Elections Act amendments, Land Act amendment and the act confirming the title in discovery claim on Pine creek, were then read a third time and finally passed.

On the third reading of the Tramways Act amendment, Mr. Martin moved to strike out the section prohibiting tramways from running within half a mile of the international boundary line, and substituting therefor a clause which prohibited the paralleling of the Nakusp & Sloan and the Kaslo & Sloan railways. This was opposed by Mr. McPhillips, who pointed out that during the elections Messrs. Martin and Curtis had promised to run lines to the boundary in spite of the Railway Act, and he would not consent to see the policy of such a handful dominate the house. The amendment was then voted down and the bill read a third time and finally passed.

On a message from His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, the house went into committee of the whole and passed an amendment to the Municipal Clauses Act. This was then read a first time. Its second reading immediately followed, and its committee stage fixed for the evening session.

Mr. Helmcken then obtained leave to introduce a bill to amend the Elections Act, which, like the above, had been recommended by the municipal committee, and which then made like progress up to the committee stage.

A further message from the Lieutenant-Governor transmitted to the house a bill to amend the Dyring Act. This was read a first time. The usual stages then followed and the bill was finally passed. This provides for the borrowing of the balance of \$94,000 remaining yet unexpended from the sum of \$249,000, authorized by the Dyring Act, 1898, to be raised for expenditure as follows: Chilliwack, \$185,000; Agassiz, \$10,000; Hatzic, \$50,000; Surrey, \$27,000, and New Westminster district generally, \$7,000. The \$94,000 is to be appropriated to unfinished works at Coquitlam, Maple Ridge, Pitt Meadows, Matsqui and Chilliwack.

At this stage the printing committee reported that the recently submitted return showing the number of votes cast during the late election, should be printed, and the recommendation was adopted.

The committee work on the Mineral Act was resumed, and on its report having been accepted, the bill was read a third time and passed. The Railway Assessment was similarly advanced, and now also awaits only the Governor's assent to make it law.

The bill imposing a tax on coal and coke was then put through the committee stage and subsequently given its third reading and passed.

During the passage through committee of the Assessment Act, Mr. Curtis took exception to that section of the portion respecting the taxation on minerals which exacted double taxation from the mine owners who willfully misstated the quantity and value of mine outputs. If such a fine, for such it was, were to be extorted, it should equally be exacted of all others giving false returns to the assessor. This was especially pertinent in the case of the tax on incomes. It was unfair to thus discriminate against this class of ratepayers, he thought. An amendment upon these lines was then offered, but failed to carry. On the general question of the increase of the mineral tax to two per cent., Mr. Curtis repeated his arguments against such an impost, and read at some length from an open letter sent down to each of the members by certain of the mine owners of the Kootenay and Vancouver. The question, he suggested, should be left to the mining commission.

Hon. Mr. Turner pointed out that Mr. Curtis, while making use of this letter to advocate a remission of the taxation, had practically discredited it by casting

doubt upon its reflections on the eight-hour law. As to taxes on mines in the State of Washington, taxes were levied upon the real estate and the output taken as personal property, and this up to about 3 per cent. Thus it appeared that a mine like Le Roi, if across the line, would pay \$30,000, while here it only paid some \$1,000. Mr. Curtis replied that across the line the taxation was very different, as even free miners' certificates were not required. The committee, however, reported the bill complete.

Upon the report, Mr. Curtis moved in amendment that all taxpayers making willfully false returns to the assessor be taxed double rates. This amendment was then accepted and the report passed.

Through Hon. Mr. Wells, His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor transmitted a message introducing a bill empowering the government to grant certain shore rights and property on False Creek and Coal Harbor, within the limits of the city of Vancouver, to the said city. After being duly committed, a favorable report was adopted and the bill was read a first and second time and set down to be committed to-night.

Upon motion of the Premier, the house was then adjourned until 10 o'clock.

EVENING SESSION.

Upon the house resuming its sitting at 10:45, Mr. Tatlow, chairman of the committee, presented a report which justified the action of the magistrates in their action calling out the militia. On this adoption Mr. Gilmour stated that he had heard a rumor in Vancouver that the fishermen had not been properly represented at the investigation. To this Mr. Tatlow replied that the union had sent its two witnesses, as requested, just as the capers had, and although a telegram had since been received offering further evidence, but as the case had been closed, the committee had not considered that they could reopen the matter. To this Mr. Brown added that the shortness of the time at their disposal had compelled the committee to conclude its labors, as by further delay they had been shut out by prorogation from making a report at all. Mr. Kidd then explained that all parties had been summoned to attend before the committee, and that all but the non-union men had accordingly been represented, and that by the men of their own choice.

The report was then adopted. Mr. Ralph Smith then brought up the subject of the complaint of certain settlers on the lands in the E. & N. railway belt. The committee had been unable to perform its task and asked leave to continue through the recess. Upon his motion to this effect, a brief discussion took place, Mr. A. W. Smith opposing it, and Mr. McInnes speaking in its favor. His threat to prolong the session occasioned some laughter, but at this point Mr. Speaker ruled the motion out of order.

The Phoenix Incorporation bill was then taken up in committee, and on being reported complete without amendment, was read the third time and finally passed.

The Assessment Act was given its third reading and finally passed.

On the second reading of the Supreme Court Act amendments, Attorney-General Eberts pointed out that the changes provided for garnisheeing before judgment and reducing the number of sittings of the court of appeal from ten to six. The reading then passed. Mr. McInnes objected to the bill being immediately committed, but all in vain, and the further steps of the bill were at once proceeded with. On the question of reducing the number of the sittings of the Full Court, an amendment was offered by Mr. Houston, still further limiting the sittings to four, to be held in Victoria, in January, March, June and November. This, after a long discussion, was carried. The bill was then committed, and various amendments were made with a view of increasing this number, and providing for sittings elsewhere than at the capital, but these were negatived. Upon the report similar amendments were offered only again to be negatived by the following division:

Ayes—Messrs. Tatlow, Garden, McInnes, Gilmour, Curtis, Ralph Smith, Brown, Stables, E. C. Smith, Oliver, Kidd, Ellison, Green—13.

Nays—Messrs. Houston, McPhillips, Helmcken, Hayward, Fulton, Clifford, A. W. Smith, Eberts, Dunsmuir, Turner, McBride, Wells, Prentice, Murphy, Pooley, Hunter, Rogers, Dickie, Mounce—21.

An attempt was then made to read the bill a third time, but for this the consent of the house was required and this Mr. Martin, who had at a late hour returned to the chamber, would not give. For fully an hour the question was threshed out, but at last the third reading was stood over by Hon. Mr. Eberts until the next sitting of the house.

At 12:45 the house adjourned, until Thursday at 10 o'clock.

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(August 31st)

# Provincial Legislature

## The House Sits Morning, Afternoon and Night to Dispatch Business.

### Prorogation Is Set For This Afternoon at Three O'clock.

The legislature resumed its session at 10:30 o'clock yesterday morning without the benefit of the clergy, the parson who should have read prayers having come too late. And so the petitions from the Slocan and other mining divisions of the Kootenay against the appointment of the proposed mining commission were immediately read and ordered to be printed. Similar petitions from Rossland, Greenwood, Moyie and other points, all numerously signed, were also presented by Messrs. Curtis and E. C. Smith. A petition was also presented by Mr. Tatlow from several parties in Vancouver relative to the game law.

Hon. Mr. McBride then presented a return of all complaints made to his department relating to the Atlin mining district. This was received, as was also another return relative to the Burnaby small holdings, which was presented by Hon. Mr. Wells.

On motion of Mr. Neill, it was ordered that a return be made of the names and approximate location of all Indian reserves on Vancouver Island.

The Labor Regulation Act was then reached. This was Mr. Helmcken's bill, and was aimed at the exclusion, by means of a reading test, of Chinese and other undesirable laborers from employment upon works carried on under public franchises granted by the legislature. In the absence of Mr. Ralph Smith, the introducer of the bill offered his amendment, which was intended to cover the operation as well as the construction and carrying on of such works. This was accepted by the house. The committee then reported the bill complete with amendments.

On the third reading of the bill, Mr. McInnes moved in amendment that a clause be added extending the operation of the bill to all companies incorporated in the province, whether they possessed franchises or not. This amendment, which had been rejected on a previous occasion, was again voted down on the following division:

Ayes—Messrs. McInnes, Gilmour, Stables, E. C. Smith, Oliver, Brown, Martin, Curtis, Munro and Green—10.

Nays—Messrs. Turner, Dunsmuir, Eberts, A. W. Smith, Clifford, Fulton, Tatlow, Garden, Mounce, Taylor, Hunter, Rogers, Murphy, Pooley, McBride, Wells, Prentice, Kidd, Neill, Helmcken, Hall, McPhillips and Ellison—23.

The bill was then read a third time and finally passed.

On the committee work upon the Mechanics' Lien Law being resumed, Mr. Oliver took the chair. Mr. Curtis had the bill in charge, but various amendments were offered by Messrs. Neill, McInnes and others. The length of the period within which the lien must be filed and the number of weeks' wages which it would carry in the mines as well as generally led to a good deal of discussion, but at last 31 days and 6 weeks were fixed upon. In the case of material placed upon the ground, it was provided that the lien should not attach unless such material had been worked up. The report being adopted, the bill was read the third time and finally passed.

Upon a message from His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, a section of the Investment and Loan Societies bill was transmitted and adopted in committee of the whole. This provided a registration fee of \$250 for all extra-provincial societies. The bill was then read the second time.

In moving the second reading of his immigration bill, Mr. Tatlow pointed out that upon this question it might be taken for granted that the house was unanimous. He would accordingly deal only with a couple of objections which might be urged against it. These were the possibility of the measure conflicting with the policy of the Empire, and again

whether it was within the jurisdiction of this legislature. Respecting the question of Imperial policy, there was no doubt upon that. In various Imperial despatches, from which Mr. Tatlow read several selections, the sort of treatment of this question which was adopted by his measure had been advocated, in fact directly pointed out as the proper method of treating this particular subject. The second question was that as to its being within the powers and rights of the provincial legislature. In section 95 of the B. N. A. Act Mr. Tatlow claimed that the right was clearly vested in the province. This was one of the sections falling under the heading of concurrent legislation, and no cases had arisen which might be treated as precedents. In view, however, of the urgency of the case, and that 20,519 persons had entered since 1897, he thought that every point should be stretched with a view to obtaining some remedy. At present, of course, the Japanese were not coming in, but he did not approve of being placed at the mercy of the Japanese authorities in this matter. The act itself followed very closely upon the lines of the Natal Act. The fine of \$500 had been so fixed because this sum had been sought to be fixed for the duty under the Dominion act. Of course, it might be urged that this bill overleaped the bounds of their power; the mistake would be readily excused by their constituents. It would be a mistake in the right direction, and in that direction every point should be stretched. It would be noticed, too, that at present in Eastern Canada the government was bestirring itself to keep out the Roumanian Jews as undesirable citizens. They were requiring that these should bring sufficient money into the country with them to supply their immediate wants and prevent them from becoming charges upon either public or private charity. He hoped that the house would support this reading of the bill.

Mr. McPhillips followed by stating that the bill, in his opinion, went quite beyond the jurisdiction of the provincial assembly. The question was not a new one. Once before it had been attempted by this house, but disallowance had speedily followed. It had been distinctly stated that, while the provincial legislature could act with the aim of encouraging immigration, it could not prohibit or restrict it. In Nova Scotia an effort had been made to keep out paupers in this way, but it had been tried all in vain. These attempts would have but one result, namely, the tearing down of the federal system altogether, and the bringing of the province into contempt. Besides, the Dominion government had passed statutes upon this subject generally and regarding the Chinese in particular, and thus under the particular section of the B. N. A. Act would be of no effect. If such legislation were reasonably possible it would have his every support, but he considered that the dignity of the house and its influence at Ottawa should not be weakened by passing such measures as this.

Mr. Martin was surprised that the house had no intimation as yet as to the policy of the government upon this question. This question, like that of the Labor Regulation Bill of Mr. Helmcken, was a most important one, and these bills the government had permitted private members to bring in and that without saying a word about their policy. The opinion of the Minister of Justice had been read to them, but this opinion had no binding authority. It was time enough to hear this opinion when the constitutionality of this act was brought into question. He did not consider that the test provided by the bill was a very effective one, still the measure was in the right direction and would receive his support.

Mr. Brown thought that whatever might be said against the measure, and it might perhaps not turn out to be wholly constitutional, it was worth while trying, and he would support the bill.

Mr. Helmcken considered that while much might be said against the bill, yet it was in the right direction and should be given a fair trial. It might be well to notice, however, that the Dominion government was taking some steps in this matter, as was shown by the fact that certain undesirable immigrants were being stopped in the East, and the correspondence of the Dominion government with the Imperial authorities had led to a one-column article appearing in the London Times upon the subject. There could be little doubt of its importance in English eyes after that.

Mr. Kidd thought that the arguments of the junior member from Vancouver would not convince the ordinary people. It was distinctly a lawyer's plea. When it was remembered how the glorious constitution of the Empire had arisen, all would readily see that it was in just such beginnings as these that progress had originated, and he would be glad to see

this province make its start similarly. Some years ago there had been a theory advanced that cheap labor was the proper thing. But this was now generally recognized to be a mistake, and all classes appeared similarly interested in the maintenance of a fair wage. This was of course an impossibility so long as white labor had to compete with the cheaper Asiatic. There is no need of going into the question of the inadvisability of a mixed population; the evils of that were almost daily apparent in the despatches that were being received from the Southern States. To prevent this, all that was necessary now was to get the Dominion government to pass a measure similar to the Natal Act, and the present bill, if carried, might have some weight in urging it upon them.

Hon. Mr. McBride thought that Mr. Martin should not feel badly because the government had not introduced the bill. The present government did not follow in the steps of a former one. In 1899 no bills were introduced except by the members of the government, but to-day things are changed, and as leader of the opposition, the hon. gentleman was introducing nothing. With regard to the present measure, however, there was something in the constitutional point raised by Mr. McPhillips. It was a very grave legal question, although as a lawyer, he himself had an opinion differing from that of the gentleman. He had been amazed, to hear the leader of the opposition express himself as ready to vote for anything in this direction, whether it was constitutional or not, and all the more so since he was such an able judge of such questions. They all must be careful not to spoil the chances of obtaining a satisfactory solution of the question by dragging it in the dust. He believed that section 95 did give the house the power to deal with this question of immigration, and that the present measure was well in order. The house, however, need have no fear because these measures had not been introduced by the government itself. Regarding the Labor Regulation Bill, they had been quite ready to allow such a champion of labor as the senior member from Victoria to bring it in, and he was glad to assure the house that that bill was in line with the policy of the government and trusted that this one, too, would receive the support of the house.

Mr. Oliver thought that the house should go just as far as it could upon this most important question. He had been very much struck by the arguments of Mr. McPhillips, however, and trusted that in committee the bill might be so amended as to cure it.

Mr. Hunter thought that its scope was not sufficiently wide. It was clearly a piece of class legislation, directed against the Chinese and such like race races. The Natal Act is a much broader measure and dealt with the whole question of immigration, and he would much prefer the general act. Certainly the Chinese and Japanese are not wanted here, but there were other people who were undesirable, too.

Mr. Tatlow said that in drafting the bill, he had aimed chiefly at getting the acceptance of the principle.

Mr. Gilmour was very pleased to support the bill introduced. He had noticed that several Japanese had been turned back at the international line, and he thought that people who were not good enough for Washington were not good enough for British Columbia. He was sorry that it did not appear to be about to have the unanimous support of the whole house.

Mr. McInnes pointed out that the Dominion act of the past session had excluded all the other classes mentioned in the Natal Act, and so Mr. Hunter need not hesitate in supporting a measure which practically completed a similar law.

Hon. D. M. Eberts announced that he would support the second reading of the bill. The opposition did not monopolize the position of being desirous of getting rid of these Asiatics. He had not supported Mr. Martin's former labor bill, but had wished to see the matter constitutionally dealt with. At the hustings Mr. Martin declared that he would renege his former measure, and at that time he had declared against such an unfriendly act, as it was from an Imperial standpoint. As to the constitutionality of the present bill, he noticed that the leader of the opposition had said nothing upon that matter. Such silence was quite characteristic of him. His politics were of the tricky sort. There was a great deal to be said upon that subject, however. He considered that this bill touched upon the various acts of the parliament of Canada. The Dominion act provides for a list being kept by the proper authorities of all Chinese going out of the country, thus providing for their return. But such a return was not contemplated under the

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present measure. Here was a class; and others could as easily be found. The act, too, might be found to be within the powers affecting trade and commerce. For example, an African coming here and investing his money in some industry would be affected by it. He made these suggestions only to point out the facts, because it was the duty of his office to do so. No precedents could be found, however, and so the case was much more difficult. Notwithstanding all this, however, the measure might have a very beneficial effect. It would be a very strong remonstrance to the authorities at Ottawa of what the people of this province so heartily desired.

Hon. Mr. Turner raised the point that punishment might be taken for purging of the fault, and so the right to reside in the province might be won by suffering punishment might be taken for purging of certainly be a strange state of affairs.

What effect would it have upon the present residents of the province? They had rights here which should not be lightly disturbed.

Mr. Curtis—Do you want to object to the bill applying to those?

Hon. Mr. Turner—Possibly I might.

Mr. Curtis—Then you have had a change of heart since your famous pro-Chinese speech here.

Amid a good deal of laughter Hon. Mr. Turner repudiated this sally and resumed his chair.

Mr. Martin, rising to a question of privilege, pointed out that as leader of the opposition, he should have a chance to reply to the speeches of the ministers, but as they had all spoken so late in the debate, he had had no chance.

His speech was here interrupted, as he began to attack the administration under cover of his question of privilege, and after some little confusion, the debate ended.

The question was then put and carried on the following division:

Ayes: Messrs. McInnes, Gilmour, Stables, E. C. Smith, Oliver, Kidd, Neill, Brown, Martin, Green, Curtis, Hall, Helmcken, Garden, Tatlow, Hayward, Fulton, Clifford, Ellison, Eberts, Dunsmuir, Turner, Wells, McBride, Prentice, Murphy, Rogers, Taylor, Mounce.

Nays: Messrs. McPhillips, A. W. Smith and Prentice.

The house then adjourned at 12:45 o'clock.

**AFTERNOON SESSION.**

After prayers by Bishop Cridge, the Premier moved the suspension of the rules in order to facilitate public business, and on leave Mr. Oliver introduced a bill amending the Municipalities Clauses Act. This provided for the correction of a clerical error, and was at once read a first and second time and stajed on to its final reading.

Mr. Ralph Smith here essayed to introduce his resolution regarding the settlers on the E. & N. railway lands, but the house, having decided to proceed again with the orders of the day, the motion was stood over and the Immigration Act at once resumed in committee.

Mr. Taylor took the chair, and the member from New Westminster introduced the following additional amendment, with a view of avoiding a conflict with Dominion legislation upon this subject:

"That the act shall not apply to any person on the terms of whose entry into Canada has been fixed or whose exclusion has been ordered by any act of the parliament of Canada."

To this Mr. Tatlow agreed, as he did not wish to have the measure unnecessarily exposed to the danger of disallowance.

Here Mr. McPhillips objected that the amendment simply nullified the measure. The act was supposed to be aimed at the Chinese, but this provision would exempt them from its operations, as the Dominion government by several acts had legislated upon their entry into this country. The true object of the bill was thus disclosed. It was not to affect the Chinese at all, only the Japanese would come under its provisions. Members of the house might possibly on some future day hear it said that the junior member from Victoria had opposed anti-Chinese legislation in the house, but he wished them to notice that this bill was no longer an anti-Chinese measure. It was being so emasculated that the Chinese could come in while English and Scotch and Irish and French, so long as they could not read, would be kept out by it.

The committee then reported the bill complete with amendments, and its third reading being carried, the measure was finally passed.

Chairman Hall, of the printing committee, then presented their fifth report, recommending the printing of the return respecting the Burnaby Small Holdings and the complaints from Atlin. The report was adopted.

In moving the second reading of the Voting Machines Bill, Mr. Helmcken pointed out that this bill had been passed last session up to its final reading.

The machines had been adopted in Ontario and had already proved themselves a success.

After some comment on the part of the leader of the opposition, the reading passed and Mr. Kidd being called to the chair, the measure went through the committee stage. Here the clauses providing for the use of this machine during the provincial elections were dropped, and on report the bill was read a third time and finally passed.

Mr. McInnes then rose to move the second reading of his bill respecting labor. This, he explained, was the bill formerly introduced by him, except that certain references to government works which had proved fatal before, were left out. From the fate of former amendments upon this question, he considered that the house had clearly shown itself to be unready for adopting any well defined legislation of an anti-Mongolian sort. Two bills had been passed, but neither of them were of any worth. Because of Mr. Helmcken's Labor Bill, all the amendments to the railway charters upon this question had suffered, and so soon as these charters were taken to Ottawa and fresh ones got there the enterprises would be freed from the general restriction. Again, Mr. Tatlow's bill had, in the opinion of several of the members, been so amended that it no longer affected the Chinese at all. And so all this time had been wasted and the subject was thus practically untouched yet. Turning to his bill, Mr. McInnes then explained that first in its provisions was the re-enactment of the eight-hour law, although somewhat more broadly put than before. Its scope had been extended to all mines, coal as well as metalliferous. Upon the Asiatic question, a dual right to legislate existed. The Dominion government had the right to prevent them from coming into the country, and to them that question must be left, but the province had the right to drive them out of work and that must be done right here. These Asiatics were threatening by cheap competition to drive out white labor, but if there is to be any driving the white man must do it, and by this act these people can be driven out of some 42 different fields of labor. This is done, too, in a broad and general way. Formerly efforts had been made to drive them out of particular kinds of employment, e.g., from working underground in the coal mines, but that would only have the effect of increasing the competition in some other field. The list in this bill, however, includes almost everything, and so if the Mongolians are driven out of those lines of labor, they will be forced to leave the province and their places will be taken by white men, and healthy streams of immigration into the province will be stimulated.

Hon. Mr. Turner raised the general question that the revolutionary character of the bill would justify its being ruled out of order.

To this Mr. McPhillips pointed out that the giving of a moiety of the fine to the informant was a case of dealing with what would otherwise be a portion of the revenue of the crown.

After a brief discussion upon the point, Mr. Speaker ruled that it was not well taken.

The bill, Hon. Mr. Turner then stated, was one which was introduced under a false name. Intended to keep out Asiatics, in reality it tended to keep out both white laborers and capital from the industries of the province. There was great scope for work in this province, and he did not see why the skilled fields should not be held by the white workmen, while the inferior races could act as hewers of wood and drawers of water. The term "Caucasians" was then dealt with by the Minister of Finance. Reading from an encyclopaedia, it appeared that the term covered many mixed Asiatic races. And so this term was far from free from objections. In the morning Mr. Helmcken had read from the London Times, which he considered was very applicable here. Many of the people referred to in it were not more objectionable than were those Caucasians of Mr. McInnes'. However, it was all in line with that gentleman's record. He was continually stirring up trouble between labor and capital. That was his record in other houses than this, and the present resolution was quite in line with that record. It was revolutionary and injurious to the extreme.

Mr. Oliver stated that he favored everything that could be done to drive out the Chinese, but this bill was too drastic, and unless considerably amended in the committee stage he could not support it.

Hon. Mr. Prentice then moved that all the words after "that" be struck out, and "be read this day six months" be inserted in place thereof.

At this Mr. Brown wanted to know what sort of a motion "that be read this day six months" would make.

By this remark several members were somewhat thrown aback, and even after

Mr. Hayward showed from May that any amendment tending to mutilate the bill completely was sufficient, a new amendment of slightly different wording was offered, to the same effect.

Upon this question Mr. Curtis pointed out that the Minister of Finance had charged Mr. McInnes with continually stirring up this question of Chinese and Japanese labor. The question, however, is one that will not down. It will be stirred up until it is eventually settled. It is urged that to pass this bill would reduce the wages of white labor. That question might well be left to the laborers themselves, and they had all given their opinion in their demands that the Chinese be driven out. Upon the question of the word "Caucasian" from the very article from which the Minister of Finance had been reading it appeared that this word indicated the fair type of man rather than the ill or Mongolic type.

Mr. Hunter objected to Mr. Curtis putting words into the mouth of Hon. Mr. Turner which he had not used. He had not charged Mr. McInnes with continually bringing up this Chinese and Japanese question, but he had stated that Mr. McInnes was continually stirring up strife between labor and capital. He did not like to see one member imputing insincerity to another, but it was much worse to see mis-statements like this being made. Besides, as to the question itself, he himself objected to Mr. McInnes interfering with his kitchen if he should happen to have a Chinese cook. There was an old proverb that an Englishman's house was his castle. He remembered when Mr. Brown had strenuously supported that principle. The Health Act was being considered and power was to be given to an inspector to enter and inspect all dwellings. To this the member from New Westminster had objected, remarking that he would look down at the man trying to break into his house along the barrels of a Winchester. To this, amidst much laughter, Mr. Brown objected. He had never used the expression, a political opponent having given him a nick-name, which, unhappily, had stuck.

Mr. Brown thought that the member from Delta had about expressed his opinion of the bill. He wished to do all that he could in favor of white labor, but he did not wish to see any harm done. He agreed with Hon. Mr. Turner that the measure might do a great deal of injury to the white men and white laborers. It was quite agreed that all wanted white people here, and while it is a very pretty picture that Hon. Mr.

Turner draws of the whites taking the higher walks of life and the others hewing the wood, he feared that unless something was done, these people would rise higher and take possession of many of the better positions. It is necessary, however, that the house should be unanimous upon this matter, and by voting at the present time it was not likely that any good could be done. While he personally would support the bill, it was only on the condition that it be so amended in committee as not to give any violent or injurious shock to the existing industries of the country.

The amendment was then carried on the following division:

Nays—Messrs. Houston, Ralph Smith, Curtis, Martin, Brown, McInnes, Gilmour, Stables, E. C. Smith, Oliver—10.

Ayes—Messrs. Kidd, Munro, Green, Hall, McPhillips, Helmcken, Hayward, Fulton, Clifford, Ellison, A. W. Smith, Eberts, Dunsmuir, Turner, McBride, Wells, Prentice, Pooley, Murphy, Hunter, Taylor, Dickie, Mounce—24.

On the second reading of the Vancouver hospital bill, which had been moved by the Provincial Secretary, Mr. Martin opposed the bill. The city, he claimed, furnished the funds, and yet the bill provided for appointing to the directorate from the C. P. R., Board of Trade and others. The principle that those who provided the money should elect the directorate should rule, he believed.

On the suggestion of the Minister of Finance, the debate on this bill was adjourned.

Mr. McPhillips' bill respecting mortgagees' costs was then reached, and its mover pointed out that this was a copy of the Imperial act providing for the collection of costs on mortgages owned by themselves.

Mr. Martin, while supporting the bill, thought that the costs charged by lawyers for drawing deeds should also be limited by some reasonable scale. He had heard of the most exorbitant bills being charged out here, and thought that the public ought to have some protection in the matter.

In the discussion which followed it appeared that Mr. Martin advocated that the judges should fix reasonable charges, whereas the tariff which now



governs such matters has been framed by the same judges.

The bill was then read a second time and immediately staged through to its final reading.

On the second reading of his amendment to the Water Clauses Act, Mr. Houston explained that under the present act did not permit a municipality acquiring a water privilege. In Nelson this right was required at present in order to control the electric light system.

Mr. Price Ellison opposed the principle of the bill, urging that the water should be preserved for agricultural and mining purposes and that when municipalities such as Nelson wanted these rights, they should come down and get a special act. It was not in the interests of the public that these valuable privileges should be taken over by municipalities for power purposes. They should rather be conserved for the industries depending on them.

Mr. A. W. Smith followed up Mr. Ellison's remarks with a strong plea for water for the mining interests of the province. These were superior interests and should be respected. Instead of allowing the municipalities to get possession of water some system should be devised for helping the settlers in these dry places to get water to their lands.

Mr. Green urged that corporations needed water just as much as the miner or the farmer did. It was only fair to put it on a level with either the individual or a commercial company. Besides, a corporation was composed of the people directly, and so should have the right to the property to which they had given a value.

Mr. Houston wished to know if the government objected to this particular measure, for if the Attorney-General would consent to it he did not understand why any private members should oppose it.

A question of order having been settled in favor of the bill, Mr. Martin expressed his support of the measure. On the question being put the reading was carried by a vote of 29 to 4.

Mr. Stables' Placer Mining Act was then reached, but was ruled out of order as being interfering with the rights of the crown. The senior member from Cassiar expressed his regret that the government had not seen fit to vivify his measure, as it was much needed in his district. To this Mr. A. W. Smith, the chairman of the mining committee, pointed out that on a couple of occasions he had asked Mr. Stables to bring his suggestions before the committee, that they might be regularly introduced, but for some reason or other it had all been in vain.

Hon. Mr. McBride then assured Mr. Stables that the government were considering a re-modelling of the Placer Mining Act and that his suggestions would then receive every consideration.

The consent of the crown having been expressed, Mr. McPhillips moved the second reading of the bill regarding the appointment of Queen's counsel. To the bill as introduced certain further amendments were contemplated, chief of which was that five years' professional standing was requisite before anyone could be considered eligible for this honor. Again, only ten of these appointments could be made in four years. In Ontario a similar provision existed, but twice as many of these honors could there be granted in such a period.

As it was now 6 o'clock, Hon. the Premier moved the adjournment until 8:30 o'clock.

#### EVENING SESSION.

On the house resuming its sitting at 8:35, Mr. Ralph Smith moved the following resolution:

That the present select committee appointed to look into certain grievances within the E. & N. railway belt be appointed a royal commission to look into all matters involved in this question, with power to examine witnesses on oath, and report at the next sitting of the house.

To this Mr. A. W. Smith took a point of order that the special committee was not empowered to report to the house, although it had done so. Nor had the committee any right to recommend that its sitting should be extended.

Mr. Pooley explained that a royal commission could only issue under the Public Inquiries Act, but as this carried with it the expenditure of certain moneys by way of expenses, the motion could only be offered by a member of the government.

Mr. Martin pointed out that a royal commission was only appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor, and suggested that the wording of the resolution might be altered so as to bring it into order.

Hon. Mr. McBride explained that the government considered this question a very serious one, and being desirous of arriving at some settlement of the matter, had decided to issue a royal commission, which would give the matter a thorough investigation. Not, however, that the government reflected in any way upon Mr. Rothwell's report, but that being zealous of all provincial rights, they wished to protect all the people of the

province, and so would attend to the matter.

Messrs. McInnes and Ralph Smith expressed their satisfaction upon this decision, and upon leave being given, the latter withdrew his motion.

The second reading of the Queen's "quois dn nois; uap; sua jvy [osuno] Mr. Martin speaking at some length upon the question of professional precedence. To a question from Mr. Hunter, he replied that the matter did not affect the public or their purse; it was but a matter of honor to the legal profession. On reference to the act of 1890, the Attorney-General arose and stated how unfairly that measure had operated. Years ago a number of legal gentlemen had been appointed by the Dominion government, and had worn their silk honorably for years. When, however, it had been decided that the power that had granted this honor had acted under a mistake, the act of 1890 had been passed and in the subsequent appointments these gentlemen had been most shamefully overlooked. The debate was continued for some time, until Mr. Curtis offered as an amendment the six months' honor. This was not put, however, until Mr. McPhillips had spoken at some length, and in splendid form, upon the "assassination of dignity" of 1890.

Upon a division the second reading was carried by 25 to 9.

The mover of the bill then desired to have it taken up in committee, but to this the opposition objected. For some time the question whether this were in order or not was debated. After a long discussion the committee work was taken up and the bill read a third time and finally passed.

An amendment to the Land Act was then introduced by Mr. Hunter, which provided for free timber for miners' cabins and works. This bill was then carried through its various readings and finally passed.

On a message from the Lieutenant-Governor an act to amend the Assessment Act was then received in committee. This corrected a mistake in the bill as it had been printed, and on having been favorably reported was carried through its various readings and passed without discussion.

On the third reading of the Supreme Court bill being again reached, Mr. Gilmour offered an amendment to the effect that the old system of having the Full court sit both in Vancouver and Victoria.

Speaking to this, Mr. Martin showed the effect of the passage of Mr. Hunter's amendment during a former stage of the bill upon the citizens of Vancouver. The board of trade and the city council had both sent down delegations, together with a number of the local bar, to urge their case upon the government. Happily for some time the old Mainland vs. Island feeling had been disappearing, but by acts such as these the old issue would readily be raised. It had been said that because the government was spending a little money over at Vancouver that city should be deprived of this right which they had enjoyed themselves for some time. But it must be remembered that beyond the erection of a custom house the government had never spent any money there and although there were two or three grants passed for that city during the recent estimates, he could not think that anyone would look upon that as a deal by any means.

Mr. Garden felt that at last he had found a point upon which he could agree with the leader of the opposition. The change had aroused a good deal of feeling up in his constituency. They had had sittings of the Full court there for the past eighteen months and already sixty-one cases had come up for adjudication. The importance of this court was thus well proven, as was also its convenience to the lawyers and public generally.

Mr. Tatlow was glad to see that Mr. Martin had refused to make it a sectional question. That the feeling of Vancouver was worked up over this question, in a telegram which he had received from the board of trade of that city, and which he then read, the threatened change was spoken of as an unfriendly act. He also read a round-robin letter from the lawyers of Vancouver vigorously opposing the change. Besides this, the importance and interests of the city fully justified the holding of such a court.

Mr. McPhillips repudiated the remarks of Mr. Martin that the present was a Victoria government. Three of the portfolios of the administration were held by members from the Mainland, while only two departments had Island men for their heads. As to the bill in question, its origin had not been one of necessity, but of political expediency. It had been brought in by a government one of whose battle cries had been aimed at the Capital. Again, in Victoria the chief interests of the province were centred and he considered that he could well join issue with the members from Vancouver upon the claims of their cities. At Victoria, too, the judges would have the best law library in the province for their convenient use. In Ontario, too, this court was not decentralized in this way; in fact, several of the judges were tied down and living within five minutes of that city. When this privilege had been originally given to Vancouver he had opposed it as a mistake and his remarks then were now fully verified.

The debate was continued by Messrs. Brown, Curtis, Munro, Houston and Hon. Mr. Eberts, who, after an exceedingly able and vigorous speech, moved the adjournment of the debate, which was then carried.

The Small Debts' Court bill was then allowed to drop.

To the Columbia & Western Railway Subsidy Act the opposition offered a marked opposition, but the bill progressed through its various stages and received its final reading. The divisions over this bill were:

Ayes—Messrs. Kidd, Nell, Green, Houston, Hall, McPhillips, Helmcken, Tatlow, Garden, Fulton, Hayward, Clifford, Ellison, A. W. Smith, Eberts, Dunsmuir, Wells, Frentice, McBride, Pooley, Murphy, Rogers, Hunter, Dickie, Taylor and Mounce—26.

Nays—Messrs. Martin, Curtis, McInnes, Gilmour, Stables, E. C. Smith, Oliver—7.

The bill granting certain foreshore rights to Vancouver city also went through and was finally passed, as was also the Municipal Clauses bill.

The house was still in session when the Colonist went to press.



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# PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT

## An Immigration Regulation Bill.—Mr. Justice Martin Appointed Commissioner to Porcupine District.—Measures Advanced.

From Our Own Correspondent.

### FIFTEENTH DAY.

Victoria, Friday, August 10. The House met at 2 o'clock p. m. Mr. Tallow introduced a Bill to regulate immigration into British Columbia. The Bill was read a first time. Its second reading is fixed for Monday next.

In reply to Mr. Oliver, the Attorney-General stated, that there were 249 licences at \$100 per year, and 157 at \$200 per year in force under the Liquor Licence Act, in 1899.

### IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE.

The House went into Committee of the Whole, on the Land Registry Bill, which was taken up from its adjourned stage, and concluded. The Bill was reported up, complete, without amendments and stands for its third reading on Monday next.

The Judgments Bill was also considered in Committee of the Whole. The Committee rose and reported progress. The Official Administrators' Act was also dealt with, and was reported with amendments. It stands for its third reading on Monday.

### SUCCESSION DUTIES BILL.

HON. MR. EBERTS moved the second reading of the Bill relating to Succession Duties. Section 12 of the Bill, proposed in substitution of Sub-Section 2, Section 4, of the Succession Duty Act, as proviso that where the aggregate value of the property of the deceased exceeded \$25,000, and passed under a will, intestacy or otherwise, either in whole or in part, to or for the use of the father, mother, husband, wife, child, grandchild, daughter-in-law, or son-in-law of the deceased, the same, or as much thereof as so passed, should be subject to duty as follows: "Upon the value up to \$100,000, at the rate of \$1.50 for every \$100 of value of the whole property; where said value reaches \$100,000, but does not reach \$200,000, at the rate of \$2.50 for every \$100 of value of the whole property; where said value exceeds \$200,000, at the rate of \$5 for every \$100 of value of the whole property." The Attorney-General explained briefly the various clauses of the Bill.

MR. CURTIS suggested in connection with the amount of succession duties to be paid that there should be a sliding scale to regulate the application of the law. He considered the jump from \$1.50 for every hundred dollars of property value on an estate valued up to \$100,000, to \$2.50 on estates valued between \$100,000 and \$200,000 and so on too great, and argued that there should be some intermediate scale.

MR. NEILL thought that the Succession Duty Law of the Old Country could be copied to advantage in some respects.

The Bill was read a second time.

### BENNETT-ATLIN COMMISSION BILL.

HON. MR. EBERTS moved the second reading of the Bennett-Atlin Commission Bill. In doing so he said that the intention was to appoint a commission, immediately if required, to go to that country to inquire into the condition of certain mining property. Certain mining claims there had been staked over and over again, until it was impossible to tell who were the owners. It was with a view of determining this question, that the Commission was to be sent there. In Committee of the Whole, he intended to move an amendment that the Commission should be limited as to time. It was not necessary to have the Commission sitting very long, because he hoped, in the near future, that the Atlin country would have its own Court to settle disputes arising there. It was only with a view of settling disputes now in existence, that the Commission was to be

MR. MARTIN looked upon the Bill as a very drastic one, which could only be supported under special circumstances. He would not oppose the Bill, with the distinct understanding that it was to be modified, so that the Commission would cease after the present appointee had got through with the cases awaiting settlement. He looked upon it as a matter of some danger that a judge should be sent there, where he was outside of any law for guidance, to settle perhaps important questions affecting property, and he understood that there were no cases similar to those for which the Commission was appointed in 1899, namely, the boundary dispute and loose records. There would be no appeal from the decision of the Commissioner. He had absolute power, and the matter was therefore not without its graver aspects. Of course, he assumed that the Judge appointed would act in good faith, but they all knew, that the decisions of judges were often open to reasonable appeal.

HON. MR. EBERTS, in further explanation of the proposed Commission, said that disputes had arisen in the Porcupine District in which the boundary question was involved. A great many miners went in there, with the idea that it was American territory and staked their claims in conformity with the American law; that is, they had taken up claims 200 feet in length, against 100 feet, under Canadian Law. Upon inquiry, through Mr. Graham, the Commissioner in the District, it had been found that under the circumstances it would be advisable to have the matter arranged in the same way as was done in 1899.

MR. CLIFFORD considered it of great importance that the Commission

should be appointed as soon as possible. He instanced one case, that of the Yellow Jacket claim, where operations were at a complete standstill, pending a settlement of the points in dispute.

MR. STABLES said that he would be pleased to support the Bill, with the amendment promised by the Attorney-General. As it was, he would have opposed it. He did not believe that the circumstances in Atlin were at all similar to what they were last year. With regard to the difficulties arising there over the first claims, he thought that while Mr. Justice Irving had no doubt given entire satisfaction, there was no doubt that a great many of the cases he had had to deal with were difficult ones. Of course there were a few of the disputants that were dissatisfied, but that could only be expected, under the circumstances. As it was at present, there was no difficulty in that district any more than existed in any other mining district, and he thought it would be unfair to give the judge going into that district any special powers such as Mr. Justice Irving had. There were certain laws governing mining there, and the miners in that district were men who for the most part, studied those laws and tried to live up to them. With regard to the Porcupine District, it might be necessary to give a judge such powers, and he trusted that no time would be wasted in sending a judge there, with a view to having the existing disputes settled. There was no reason why a judge should not have been there three months ago. There was no doubt that a great many miners were waiting to have the disputes arbitrated, so that they could get to work and earn something to keep them over the long and severe winter.

HON. MR. EBERTS, replying to the point that a judge might have been sent to the Porcupine District before, said that he had to amend the Jurors' Act in order that cases might be tried in Atlin; otherwise, it would have been necessary to take a jury up to Atlin to try the cases there. That Bill had been hurried as much as possible. It was now arranged that the Judge should start in a few days for that district.

MR. MCINNES asked the name of the Judge?

HON. MR. EBERTS said it was Mr. Justice Martin.

HON. MR. MORRISON paid a tribute to the manner in which Mr. Justice Irving had performed the duties connected with the commission of 1899. He agreed that it was a dangerous thing to give any judge special powers to deal with matters over which the laws of British Columbia had full and adequate control, but there was the isolation of the district, and the distance which separated it from judicial bodies, to be considered. It was nearly 1,000 miles into that country, besides which it was a matter of some little difficulty at some seasons to get into the country. Last year, the conditions were such that this Bennett-Atlin Commission was absolutely necessary. As to the Porcupine territory, a report had been received from the Gold Commissioner some months ago that it was likely to prove a very good country, at the same time suggesting that some steps should be taken to have a Provincial Commissioner sent in there. Since then a Commissioner and a police constable had been sent there, and a very good report sent in on the country. Discoveries had subsequently been made. He had received a report only the other day, showing what the conditions were there. There were certain claims about which there was contention as to whether they were in United States territory or in the Province of British Columbia, and it was with a view to the settlement of these disputes that a judge was required.

The Bill was read a second time and will be taken up in Committee of the Whole on Monday.

### ROYAL ASSENT.

His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, during the afternoon visited the Chamber and assented to three bills, namely, The Liquor Licence Act,

An Act Affecting the Liability of Trustees, and

An Act to Amend the New Westminster Relief Act, 1899.

### MECHANICS' LIEN ACT.

The Mechanics' Lien Act was taken up in Committee of the Whole and progress reported.

### IN LIGHTER VEIN.

A proposition was submitted by Mr. Speaker from a local photographer, to take a photograph of the members in a body. After a humorous debate on the subject, the date of the operation was set for Tuesday.

The House adjourned until 2 o'clock p. m. on Monday.

### NOTICE OF QUESTIONS.

Mr. Stables gives notice of the following questions for Monday next:

(a) In the event of a hydraulic lease being granted covering ground held by individual free miners, and in the event of said claims lapsing in any way, who is entitled to the said claims, the Crown or the lease-holder?

(b) Has a Gold Commissioner power to issue an injunction against any free miner and stop him from working his claim, when complaint is laid against said free miner for any cause?

(c) If not, to what extent does his power extend in the matter of settling disputes that may arise from time to time among free miners.

### RAILWAY COMMITTEE.

The Dyea & Lake Bennett Railway Bill occupied the attention of the Railway Committee, during the morning. Consideration of the Bill will be continued on Monday.

### SETTLERS' WANTS.

A delegation from the Settlers' Association had an interview with the Government to-day, appertaining to the agricultural and other industries of the Province. The views of the delegation were presented in the shape of a series of recommendations. Among other things, they urged that the Government should make arrangements whereby settlers could obtain explosives at a low price, for the purpose of clearing the lands. They also suggested that assistance might be given with advantage in procuring steam machinery for the same purpose; also that the Serpentine Flats should be put in thorough repair, under efficient supervision, and that a bridge be constructed across the Fraser River at Westminster. They recommended further that the Government should encourage the

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Messrs. Oliver, P. P's., were pre view.

### ACT TO REGUL.

The following a of Bill No. 46, in low, at Friday's being an Act to into British Colu not apply to:

(a) Any person floate to the effe proper person to migrant to Britis ed by the Provin Agent-General of any officer appoint umbia Governmen this Act, whether Columbia;

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(c) Her Majes forces;

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The immigration bia of any person do so by the offic this Act, shall fr out and sign in the language of Eurog the Provincial Sec vinge of British Co be exempt from ti Act, etc., shall be u



establishment of shingle and pulp mills, pointing out that there was an abundant supply of white fir, cotton wood, spruce, Douglas fir, alder and cedar, suitable for these purposes, which could be in these ways saved from waste, as the lands were cleared. They were in favor also of the Government encouraging white immigration into the Province, and suggested in this connection that inducements might be offered in the way of cheap transportation. A strong plea was also made for railway communication between the Kootenays and Coast cities. A revision of the laws relating to statute labor was also requested. In this connection, a Bill is already before the House.

During the interview, the Government intimated that it would arrange that the accrued interest on amounts due by settlers in payment of their lands, would be thrown off, on condition that the settlers paid up all or a portion of the amounts due within a reasonable time.

The deputation also recommended that the Government should assist settlers to get fertilisers at cost price.

In connection with the Matsqui Dyke lands, the Government was recommended to defer the collection of assessments for the first five years, to give settlers a chance to get their land under cultivation.

It was represented that persons who had purchased lands sold for taxes, were at a disadvantage through the fact that they were unable to register their deeds. It was urged that this should be remedied.

The delegation consisted of Mr. H. T. Thrift, Mr. Hill-Tout, Mr. James Speirs, Mr. George Kickbush and Mr. H. F. Harris.

Messrs. Oliver, Kidd and Munro, M. P. P's., were present during the interview.

**ACT TO REGULATE IMMIGRATION.**

The following are the salient sections of Bill No. 46, introduced by Mr. Tatlow, at Friday's sitting of the House, being an Act to Regulate Immigration into British Columbia. This Act does not apply to:

- (a) Any person possessed of a certificate to the effect that he is a fit and proper person to be received as an immigrant to British Columbia, and signed by the Provincial Secretary or the Agent-General of British Columbia, or any officer appointed by the British Columbia Government for the purposes of this Act, whether in or out of British Columbia;
- (b) Any person expressly exempted from the operation of this Act by writing under the hand of the Provincial Secretary;
- (c) Her Majesty's land and sea forces;
- (d) The officers and crew of any ship-of-war of any government;
- (e) Any person duly accredited to British Columbia by or under the authority of the Imperial or Dominion or any other government;

The immigration into British Columbia of any person who, when asked to do so by the officer appointed under this Act, shall fail himself to write out and sign in the characters of some language of Europe an application to the Provincial Secretary of the Province of British Columbia, claiming to be exempt from the operation of the Act, etc., shall be unlawful.

It shall be the duty of every officer appointed under this Act, and of every person authorized by him, after being notified that any immigrant has made his way into British Columbia in contravention of the provisions of the last preceding section of this Act, to make complaint thereof to a magistrate or justice of the peace, and it shall be competent for the police magistrate of any city or town, and for any magistrate or justice of the peace in any town or district where there is no police magistrate, to investigate and decide in a summary manner upon any such complaint made by an officer appointed under this Act, or any person authorized by him, against any immigrant for contravention of the last preceding section of this Act, and to impose a fine of \$500; and if any such fine and costs be not forthwith paid, the same shall, by and under the warrant of the convicting Justice, be enforced, levied and collected with costs, by distress and sale of the goods and chattels of the offender, and shall by such justice be paid over to the Consolidated Revenue Fund of British Columbia; and in default of such distress, such justice shall, by his warrant, cause the offender to be imprisoned for any time not exceeding twelve months, unless the fine and costs and the reasonable expenses of endeavoring to collect the same be sooner paid; provided that such imprisonment shall cease upon the offender finding two approved sureties, each in amount \$250, that he will leave the Province within one month.

An immigrant making his way into or being found in British Columbia, in contravention of the provisions of this Act, shall not be entitled to a licence to carry on any trade or calling that is subject to the legislative authority of British Columbia, nor shall he be entitled to acquire and hold land, or to any of the rights or privileges of a free miner, or to a free miner's certificate, or to exercise the franchise, and any licence or franchise right which may have been acquired in contravention of this Act shall be void.

Any person who, or corporation which shall in any way wilfully assist any immigrant to contravene the provisions of this Act shall be deemed to have contravened this Act, and shall be liable to the like penalties imposed by this Act upon any such immigrant.

The Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council may from time to time appoint and at pleasure remove officers for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this Act, and may define the duties of such officers, and may from time to time make, amend and repeal rules and regulations for the better carrying out of the provisions of this Act.

This Act shall not come into force until the 1st day of January, 1901.

**PROTECTION OF WORKMEN.**

The following is the gist of Bill No. 40, introduced by Mr. Curtis, being an

**Act respecting Deception in Procuring Workmen or Employees:**

It shall be unlawful for any person, society, association or organisation of any kind doing business in this Province by himself or itself, or by his or her agent or attorney, to induce, influence, persuade or engage a workman to change from one place to another in this Province, or to bring a workman of any calling or class into this Province to work in any of the departments of labor in this Province, through or by means of deceptive representations, false advertising or false pretences concerning the kind and character of the work to be done, or amount and character of the compensation to be paid for such work, or the sanitary or other conditions of the employment, or as to the existence or non-existence of a strike or other trouble pending between employer and employees, at the time of, or immediately prior to, such engagement. Failure to state in any advertisement, proposal or contract for the employment of a workman that there is a strike, lock-out or other labor troubles at the place of the proposed employment, when in fact such strike, lock-out or other trouble then actually exists at such place, shall be deemed as false advertisement and misrepresentation for the purposes of this Act.

Any workman of this Province or from a locality outside this Province who has or shall be influenced, induced or persuaded to engage with any person or party mentioned in the above section, through or by means of any of the things therein prohibited, shall have a right of action for recovery of all damages that such workman has sustained in consequence of the false or deceptive representations, false advertising and false pretences used to induce him to change his place of employment, against any person, society, association or organisation directly or indirectly causing such damages.

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**PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT**

**Address of Condolence to Her Majesty  
—Debate on Government Contract  
Abuse and Oriental Influx  
Nuisance.**

From Our Own Correspondent.

**SEVENTH DAY.**

Victoria, July 31.

Owing to the death of H. R. H. the Duke of Edinburgh, the Legislature adjourned shortly after convening to-day, at 2 o'clock p. m. Only a few items of business were transacted, the House adjourning over until 2 o'clock to-morrow.

Mr. Green presented a petition from the British Columbia Hotel Company and others, re proposed amendments to the Liquor Licence Act, which was laid on the table, and Mr. Neill presented a petition signed by C. Binns and 45 others, asking Government assistance to build a road to afford access for conveying machinery and supplies to the placer gold fields at Wreck Bay, Uctuellet.

**ADDRESS OF CONDOLENCE.**

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. Dunsmuir, seconded by Mr. Martin, it was ordered:

That the rules of order be suspended, in order to introduce an address of condolence to Her Majesty the Queen and the Royal Family on account of the death of His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh and Duke of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha.

On the motion of Hon. Mr. Dunsmuir, seconded by Mr. Martin, it was resolved:

That the following address of condolence to Her Majesty the Queen and the Royal Family, on the death of His Royal Highness Alfred Ernest Albert, Duke of Edinburgh and Duke of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, be presented to Her Majesty:

"We, Your Majesty's loyal and dutiful subjects, the members of the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia, in Parliament assembled, desire humbly to tender to Your Majesty and the members of the Royal Family assurances of our profound sorrow and heartfelt sympathy on the great loss Your Majesty and the nation have sustained by the death of His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh and Saxe-Coburg-Gotha.

Your subjects in this part of Your Majesty's Empire have ever been most loyal, and are devotedly attached to Your Majesty's royal person and family, and feel keenly your bereavement. More especially at the present time, when the ties of Colonial relationship have been drawn so closely by events of great common concern, do they express the deep sorrow which the death of your son, the lamented Duke, has caused them.

We, therefore, venture to hope that Your Majesty and the Royal Family will be graciously pleased to accept this humble, but loyal and sincere, assurance of our sorrow and sympathy in the affliction which the Supreme Ruler, in His inscrutable providence, has permitted to befall Your Majesty."

On motion of Hon. Mr. Dunsmuir, seconded by Mr. Martin, it was resolved:

That the address of condolence to Her Majesty be engrossed, signed by the Speaker, and forwarded through the proper channel.

**EIGHTH DAY.**

Victoria, August 1.

The House met at 3 p. m. Mr. Garden presented a petition from J. A. Pilkey and others re anti-compulsory vaccination, which was laid on the table.

Mr. Helmcken presented a petition from the British Columbia Yukon Railway Company opposing the Lake Bennett Railway Bill; also a petition from the British Columbia Yukon Railway Company, opposing the Chikot Pass Railway & Navigation Bill.

**SUPPLY.**

Hon. Mr. Turner moved that the House, on Tuesday next, resolve itself into Committee of Supply, which was seconded by Hon. Mr. Dunsmuir and carried. The Minister of Finance explained, that this was merely a formal notice. While the Government expected to be prepared, it was not certain, that the Estimates would be brought down on that day.

**NEW BILLS.**

Mr. Green introduced a Bill to incorporate the Pacific, Northern and Omnica Railway Company, which was read a first time and referred to the Railway Committee. A Bill to amend the Vancouver and Lulu Island Railway Act, introduced by Mr. Helmcken, was also read a first time, and referred to the Railway Committee.

Mr. Tatlow introduced a Bill to amend the Investment and Loan Societies' Act, which was read a first time, its second reading being fixed for to-morrow.

Mr. McPhillips introduced a Bill entitled the Mortgagees Legal Costs Act, 1900. The Bill was read a first time and placed on the orders for second reading to-morrow.

**GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS.**

MR. HELMCKEN, seconded by MR. R. SMITH, moved:

"That, in the opinion of this House, all Government contracts should contain such conditions as will prevent abuses which may arise from the subletting of such contracts, and that every effort should be made to secure the payment of such wages as are generally accepted as current in each trade for competent workmen in the district where the work is carried out; and it is hereby resolved that the work to which the foregoing shall apply includes not only work undertaken by the Government itself, but also all works aided by a grant of Provincial public funds and all works carried on under franchises granted by the Government, and that the aforesaid policy shall be forthwith applied to every department of the public service and to all parties now performing services for the Government."

MR. MARTIN thought this was a resolution which should come from the Government. It was a recognised principle that matters dealing with the registration of public affairs generally, belonged to the Government, and resolutions affecting such matters should be introduced by a member of the Government. The present resolution was a copy, about word for word, of one recently passed in the House of Commons at Ottawa; and there the resolution was very properly introduced by the Postmaster-General, one of the members of the Administration.

MR. HELMCKEN said this resolution was submitted with the approval of the Government, which he presumed, would remove all objection. At the same time he remarked that a similar resolution had been introduced in the Ontario House, by a private member.

MR. MARTIN: "Of course, if the Government approve of it, it is a different thing, but the fact of a private member introducing it led me to think they were objecting to it."

THE SPEAKER held that the resolution should properly be introduced by the Government, but if the Government gave its consent it would be all right.

MR. HUNTER thought there was room in the resolution for some consideration of the laboring man. He noticed that the man with a trade was always taken care of to the exclusion of the ordinary laborer. He thought a few words might be added to include the laboring class.

MR. McINNIS said he had every sympathy with the object of the resolution, but he felt at the same time that to pass it in its present shape would be a waste of legislation. It was merely a resolution and nothing more. When the very same resolution was introduced in the House of Commons last session, an amendment was moved that the idea contained therein be embodied in a piece of legislation, so that if a workman was not getting current wages he would have a legal right to demand the same. He intended therefore, proposing an amendment to that effect, which would also include that protection which the hon. gentleman (Mr. Hunter) suggested for the laboring man by relieving him from unfair competition with the Chinese and Japs. This feature was not brought up in the Dominion House because they were not brought in contact with it there, but it seemed to be a most fitting occasion for British Columbia members to put themselves on record in the matter, and their resolution would have the virtue of being beyond question of the Dominion Government as to its being ultra vires or anything of that kind. He therefore moved, seconded by MR. CURTIS.

"That, the resolution be amended by inserting between the words 'forthwith' and 'applied,' in the seventh line, the following words: 'embodied into an Act and'; also by adding thereto the following words: 'also that in all contracts, leases and concessions of whatsoever kind entered into or made by the Government, provision be made that no Chinese or Japanese shall be employed in connection therewith.'"

In order that there might be no question as to jurisdiction, MR. McINNIS said he did not propose that part of the amendment referring to the employment of Oriental labor to be embodied in legislation, but simply that it should take the form of a resolution, that the House might be able to place itself on record.

HON. MR. TURNER understood that the Government had consented to the introduction of the resolution itself, but whether that consent would embrace the resolution as amended was another matter altogether.

MR. MARTIN said this showed the absurdity of the whole proceeding. Instead of introducing this resolution itself, the Government had thrown the subject at large on the House, saying practically that it could not take what it had sanctioned or not deal with the matter at all. He would suggest, that the Government should bring in its policy in connection with the matter. If there was anything that a government should take credit for it was an important change in policy like that proposed. But the Government had preferred to stand in the rear and have some of its supporters bring forward the measure, prepared to dodge this way or that as the feeling of the House suggested. This course was certainly opposed to the principles of responsible government. That was the sort of politics followed in city or county council, where every member got up and did as he liked, but here in this House the principles of responsible government should guide, and there should be a Committee of the Cabinet responsible for everything of this nature. Nothing of great public importance like this should emanate from private members, especially on the Government side. The course taken would make the public think that the Government was afraid to deal with this matter. While the Opposition was not ready perhaps to subscribe to anything the Government might do, in this particular case it would have been happy to give its support.

HON. MR. WELLS said that a similar resolution had been introduced in the Imperial House by a private member, to which some objection had been taken, but which by general consent had passed the House.

MR. HELMCKEN thought this resolution stood by itself and the amendment proposed by the member for North Nanaimo was nothing more or less than an amendment sought to be introduced in the Ontario House. He considered that the resolution would commend itself to the sympathy and approval of every honorable member in the House. He had no objection to the amendment suggested by Mr. Hunter, but was decidedly opposed to any further change.



because he was perfectly certain that the Government would before the close of the session introduce legislation dealing with the matter.

HON. MR. McBRIDE agreed that as a general rule such resolutions as this should come from the Government, but distanced a case in the Ontario Parliament as a precedent for the course followed. As to the amendment offered by Mr. McInnes, the Government was not prepared at present to go to the extent indicated by that amendment. Not that the Government did not believe in measures of that kind, but that it was not in a position to accept them at this stage. The House would understand that this was an important matter and one which should not be lightly dealt with, a matter on which some hon. members might object to have legislation brought about at once. The proposition was so grave that they must not deal with it in a hurry, in an unguarded or uncertain way. He, therefore, asked the hon. gentleman to withdraw his amendment and let the original resolution go through.

MR. McINNES replying to the Minister of Mines, said the question was certainly a grave one. It had been a grave matter in the Province for years, but he could see no possible excuse for the Government on that score, for not having a policy. Every man who lived in the Province had made up his mind as to what was best in regard to this subject, and surely if the people could form an opinion the Government should not be deterred by the gravity of the matter from doing so. That was all the more reason why it should be prepared with a policy.

MR. MARTIN said the Government was certainly putting itself in a very curious position. The mover of the resolution said he looked for legislation on this subject, the Hon. Minister of Mines said legislation was intended, yet it proposed to vote against having an act, on the ground that it would vote later on in the session in favor of such legislation. There was something strangely anomalous and absurd in its position.

MR. McPHILLIPS said he thought it would be derogatory to the dignity of this House that the Government should take direction in this matter from the whole House. That was not Parliamentary custom or usage. The Parliamentary usage was that the House should pass the resolution in the abstract, leaving it to the Government to adopt that policy or not. The hon. member for North Nanaimo was very well aware that the Government could not permit a resolution of this kind to be amended in this way. He would oppose the amendment, not in principle, but as being contrary to Parliamentary usage.

MR. BROWN did not want the hon. member for Victoria (Mr. McPhillips) to think that he could get off on such a plea as that. It was altogether too thin. When the Government allowed a resolution of this nature to be introduced and accepted it, that resolution immediately took the same position towards the House as if the Government introduced it and was just as much open to amendment, and the Government was protecting itself against the amendment just as if it had introduced the resolution.

MR. RALPH SMITH desired to say that he had seconded the resolution moved by Mr. Helmcken on the supposition that it would be embodied in legislation. As the principle of embodying that resolution in an act had come before the House he was prepared to vote for the amendment. If the House had been willing to make an experiment with this resolution, as the Ottawa House did, and subsequently employ machinery to apply it, then he of course would be perfectly agreeable, but he believed in the principle, and if the House was prepared to agree to the resolution it ought to have no objection to embody it in a statute.

MR. KIDD took the same view of the question as the previous speaker, and said he would vote for the amendment on those grounds.

MR. GREEN proposed to vote against the amendment, not because he did not believe in the principle, but because the Government had promised to introduce legislation dealing with the matter, and in his opinion it should be left in its

MR. OLIVER said it seemed to him a waste of time to leave the matter in the hands of the Government, when the Government had consented to the resolution submitted by Mr. Helmcken. If the principle of that resolution was correct, then the declaration of the House that it should be embodied in an act was also correct. He certainly could not understand the fine distinctions sought to be drawn in this matter and would support the amendment.

The amendment was then put, and was lost on division. Names being called for, the vote stood as follows:

For the amendment—Messrs. McInnes, Gilmour, Stables, Smith, E. C., Oliver, Kidd, Neill, Brown, Martin, Curtis, Munro, Smith, R., Houston—13.

Against the amendment—Messrs. Green, Hall, McPhillips, Helmcken, Turner, Cunnamir, Eberts, Smith, A. W., Elison, Clifford, Fulton, Hayward, Garden, Tatlow, Prentice, Wells, McBride, Pooley, Murphy, Rogers, Hunter, Taylor, Dickie, Mounce—24.

A discussion then ensued upon the second part of the amendment excluding Chinese and Japanese from employment on contract work.

MR. MARTIN said that this amendment proposed in a most effective way, to protect the workingman against Oriental competition. The question came before them straight and plain. In the granting of timber leases, for instance, they had a most effective means of throwing out of employment a large number of Chinese and Japanese in this Province. The persons who held these leases must come to the Government from time to time to ask for a renewal, and it was quite competent for the House to instruct the Government not to renew these leases unless a clause was put in providing against the employment of Chinese or Japanese in cutting and handling the timber. If the lumbermen held that they could not handle the timber without the employment of this cheap labor, then he (Mr. Martin) thought the Province should hold the areas for a day when it became profitable to work them so as to give employment to the people of our own country. He applied the same argument to the placer mining leases. It was a burning question, a crying complaint in those districts that the people who got these hydraulic leases employed Oriental labor to do the work, thus shutting white labor out. For a mere nominal payment of \$50 or \$75 a year, these lessees had 80 acres of land handed over to them for the purpose of extracting the gold from it. He did not complain of that or say it was not right, but would say that if these hydraulic companies could not extract the gold without sacrificing white labor by the employment of Chinese and Japanese to do their work, then the House should say most emphatically that it was in the public interest that the gold should remain in the land until it became profitable to get it out with white labor employed. He thought there should be no hesitation on the part of the House in supporting this amendment. The only difference between it and the resolution itself was that the amendment aimed to be effective. The Government Party was willing to take an excuse for a promise, that there would be legislation. The Government had not promised legislation, and there would be nothing done. There was, no doubt whatever that this session would pass without any legislation at all on this question. The Government members were satisfied with that course. But why should the House not be prepared to adopt the effective course opened by the amendment, a measure beyond the possibility of disallowance, and promising relief so much needed.

MR. HELMCKEN: "After listening to the Hon. Leader of the Opposition, I think I may be allowed the indulgence of the House in asking that the debate be continued another day, so that we may have an opportunity to consider the exact purport of the amendment proposed by the hon. gentleman." The debate was accordingly adjourned until the next sitting of the House.

MR. TATLOW'S CHINESE MOTION. MR. TATLOW moved, seconded by MR. GARDEN, "Resolved, that after repeated resolutions and addresses of this Assembly, the Government of Canada in 1885 introduced and carried an Act to restrict and regulate Chinese immigration into Canada, the principal provisions of said Act being:

"A toll tax, on landing, of \$50; No vessel to carry more than one Chinese to every 50 tons of its tonnage; Every Chinese person who wished to leave Canada, with the intention of returning thereto, on giving notice of such intention to the Controller at the port or place when he proposed to sail or depart, and surrendering to the said officer his certificate of entry or of residence, to receive in lieu thereof, on payment of a fee of \$1, a certificate of leave to depart and return;

That in 1887 this Act was amended and improved by the Parliament of Canada;

That in 1892 the Act was further amended;

That after experience the Act of 1885 was found to be ineffective for the purposes intended;

That in 1896, during the general elections for the Dominion Parliament, the present Prime Minister of Canada, the then Leader of the Opposition in the House of Commons of Canada, gave an assurance in the following telegram, which was immediately published at public meetings and in the press of this Province:

"Montreal, May 25th, 1896. Chinese immigration restriction not a question in the East; views of the Liberals in the West will prevail with me."

(Signed) WILFRID LAURIER. That, until the year 1900, no action was taken by the Right Honorable Sir Wilfrid Laurier to meet the views of the Liberals in the West, who, in common with the majority of the people, were alarmed by the growing and ever increasing injury due to the steady influx of the Chinese into British Columbia.

That legislation of this Province, intended to ameliorate to some extent the condition of labor other than that of the Mongolian race, has been disallowed by His Excellency the Governor-General, on the advice of the present Dominion Government;

This House in 1897 resolved, "That an humble address be presented by this House to the Lieutenant-Governor, praying him to move the Dominion Government to take into consideration the desirability of increasing the per capita tax on Chinese coming into the Dominion, and urging that, in the opinion of this House, three-fourths of all moneys received in British Columbia ports from the present tax, or (if such tax be increased) three-fourths of such revenue so increased, should be paid to this Province, as the chief injury from the presence of the Chinese is sustained by the Province and not by the Dominion";

That this House has learned with deep regret that, instead of adopting an effective measure of protection against Chinese immigration, the Canadian Parliament has this year adopted what is, under the circumstances, a purely Revenue Bill, known as 'The Chinese Immigration Act, 1900,' the chief provisions of which are to increase the per capita tax on Chinese coming into the Dominion from \$50 to \$100, and that one-fourth part of the net proceeds of all taxes paid by Chinese immigrants shall be paid to that Province wherein they are collected;

That an humble address be presented by this House to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, praying him to advise His Excellency the Governor-General of Canada that this House is of opinion that the 'Chinese Immigration Act, 1900,' is unsatisfactory, disappointing, and wholly fails to meet the exigencies of the situation."

MR. TATLOW said there was not much necessity for remark in introducing this resolution. Every hon. gentleman in the House was well acquainted with this agitation. In the year 1884 a commission, presided over by the Hon. Mr. Chapleau, inquired into this question and made a report that Chinese immigration was undesirable and that legislation to that effect should be introduced. In 1885 an Act was introduced into the Dominion House placing a per capita tax on these people. In 1887 that Act was further amended to the effect that it gave back to the Province of British Columbia 25 per cent. of the sums so collected. This, they understood from the speech of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, in introducing the present Immigration Act, the other day, gave some relief to this Province, but the effect was only temporary as the influx of these people increased from year to year until on the eve of the Dominion election, the telegram referred to

In the resolution was sent to Sir Wilfrid Laurier. There is no doubt that the reply to it had considerable influence on the Dominion election, but they looked towards that these views of Sir Wilfrid's were not shared in by the Government, for within months of the receipt of that message they found Sir D. C. saying in Parliament that it would do to keep these people out of the ground that they were Chinese and that for himself, he desired the country should have population as willing that Chinamen as others should come in.

MR. MARTIN: "Mr. Fraser a member of the Government. MR. TATLOW went on to state the fallacy of the argument that the reasons interfered with the of the Orientals, saying that special authorities had held that it was a matter with which Colonial governments were considered competent to deal. He also referred to the which the Province had to be receiving this Eastern immigration the small quota of the per capita which the Province received from the Dominion."

MR. BROWN said he believed roughly in the principle of excluding Chinese and Japanese, but could not together concur in the method hon. gentleman's resolution and. In the first place, the House was properly asked to resolve a lot of that occurred several years ago, the next place there was a message to the speaker's remarks, looked as if this Province was as interested in this immigration question from a money standpoint, as from lives of self preservation. He also the hon. gentleman showed position to use this subject as a ing horse from which to have at the Ottawa Government. An objection he took to the way in this matter had been dealt with that not a word was said about migration of the Japanese, which considered as a very important part of the problem. He therefore seconded by MR. CURTIS, the following amendment:

"To strike out all the words after word 'Resolved,' on the first line in lieu of the words so struck out:

"That it is the duty of this House dealing with the question of Oriental immigration, to cast aside all considerations of party and political party, and to take such action as demonstrate to the world how vitally far-reaching the question really is."

That an humble address be presented to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, praying him to advise His Excellency the Governor-General of Canada that, in the opinion of this House, 'Chinese Immigration Act, 1900,' prove wholly inadequate even to a closely check the tide of Chinese immigration, while it leaves the even threatening influx of Japanese utterly unrestrained; and further advise His Excellency that it is the tied conviction of this House that less Chinese and Japanese immigrants be promptly and effectually checked not only will laborers and artisans European race be driven from the vince, but all trades and industries other than those exclusively, or almost exclusively, engaged in manufacturing for export the raw material of the vince will pass into the hands of Chinese and Japanese."

MR. HELMCKEN called attention to the fact that he also had a resolution to offer in this matter. He could see any objection to getting his resolution on record and in order to do would move the adjournment of the debate.

MR. HUNTER also offered a few marks after which the debate was adjourned until to-morrow.

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE. On the motion of Mr. Hayward, seconded by Mr. Kidd, it was resolved:

"That in the opinion of this House it is desirable that a Standing Committee on Agriculture should be appointed."

This resolution received the hearty support of MR. OLIVER, who pointed out that there were many matters which could engage the attention of a Committee, referring particularly to the cut worm pest now prevalent in some parts of the Province.

HON. MR. TURNER also spoke in favor of the proposal and MR. KID and MR. MARTIN also approved the



in the resolution was despatched to Sir Wilfrid Laurier. There was no doubt that the reply to that had had considerable influence on the last Dominion election, but they learned afterwards that these views of Sir Wilfrid's were not shared in by members of his Government, for within four months of the receipt of that assuring message they found Mr. D. C. Fraser saying in Parliament that it would not do to keep these people out on the ground that they were Chinamen, and that for himself, he desired that the country should have population and he was willing that Chinamen as well as others should come in.

MR. MARTIN: "Mr. Fraser was not a member of the Government."

MR. TATLOW went on to show the fallacy of the argument that Imperial reasons interfered with the exclusion of the Orientals, saying that the Imperial authorities had held that this was a matter with which Colonial governments were considered competent to deal. He also referred to the burden which the Province had to bear in receiving this Eastern immigration, and the small quota of the per capita tax which the Province received from the Dominion.

MR. BROWN said he believed thoroughly in the principle of excluding the Chinese and Japanese, but could not altogether concur in the method of the hon. gentleman's resolution and speech. In the first place, the House was improperly asked to resolve a lot of things that occurred several years ago, and in the next place there was a mercenary tone to the speaker's remarks, which looked as if this Province was as much interested in this immigration question from a money standpoint, as from motives of self preservation. He thought also the hon. gentleman showed a disposition to use this subject as a stalking horse from which to have a shot at the Ottawa Government. Another objection he took to the way in which this matter had been dealt with was that not a word was said about the immigration of the Japanese, which he considered as a very important part of the problem. He therefore moved, seconded by MR. CURTIS, the following amendment:

"To strike out all the words after the word 'Resolved,' on the first line, and in lieu of the words so struck out insert:

"That it is the duty of this House, in dealing with the question of Oriental immigration, to cast aside all considerations of party and political partisanship, and to take such action as will demonstrate to the world how vital and far-reaching the question really is;

That an humble address be presented to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, praying him to advise His Excellency the Governor-General of Canada that, in the opinion of this House, the 'Chinese Immigration Act, 1899,' will prove wholly inadequate even to appreciably check the tide of Chinese immigration, while it leaves the even more threatening influx of Japanese absolutely unrestrained; and further to advise His Excellency that it is the settled conviction of this House that unless Chinese and Japanese immigration be promptly and effectually checked, not only will laborers and artisans of European race be driven from the Province, but all trades and industries other than those exclusively, or almost exclusively, engaged in manufacturing for export the raw material of the Province will pass into the hands of Chinese and Japanese."

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HON. MR. TURNER also spoke favorably of the proposal and MR. KIDD and MR. MARTIN also approved of the idea.

MR. NEILL added a brief speech in support of the resolution, during which he became entangled in some little political differences with Mr. Martin, that did not assist the proposition.

MR. NEILL was glad to support such a practical resolution, and felt sure the results would be beneficial. As to matters that such a committee might deal with he alluded to the recent interview of the Dairymen's Association with the Government, and mentioned that the Association was now arranging for the importation of a lot of thorough-bred stock into the Province. This the Government had agreed to assist it in. A permanent Committee to look after agricultural interests he thought would be an institution of much benefit.

HON. MR. McBRIDE said a few words in support of the idea, and Mr. Hayward also added some favorable remarks.

**ATLÉN HYDRAULIC LEASES.**

On the motion of MR. STABLES, seconded by MR. CURTIS, it was resolved:—

"That an Order of the House be granted for a return of all hydraulic leases granted since 1st January, 1898, in the Atlén District, with names of lessees, dates of application, name of creek or river, with location of ground on it covered by each such lease; also name of applicant and leases still in abeyance or withheld; also, return of applications for water leases, number of inches applied for in each case, those granted and those in abeyance."

**ELECTION EXPENSES IN CARIBOO.**

On motion of Mr. Hunter, seconded by Mr. Rogers, it was resolved:—

"That an Order of the House be granted for a return showing in detail, all fee allowances or disbursements received, paid or made by the Returning Officers, or their subordinates, in respect of the General Elections in the Cariboo District in the years 1898 and 1900."

**QUESTIONS.**

Mr. Tatlow asked the Hon. the Attorney-General the following question:

"Is a suit now pending between the Dominion Government and the Provincial Government as to ownership of Stanley Park or any part thereof, and would the Provincial Government entertain favorably a proposition to convey its rights to the City of Vancouver in trust for park purposes?"

The Hon. Mr. Eberts replied as follows:

"Yes. It is not advisable while the action is pending to make any change in the ownership."

Mr. Hayward asked the Hon. the Attorney-General the following questions:

"1. Is it a fact that the Provincial Police have been patrolling the Fraser River and Gulf of Georgia for the purpose of protecting licensed fishermen from intimidation?"

"2. Was there any communication with the Dominion Government as to their affording protection to licensed fishermen on the Fraser River and Gulf of Georgia. If so, what was the reply?"

The Hon. Mr. Eberts replied as follows:

"1. Yes.

"2. The following telegram was received from an official of the Dominion Government:—'Representations made that intimidation exists on Fraser River and licensed fishermen unable to fish. Matter outside jurisdiction this Department, and pertaining to Provincial Government. Can protection be given fishermen?'"

The Attorney-General informed Mr. Tatlow that the Government did not intend to take any steps to validate tax sales, held in New Westminster District in 1896.

Hon. Mr. Wells, in reply to Mr. Tatlow, said the Government was now considering the most advantageous means of encouraging the pulp industry in British Columbia.

Hon. Mr. Prentice informed Mr. Tatlow that it was the Government's intention to cancel the present list of voters for Vancouver City.

**BILLS ADVANCED.**

The Notaries Bill was on motion of Hon. Mr. Eberts read a third time and finally passed.

The Liquor License Bill was considered in Committee clause by clause. The Committee reported progress.

The House adjourned at 8 p. m.



## PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT

### Steveston Inquiry Commission Appointed.—Opposition Deprecates Calling Out of Militia.—Anti-Mongolian Legislation.

From Our Own Correspondent.  
NINTH DAY.

Victoria, August 2.

The House met at 2:30 p. m. Petitions from J. A. Pelfrey and others re anti-compulsory vaccination and from the British Columbia Hotel Company and others re proposed amendments to the Liquor Licence Act were on motion received.

Hon. Mr. Wells introduced a Bill to amend the Columbia & Western Railway Subsidy Act, 1896, which was read a first time.

Hon. Mr. Eberts introduced a Bill to amend the Roseland Water & Light Company Incorporation Act, 1896. The Bill was advanced a stage.

#### THE STEVESTON COMMISSION.

MR. BROWN moved, seconded by MR. MUNRO, that a special Committee consisting of Messrs. Kidd, R. Smith, Tatlow, Oliver and the mover, be appointed to inquire into all matters connected with the sending of the Militia to Steveston, with power to send for persons and papers and report to this House.

MR. BROWN thought this resolution would not be opposed, as there was every reason to think that the Government would be only too glad to embrace the opportunity of having this matter cleared up. He himself had received very contradictory reports as to the necessity of armed interference in connection with the strike, showing to what an extent public feeling had been aroused in regard to it. He, therefore, thought it only proper that the facts of the case should be made public, and the blame, if any, attached to the proper shoulders.

HON. MR. EBERTS thought there was some further explanation called for. The resolution itself was clear enough, but he considered the hon. gentleman should clear up the meaning of his references in regard to "contradictory reports" and "placing the blame upon the proper shoulders." He did not understand these allusions.

MR. BROWN said that for one thing he had been informed on Monday that there would have been no difficulty in settling this whole matter if the Militia had not been ordered out. He did not think to censure anybody, and did not know whether anybody deserved censure. The object of the resolution was merely to bring out the facts for the instruction of the public.

MR. McPHILLIPS considered that such an inquiry would involve a useless expenditure of public money. He also disagreed with the resolution in principle. The Legislature had time and again been asked to interfere with matters with which it had nothing to do. He did not see by what right they were going to sit in judgment on these justices of the peace. They had acted under a Federal statute, and he thought that if they were called upon to act under Dominion authority the result would be disastrous to the best interests of the country. Such an inquiry, if considered necessary, belonged to the Federal authorities and not to this Legislature, which he claimed had no jurisdiction whatever.

MR. McINNES was very glad that such a motion had been made in this House. It was a matter of general regret that the Militia had been called out. They had heard a great deal lately about certain things happening that had a tendency to shake the confidence of the investing public, but nothing had occurred in recent years, with such a bad result in that regard, as the inference that the Militia had to be called upon to protect one of the industries of the Province. It was particularly unfortunate, too, that the Militia had been called to interfere with a people, who according to their own convictions, at any rate, were acting as they conceived perfectly within their rights.

The Hon. Attorney-General, upon his request, had consented to bring down the correspondence relating to this matter saying that the Government had nothing to conceal in this matter. He (Mr. McInnes) had gone over this correspondence, and found that there were several very important pieces of correspondence which were omitted. He wished to point out that the correspondence contained none of the instructions given to the officers of the Government.

HON. MR. EBERTS explained that a special officer was sent from Victoria, who conveyed the instructions orally, to the official at Steveston.

MR. McINNES thought that unfortunately for the Attorney-General, that explanation would not go down, quoting from despatches from the Fraser River Cannery Association to show that correspondence had taken place in writing. He went on to refer to the responsibility for calling out the Militia. In this connection members of the Government had contended that the Government had nothing to do with that matter, but he held that the correspondence disclosed the fact that the Government did have a hand in that transaction. The motion before the House would give the Government an opportunity of setting itself right, if, as it claimed, it was really not responsible.

To show that the Government should welcome an inquiry, and an opportunity of clearing itself from all suspicion in the matter Mr. McInnes quoted two despatches dated July 21st and 22nd, one to the Attorney-General and the other to the Premier, asking if the Government could send some good men, or "Militia" to the scene. To these telegrams replies were on file in the correspondence submitted, saying that "steps were being taken." From these Mr. McInnes drew the inference that the Government had taken a part in calling the Militia out. Another despatch from the Fraser River Cannery Association contained the words, "Militia urgently required to guard against loss of life and property." This last message was directed to the Premier, who was out of town when it came to hand. His Private Secretary, Mr. Gosnell, however, took the matter in hand, and sent a reply as follows: "Premier out of town. Telegram laid before the Executive; steps taken." Taken in conjunction with the correspondence preceding it, this, he claimed, led to a fair inference that the steps taken were in reference to calling out the Militia.

HON. MR. EBERTS: "Not at all."  
HON. MR. McBRIDE said he had felt, when he stated on a previous occasion that the Government had nothing whatever to do with calling out the Militia, that his word would be accepted by the House. He regretted very much that the hon. member for North Nanaimo found it improper to do so. He was glad this discussion had come up, for it showed conclusively what was but a fair opinion all along, that gentlemen opposite were not acting in this matter with a view of effecting a harmonious settlement, but for the purpose of gaining a certain kind of political notoriety, through the exercise of cheap talk and clap trap argument. He would now repeat, what he had said before, that the Government had absolutely nothing to do with the calling out of the Militia. He might state that there were certain communications from himself, purely of a private nature, which were not submitted with the correspondence laid on the table. He was only too pleased now to give his consent that these messages should be added to the file which the hon. gentleman found so interesting.

MR. GILMOUR: "If the Government had nothing to do with calling out the Militia, what have they to fear from the inquiry of this Committee?"  
MR. McPHILLIPS: "Waste of time."  
MR. GILMOUR hoped the hon. gentleman would show his appreciation of the value of time in his conduct in the House. (Hear, hear.) Contrary to the opinion of that gentleman, he (Mr. Gilmour) considered it a proper function of the Government to interfere in matters of this kind, in the right way and at the proper time. He did not say for one moment that the Government was responsible for calling out the Militia, but he did think the Government should welcome an inquiry which promised to place the matter beyond suspicion.

HON. MR. TURNER said that he believed there was some intimation made to the Government as to the advisability of calling out the Militia, but the Government had taken no action in that connection. The Government did not object to the resolution except in the particular that it should have representation on the Committee. He, therefore, moved that the name of the Hon. Attorney-General be added.

MR. McINNES objected on the ground that the Attorney-General might be required to appear as a witness, and could not very well combine the offices of witness and giving evidence.

After some further discussion, the name of Hon. Mr. Eberts was added to the Committee.

MR. OLIVER, speaking to the motion, thought there was all the more reason for such an inquiry as that proposed when it was considered that the expense of calling the Militia out and maintaining them at Steveston had to be borne by the municipality in which they were quartered. He thought the people of British Columbia had a right to ask that the magistrates interested should be removed, if it was found they had exceeded their power. If, on the other hand, it was found that they had acted properly, it was only right that they should be cleared of any imputation of wrong doing.

MR. BROWN did not want to talk further on the point at issue, but desired to protest against the charge of Hon. Mr. McBride that the efforts of the Opposition in this connection were for political effect only, and mere clap-trap. The Opposition was acting, as it considered, in the interests of the country, and it did not lie with any hon. gentleman opposite to depreciate its labors by any such red herring statements.

The question was then put and the motion passed.

## PROVINCIAL PARLIAM

### A Day of Routine.—Bills in Committee.—Protection of Witnesses.—Licence Legislation.—Abortive Anti-Oriental Efforts.

From Our Own Correspondent.  
ELEVENTH DAY.

Victoria, August

The House met at 2 o'clock p. m. Mr. Helmcken (Chairman), re the Bill to Incorporate the W Telephone & Telegraph Company the Private Bills Committee.

Mr. Pooley, Chairman of R. Committee, reported a Bill to Incorporate the Rock Bay & Salmon River way Company.

Mr. McInnes introduced a Bill to amend the Game Protection Act, 1899 Bill was read a first time and for its second reading on Thursday next.

Mr. Martin introduced a Bill to amend the Bureau of Mines Act Amendment Act, 1899, which was read a first time. Mr. Tatlow asked the Government if it had any authoritative information as to the number of persons per by the Japanese regulations to enter from Japan to Canada each month.

Hon. Mr. Dunsmuir answered [Mr. Tatlow's question is more factually answered in another column.]

#### COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE.

The House then went into Committee of the Whole, when the adjournment on the Act to Amend the Ev Act was continued. The Bill was reported up with amendments. The provision of this Bill is to protect witnesses, who are obliged under the law to give evidence which might incriminate them from prosecutions arising of such evidence or from the use of evidence against them. A point of difficulty presented itself to make apply without conflicting with the law in other parts of the Empire. An amendment offered by Mr. Martin on point was voted down; but it was observed in the notices of motion both he and Mr. Curtis, will not have the Bill recommitted, with a view of having it amended in this regard. The Liquor Licence Bill was again in Committee of the Whole and gone through down to the second reading when the Committee rose and its progress. The provision, which was passed when the Bill shall become law, in abeyance until the next sitting of the Committee. The Bill, as amended to date, will be printed in the next issue. One of the amendments defined the expression "locality," the area on which it is to be determined the application of the graduated of licence fees, etc., to mean "territory in a licenced district, with mile of the licenced premises." An amendment altered the \$60 fee to \$100.

During the passage of the Bill through Committee, Mr. Houston made an objection. He thought the Government was legislating for certain localities.

The Liquor Licence Bill will probably be proceeded with again tomorrow.

In Committee of the Whole, the fees Bill was read clause by clause reported upon without amendment motion, the Bill was read a third time and finally passed.

The New Westminster Relief Bill also passed through Committee, a third time and finally passed.

The Hon. Attorney-General on the second reading of the Bill to amend the Companies Act. He explained the amendments did not affect the essential provisions of the Act, but were intended to make them more clear possibly less onerous on parties intending to seek incorporation. The Bill will be committed at the next sitting of the House.

The Hon. Attorney-General moved second reading of the Bill to amend the Roseland Water & Light Company Act. This Bill, he explained, was



## PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT

**A Day of Routine.—Bills in Committee.**  
**—Protection of Witnesses.—Liquor**  
**Licence Legislation.—Abortive**  
**Anti-Oriental Efforts.**

From Our Own Correspondent.

ELEVENTH DAY.

Victoria, August 6.

The House met at 2 o'clock p. m. Mr. Helmcken (Chairman), reported the Bill to Incorporate the Western Telephone & Telegraph Company, from the Private Bills Committee.

Mr. Pooley, Chairman of Railway Committee, reported a Bill to Incorporate the Rock Bay & Salmon River Railway Company.

Mr. McInnes introduced a Bill to amend the Game Protection Act, 1898. The Bill was read a first time and stands for its second reading on Thursday next.

Mr. Martin introduced a Bill to amend the Bureau of Mines Act Amendment Act, 1899, which was read a first time.

Mr. Tatlow asked the Government if it had any authoritative information as to the number of persons permitted by the Japanese regulations to emigrate from Japan to Canada each month.

Hon. Mr. Dunsmuir answered "No." [Mr. Tatlow's question is more satisfactorily answered in another column.—Ed.]

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE.**

The House then went into Committee of the Whole, when the adjourned sitting on the Act to Amend the Evidence Act was continued. The Bill was reported up with amendments. The chief provision of this Bill is to protect witnesses, who are obliged under the Act to give evidence which might incriminate them from prosecutions arising out of such evidence or from the use of such evidence against them. A point of difficulty presented itself to make this apply without conflicting with the law in other parts of the Empire. An amendment offered by Mr. Martin on this point was voted down; but it will be observed in the notices of motion, that both he and Mr. Curtis, will move to have the Bill recommitted, with a view of having it amended in this regard.

The Liquor Licence Bill was taken up again in Committee of the Whole, and gone through down to the schedule when the Committee rose and reported progress. The provision, fixing the date when the Bill shall become law, was passed in the reading, but was left in abeyance until the next sitting of the Committee. The Bill, as amended to date, will be printed in the meantime. One of the amendments applied defined the expression "locality," fixing the area on which is to be determined the application of the graduated scale of licence fees, etc., to mean "a territory in a licensed district, within one mile of the licensed premises." Another amendment altered the \$60 fee to \$75.

During the passage of the Bill through Committee, Mr. Houston raised an objection. He thought the Government was legislating for certain localities.

The Liquor Licence Bill will probably be proceeded with again to-morrow.

In Committee of the Whole, the Trustees Bill was read clause by clause, and reported upon without amendments. On motion, the Bill was read a third time and finally passed.

The New Westminster Relief Bill was also passed through Committee, read a third time and finally passed.

The Hon. Attorney-General moved the second reading of the Bill to amend the Companies Act. He explained that the amendments did not affect the general provisions of the Act, but were intended to make them more clear and possibly less onerous on parties intending to seek incorporation. The Bill will be committed at the next sitting of the House.

The Hon. Attorney-General moved the second reading of the Bill to amend the Roseland Water & Light Company's Act. This Bill, he explained, was in-

roduced upon request of the City of Roseland. That Corporation, it seemed, had purchased the water works system of the Company mentioned, and doubts had arisen as to whether, under its Act of Incorporation, the Company had power to sell. The amending Bill was intended to remove these doubts and set the matter at rest. This Bill will also go to Committee at the next sitting.

The Bill to Amend the Columbia & Western Railway Subsidy Act, which was down for its second reading, was deferred until Wednesday next.

The Hon. Attorney-General moved the second reading of the Land Registry Act, and also the second reading of the Judgments Bill. These bills will be committed at the next sitting of the House.

The House adjourned.

**NOTICE OF MOTION.**

Upon the motion for the third reading of the Evidence Act, Mr. Martin will move that the Bill be recommitted, to consider the following amendment:

"2. Section 6 of the 'Evidence Act,' being Chapter 71 of the Revised Statutes of 1897 is hereby repealed and the following section substituted therefor:

6. No witness shall be excused from answering any question upon the ground that the answer to such question may tend to establish his liability to a civil proceeding at the instance of the Crown, as represented by the Dominion or any province, or of any person, or may be used against him as evidence in a prosecution under the provisions of some law within the jurisdiction of the Legislature of the Province of British Columbia; Provided, however, that if with respect to any question the witness objects to answer, upon the ground that his answer may be used as evidence against him in a prosecution under the provisions of some law within the jurisdiction of the Legislature of the Province of British Columbia, and if for this section the witness would have been excused from answering such question, then although the witness shall be compelled to answer, yet the answer, so given, shall not be used or receivable in evidence against him in any such prosecution against him thereafter taking place;

Provided also, that where any witness gives, or has given, evidence within the British Empire, in any Court or proceeding not within the jurisdiction, as to evidence of the Legislature of British Columbia, which heretofore might have been used as evidence against him in such a prosecution, such evidence shall not be receivable against him in any such prosecution;

Provided also, that no witness shall be excused from answering any question upon the ground that the answer to such question may be used against him in a criminal prosecution, or in any prosecution in the nature of a criminal prosecution, under the laws of any portion of the British Empire; but this proviso shall not have any effect unless and until the laws of such portion of the British Empire protect such person from having such evidence used against him in any such criminal prosecution, or prosecution in the nature of a criminal prosecution, under the laws of such portion of the British Empire, except a prosecution for perjury in giving such evidence."

Mr. Curtis gives notice that he will also move to have the Evidence Act referred back to Committee of the Whole, to consider the following amendment in substitution of Section 2:

"6. No witness shall be excused from answering any question upon any ground which, but for this section, would have, at any time heretofore, excused him from answering the same, but he shall be compelled to answer such question as hereinafter mentioned;

Provided that where a witness has objected in any court, whether held within the Province or elsewhere, to answering a question on the ground that the answer may tend to criminate him in any prosecution for which, as to evidence, the Legislature of British Columbia has jurisdiction, and has been compelled to answer, the answer so given shall not be used or receivable in evidence against him in any such prosecution thereafter taking place."

Mr. Martin will move in Committee of the Whole on the Bill to Incorporate the Rock Bay & Salmon River Railway Company, to add the following clause:

"In case at any time the said railway is declared by the Parliament of Canada to be a work for the general advan-

tage of Canada, then all powers and privileges granted by this Act, and by the 'British Columbia Railway Company Act,' shall thereupon cease and determine."

Mr. Curtis gives notice of a Bill, which he will introduce on Wednesday next intitled "An Act respecting Deception in Procuring Workmen or Employees."

Hon. Mr. Turner will on Thursday next introduce a Bill to amend the "Act respecting the Provincial Board of Horticulture."

Hon. Mr. Eberts, on Wednesday will introduce a Bill to amend the Bennett-Atlin Commission Act, 1899.

The following notices of motion for amendment of the Liquor Licence Act are posted:

Mr. Brown, on consideration of the report of the Committee, will move that the following words be inserted at the end of Section 44:

"The provisions of this section as to localities of less than two hundred inhabitants, and as to localities of less than one hundred inhabitants, respectively, shall not apply to any locality in which more than one 'hotel licence' is granted."

Mr. Brown, at the next sitting of the Committee of the Whole, will also move that the following be inserted as Section 57 A:

"That no licence to be granted under Section 56 or Section 57 hereinafter shall authorise the sale of liquor on any dining car or steamer, and any person or Company knowingly selling liquor under any such licence to any person who intends to remove said liquor from such dining car or steamer, for consumption elsewhere, shall be guilty of an offence, for which he may be punished, as if he were guilty of selling liquor without a licence."

At the next sitting of the Committee Mr. Curtis will move to strike out Section 27 and insert the following in lieu thereof:

"The premises for which an hotel licence is applied for must have the following accommodation:

Where the licence fee is at the rate of \$75 a year, at least four bedrooms, with a sufficient complement of bedding and furniture to accommodate the travelling public; where the licence fee is at the rate of \$125 per year, at least eight bedrooms, with a sufficient complement of bedding and furniture to accommodate the travelling public; where the licence fee is at the rate of \$300 per year, at least sixteen bedrooms with a sufficient complement of bedding and furniture to accommodate the travelling public. The premises must in all cases have attached thereto sufficient stabling for at least six horses, except in any case where the Commissioners consider the accommodation for horses is not required by the travelling public. The premises shall also be fitted up with appliances for keeping a well-appointed eating house for serving meals to travellers."

Upon the third reading of the Bill to Incorporate the Rock Bay & Salmon River Railway Company (reported up from the Railway Committee to-day) Mr. McInnes will move that the following clauses be added thereto:

"40. No person shall be employed in, on or about any of the works of the Company who is unable to read in an European language this Act and the 'British Columbia Railway Act.' This section shall not apply to or affect in any way any person who is on the Register of Voters in any Electoral District for the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia, any Indian or person of Caucasian blood.

41. The next preceding section is hereby declared to be a condition upon which this Act is passed, and shall be binding upon bondholders and all other persons in any way interested in the said Company or its property. In case the said Act is violated, such violation shall work a forfeiture of all powers and privileges granted by this Act, but no such forfeiture shall operate except upon proceedings instituted in the Supreme Court of British Columbia by the Attorney-General."



FRIDAY.....August 10, 1900

## PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT

### Mr. Martin's Bureau of Mines Bill Rejected.—Vancouver Incorporation Act Read a Second Time.—Other Measures Advanced.

From Our Own Correspondent.  
THIRTEENTH DAY.

Victoria, August 8.

The House met at 2 o'clock p. m.

Mr. Helmcken, Chairman of the Private Bills Committee, reported a Bill to Incorporate the Crow's Nest Pass Electric Light & Power Company.

Mr. Curtis introduced a Bill respecting Deception in Procuring Workmen or Employees. This Bill is intended to enable workmen who may be induced through false advertising or misrepresentation, to move from one part of the Province to another to find employment, and to recover damages for any loss they may sustain. The Bill was read a first time.

Mr. Brown withdrew a Bill which was on the Order Paper for introduction, providing for the better administration of certain acts.

Mr. Brown introduced a Bill to make certain provisions respecting grants in aid of private enterprises, which received its first reading.

Hon. Mr. Eberts introduced a Bill to amend the Bennett-Atlin Commission Act, 1899, which was advanced a stage.

#### QUESTION.

In reply to Mr. Curtis, the Minister of Finance stated that all fees paid by applicants for private bills at the last session of the House, which did not go through owing to the prorogation of Parliament, would be refunded when applied for.

#### SECOND READINGS.

Mr. Helmcken moved the second reading of the Vancouver & Westminister Railway Bill. The Bill, he explained, contained a clause with regard to the security to be deposited as well as a declaration with reference to the labor to be employed on the line. The Bill will be committed at the next sitting of the House.

Mr. Garden moved the second reading of the Vancouver Incorporation Act. He explained that this Bill had passed the Committee at the last session of the House, and remarked that there were a few amendments which it was desired to introduce, which would be presented at the proper time.

Mr. Martin thought it was a financial disadvantage to the City of Vancouver and any other corporation, to have these special charters. Changes were necessary from time to time and the fees expenses of printing, etc., attendant upon such changes, were considerable. He thought it would be more satisfactory to have the cities, and in this he was reminded that there were two of them, which were running on special charters, brought under a general Municipal Act. Any changes desired to suit a particular place could be just as well effected under that system, and a saving would result not only to the cities in expenses, but to the Legislature in time now taken up in considering a complete municipal system. He was not offering any opposition to the present Bill, but merely making a suggestion which he thought might be adopted with advantage to everybody concerned.

Mr. Helmcken said that some years ago it had been recommended by the Municipal Committee that there should be one general act covering the whole Province, and he personally favored such an idea.

Hon. Mr. Eberts explained that the cities of Vancouver and New Westminster had been brought under the provisions of the General Municipal Act, except in so far as it conflicted with certain local peculiarities. He agreed with the remarks of the Hon. Leader of the Opposition, that those cities could be just as well administered under the general Act.

The Bill was then read a second time and its commitment fixed for the next sitting of the House.

Mr. Garden moved the second reading of the Bill to Incorporate the Rock Bay & Salmon River Railway Company, the provisions of which he briefly explained.

Mr. Ellison moved the second reading of the Western Telephone & Telegraph Bill, which will go before the Committee at the next sitting of the House. He explained that as the Company asked was the right to cross the mountains. They were willing to subject themselves to arrangement with the Municipal authorities in any municipality which it was necessary to pass through in reaching the Coast. He thought it would be to the general advantage of the merchants of the Province to have the line in operation at as early a date as possible.

Mr. Garden moved the second reading of the Vancouver, Northern & Yukon Railway Bill. This was a railway project to run from Vancouver, via Seymour Creek and the Pemberton Meadows, up through the Interior of the country. The route he considered was calculated to do a great deal of good in opening up and developing the country.

#### IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE.

The Liquor Licence Bill was again taken up in Committee of the Whole, and was reported up with amendments. It stands for its third reading to-morrow. In reply to Mr. McInnes, the Attorney-General said the date of its going into operation had not yet been fixed. It was desired however, to have it in operation as early as possible. Proper notice of this would be given so that those interested would know well beforehand when it was to become law.

The amendment offered by Mr. Curtis, notice of which appeared in yesterday's proceedings, affecting the granting of licences to hotels offering certain accommodation was voted down.

Mr. Brown's amendment regulating the sale of liquor on steamers and dining cars was also defeated.

The Bill to amend the Land Registry Act was taken up in Committee of the Whole. The Committee rose and reported progress.

#### OFFICIAL ADMINISTRATOR'S ACT.

Hon. Mr. Eberts moved the second reading of the Bill to amend the Official Administrator's Act. The intention of the Bill he explained was to give the official administrator power over real estate as well as personal property. It very often happened, with small estates of deceased persons, that the personal property did not amount to much. The amendment was made with a view of allowing the Official Administrator to deal with the real estate, as with personal property, under and by virtue of the Act. The Bill will receive its third reading to-morrow.

#### SHOPS BILL PASSED.

Upon motion of Mr. McPhillips, the Shops Bill was read a third time and finally passed.

#### MECHANICS' LIEN ACT.

MR. CURTIS moved the second reading of the Mechanics' Lien Act. In doing so he said that the Bill was intended to amend Chapter 132 of the Revised Statutes, an Act which had been in force a great many years and which was found to be one of the best in any of the provinces. But it had been held by the courts that the Act did not apply to materials. The lien for material was excluded, and he believed that was the intention of the Act itself. The amendments which he proposed in no way whatever took away any right enjoyed by the laborer or workman under the present law. Under the provisions of the Bill he had left the priority of the wage earner to the extent of six weeks. He had gone a little further and made provision that, in certain cases, if there be due to a workman or mechanic more than six weeks' wages, he would be able to recover, in certain cases, the total amount that was due him. He had also attempted to remedy in the Act those weaknesses arising out of the statement of claim, which under decisions of the courts had been construed with very great strictness. In the statement of claim in one case, for instance, the residence of the claimant was given as Victoria, and the judges held that it was defective in that regard and threw out the claim of the workmen for their wages.

Mr. Curtis then referred to the Bill clause by clause, and explained at length wherein changes were effected.

MR. HELMCKEN said he was very glad the hon. gentleman had introduced this Bill. A similar Bill introduced three or four years ago had been defeated, and it appealed to him with additional force to see the Bill introduced by an hon. gentleman, who would find the hon. gentleman on his right, (Mr. Martin) rather not seeing any protection accorded to the material men.

The principle of previous bills had always been that the material men should be recognised after the workmen had been paid in order of priority. That principle did not find favor in previous years. Now that it had been brought forward he intended to offer whatever influence he had to assist the hon. gentleman in carrying his Bill through the House. As they had not had very much time to consider the Bill, however, and as he thought they might with advantage consult the Ontario Law on the subject, before the Bill passed its second reading, he would ask that it be allowed to stand over for a time. With this object he moved the adjournment of the debate. The debate was adjourned.

#### LOAN SOCIETIES ACT.

MR. HALL moved the second reading of the Investment & Loan Societies Bill. The intention of the Bill, he explained, was to permit any outside investment and loan society, empowered by its charter and regulations to extend its operations to this Province, to carry on business here, upon payment of a licence fee of \$25.

HON. MR. TURNER asked that the Bill be allowed to stand over, which was agreed to.

#### BUREAU OF MINES BILL.

MR. MARTIN moved the second reading of a Bill relating to the Bureau of Mines Act. The Bill, he said, was very simple in its provisions. Its purpose was to assimilate the Law relating to assayers with the Law relating to other professions regulated by the House, such as medicine, dentistry and the legal profession. It would be found that in every case where such laws had been passed, the rights of those persons, actually practising their profession at the time of the passage of the Law, had been guarded. Under the present Bureau of Mines Act, passed in 1899, it was provided that no person should follow the business of assaying unless he had a certificate of competency. That particular provision was not to come into force for two years, which period would now soon expire. There was no provision made that any persons practising the profession of assaying, prior to the passing of that Law, should be exempt from the operation of the Bill. It seemed to him that there was no reason why assayers should be treated differently in that respect from men of other professions to which he had referred. The amendment simply went to that extent that all persons, actually practising assaying at the time of the passage of the Bill on February 27th, 1899, should continue to have the right to go on practising, and collecting fees therefor and be entitled to the same privileges as those examined under the present Act.

MR. McPHILLIPS thought it would be a difficult thing to determine whether a man was in practice or not in such a case. He considered that there should be some means provided of making that point clear. He did not oppose the second reading of the Bill, but held himself open to consider the question on another occasion.

MR. NEILL opposed the second reading of the Bill on the ground that it would allow a number of incompetent persons to practice the profession of assaying in the Province. As to the other professions, referred to by the hon. gentleman, as being exempt from the provisions of the Law, he found that those acts were introduced as far back as 1863 and 1867, when the conditions in this country were altogether different from those existing to-day, but even in those cases persons were not allowed to practise unless they possessed a diploma and showed proper qualifications. He held that any person who possessed the ability to carry on the profession of assaying should be in a position to pass some examination to show that he was so qualified, and he quoted authorities to show that the examination called for under the Act was if anything below the standard.

Since the passage of the Law persons, mostly those just entering business, had passed the qualification, and he thought it was unfair to those men to be placed on the same footing with those who were unable to qualify. The passage of such a Bill as the one the House would give a sort of guarantee that these men were not without anything to show that they were so. He thought the practical profession of such importance, mining country, should be to some extent safeguarded, and he therefore moved the Bill.

HON. MR. McBRIDE concurred with the remarks of the last speaker. The present Bill was introduced, generous exemption was inserted two years should be allowed he provisions should apply to those business in the Province at the so that such persons might have to prepare for the examination for. The Law, so far as he had worked satisfactorily. On instances had come to his notice complaint was made regarding those referred to the inconvenience having to come to Victoria for examination. To remove this inconvenience, he intended to arrange that examinations should take place Kootenays, which seemed a practicality, where the mining industry so prominent. He hoped, if the gentleman would not withdraw, that the House would condemn the strongest possible way.

MR. BROWN said he could not see why distinction should exist between the legal and medical professions, the profession of assaying, in that respect. If it was right to exempt examination in the one case, right in the other.

MR. MARTIN, in reply to it raised by Mr. McPhillips as to difficulty of determining whether was entitled to the exemption of the Bill, suggested that a point might be added that such should have been doing business in the Province for a certain number of years prior to the passage of the Law.

The motion for the second reading of the Bill was then put and lost, the Bill was accordingly rejected.

The House adjourned until 9 a. m. to-morrow.



Since the passage of the Law some persons, mostly those just entering the business, had passed the qualifying examination, and he thought it would be unfair to those men to be placed on the same footing with those who refused or were unable to qualify. The passage of such a Bill as the one before the House would give a sort of guarantee that these men were competent, without anything to show that they were so. He thought the practice of a profession of such importance, in this mining country, should be to some extent safeguarded, and he therefore opposed the Bill.

HON. MR. McBRIDE concurred with the remarks of the last speaker. When the present Bill was introduced, a very generous exemption was inserted that two years should be allowed before its provisions should apply to those doing business in the Province at that time, so that such persons might have time to prepare for the examination called for. The Law, so far as he understood, had worked satisfactorily. Only two instances had come to his notice where complaint was made regarding it and those referred to the inconvenience of having to come to Victoria to pass the examination. To remove this objection, he intended to arrange that examinations should take place in the Kootenays, which seemed a proper locality, where the mining industry was so prominent. He hoped, if the hon. gentleman would not withdraw the Bill, that the House would condemn it in the strongest possible way.

MR. BROWN said he could not see why distinction should exist between the legal and medical professions and the profession of assaying, in this matter. If it was right to exempt from examination in the one case it was right in the other.

MR. MARTIN, in reply to the point raised by Mr. McPhillips as to the difficulty of determining whether a man was entitled to the exemption under the Bill, suggested that a provision might be added that such persons should have been doing business in the Province for a certain number of years prior to the passage of the Law.

The motion for the second reading of the Bill was then put and lost, and the Bill was accordingly rejected.

The House adjourned until 2 o'clock a. m. to-morrow.



## PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT

**Mr. Martin's Bureau of Mines Bill Rejected.—Vancouver Incorporation Act Read a Second Time.—Other Measures Advanced.**

From Our Own Correspondent.  
THIRTEENTH DAY.

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The House met at 2 o'clock p. m. Mr. Helmcken, Chairman of the Private Bills Committee, reported a Bill to incorporate the Crow's Nest Pass Electric Light & Power Company.

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## QUESTION.

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## SECOND READINGS.

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## MECHANICS' LIEN ACT.

MR. CURTIS moved the second reading of the Mechanics' Lien Act. In doing so he said that the Bill was intended to amend Chapter 132 of the Revised Statutes, an Act which had been in force a great many years and which was found to be one of the best in any of the provinces. But it had been held by the courts that the Act did not apply to material. The lien for material was excluded, and he believed that was the intention of the Act itself. The amendments which he proposed in no way whatever took away any right enjoyed by the laborer or workman under the present law. Under the provisions of the Bill he had left the priority of the wage earner to the extent of six weeks. He had gone a little further and made provision that, in certain cases, if there be due to a workman or mechanic more than six weeks' wages, he would be able to recover, in certain cases, the total amount that was due him. He had also attempted to remedy in the Act those weaknesses arising out of the statement of claim, which under decisions of the courts had been construed with very great strictness. In the statement of claim in one case, for instance, the residence of the claimant was given as Victoria, and the judges held that it was defective in that regard and threw out the claim of the workmen for their wages. Mr. Curtis then referred to the Bill clause by clause, and explained at length wherein changes were effected.

MR. HELMCKEN said he was very glad the hon. gentleman had introduced this Bill. A similar Bill introduced three or four years ago had been defeated, and it appealed to him with additional force to see the Bill introduced by an hon. gentleman, who would find the hon. gentleman on his right, (Mr. Martin) rather not seeing any protection accorded to the material men. The principle of previous bills had always been that the material men should be recognised after the workmen had been paid in order of priority. That principle did not find favor in previous years. Now that it had been brought forward he intended to offer whatever influence he had to assist the hon. gentleman in carrying his Bill through the House. As they had not had very much time to consider the Bill, however, and as he thought they might with advantage consult the Ontario Law on the subject, before the Bill passed its second reading, he would ask that it be allowed to stand over for a time. With this object he moved the adjournment of the debate. The debate was adjourned.

## LOAN SOCIETIES ACT.

MR. HALL moved the second reading of the Investment & Loan Societies Bill. The intention of the Bill, he explained, was to permit any outside investment and loan society, empowered by its charter and regulations to extend its operations to this Province, to carry on business here, upon payment of a licence fee of \$25.

HON. MR. TURNER asked that the Bill be allowed to stand over, which was agreed to.

## BUREAU OF MINES BILL.

MR. MARTIN moved the second reading of a Bill relating to the Bureau of Mines Act. The Bill, he said, was very simple in its provisions. Its purpose was to assimilate the Law relating to assayers with the Law relating to other professions regulated by the House, such as medicine, dentistry and the legal profession. It would be found that in every case where such laws had been passed, the rights of those persons, actually practising their profession at the time of the passage of the Law, had been guarded. Under the present Bureau of Mines Act, passed in 1899, it was provided that no person should follow the business of assaying unless he had a certificate of competency. That particular provision was not to come into force for two years, which period would now soon expire. There was no provision made that any persons practising the profession of assaying, prior to the passing of that Law, should be exempt from the operation of the Bill. It seemed to him that there was no reason why assayers should be treated differently in that respect from men of other professions to which he had referred. The amendment simply went to that extent that all persons, actually practising assaying at the time of the passage of the Bill on February 27th, 1899, should continue to have the right to go on practising, and collecting fees therefor and be entitled to the same privileges as those examined under the present Act.

MR. McPHILLIPS thought it would be a difficult thing to determine whether a man was in practice or not in such a case. He considered that there should be some means provided of making that point clear. He did not oppose the second reading of the Bill, but held himself open to consider the question on another occasion.

MR. NEILL opposed the second reading of the Bill on the ground that it would allow a number of incompetent persons to practice the profession of assaying in the Province. As to the other professions, referred to by the hon. gentleman, as being exempt from the provisions of the Law, he found that those acts were introduced as far back as 1863 and 1867, when the conditions in this country were altogether different from those existing to-day, but even in those cases persons were not allowed to practise unless they possessed a diploma and showed proper qualifications. He held that any person who possessed the ability to carry on the profession of assaying should be in a position to pass some examination to show that he was so qualified, and he quoted authorities to show that the examination called for under the Act was if anything below the standard.

Since the passage of the persons, mostly those of business, had passed the examination, and he thought unfair to those men to whom some footing with the or were unable to qualify of such a Bill as the House would give a fee that these men were without anything to were so. He thought the profession of such improving country, should tent safeguarded, and he passed the Bill.

HON. MR. McBRIDE the remarks of the last of the present Bill was into generous exemption was two years should be all provisions should apply business in the Province so that such persons might to prepare for the exam for. The Law, so far as had worked satisfactory instances had come to his complaint was made re those referred to the inc having to come to Victor examination. To removal, he intended to arraminations should take Kootenays, which seemed cavity, where the mining so prominent. He hoped gentleman would not with that the House would be the strongest possible was MR. BROWN said he why distinction should be the profession of assaying ter. If it was right to examination in the one right in the other.

MR. MARTIN, in reply raised by Mr. McPhillips: faculty of determining who was entitled to the exemption the Bill, suggested that might be added that should have been doing by Province for a certain number prior to the passage of the Bill was then put and the Bill was accordingly rejected. The House adjourned at 2. m. to-morrow.



## PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT

Passage of Mr. Helmcken's Anti-Mongolian Resolution, as Amended by Mr. McPhillips.—Game Act "Hoisted".

Motion Asking for Raising of Oriental Immigration Tax to \$500 Carried to.—Liquor Licence Bill Passed.

From Our Own Correspondent.

## FOURTEENTH DAY.

Victoria, August 9.

The House met at 2 o'clock p. m.

Hon. Mr. Turner presented a petition from the Phoenix Board of Trade, supporting the Grand Forks & Kettle River Railway Bill.

Mr. Helmcken presented five petitions asking for certain amendments to the Game Act.

Hon. Mr. McBride presented a return to an Order of the House for all hydraulic leases granted since 1st January, 1898, in the Atlin District, with names of lessees, dates of application, name of creek or river, with location of ground on it covered by each such lease; also name of applicant and leases still in abeyance or withheld; also return of applications for water leases, number of inches applied for in each case, those granted and those in abeyance.

## FIRST READINGS.

Mr. Helmcken introduced a Bill relating to employment on works carried on under franchises granted by private acts. The Bill was read a first time.

Mr. Oliver introduced a Bill to amend the Municipal Clauses Act, which received its first reading.

Mr. McInnes introduced a Bill relating to Labor. The Bill was read a first time and its second reading fixed for Monday next.

## BALLOT RETURNS.

On the motion of Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Oliver, it was resolved.

That an humble address be presented to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that he will cause to be sent down to this House a return showing the number of ballot papers actually issued to voters in each riding of the Province at the General Election held on the 9th day of June, 1900.

## QUESTIONS.

Mr. McInnes asked the Government the following questions:

1. How many licences have been issued under Section 14 of the "Game Protector Act, 1898," and how much revenue has been derived from the issue of such licences?

2. How many convictions have taken place under the said Act, and what is the total amount of the fines which have been imposed?

Hon. Mr. Eberis replied as follows:

"1. 7; \$250.

2. It will take considerable time to prepare a return that will furnish the information requested by this question."

Mr. Oliver asked the Hon. the Minister of Agriculture the following questions:

1. Why was Mr. Thomas Wilson dismissed from the Horticultural Board?

2. Who has been appointed in his place? and

3. At what salary?

The Hon. Mr. Turner replied as follows:

1. Mr. Thomas Wilson was not dismissed; his term of office expired on June 30th, 1900.

Since the passage of the Law some 40 persons, mostly those just entering the business, had passed the qualifying examination, and he thought it would be unfair to those men to be placed on the same footing with those who refused or were unable to qualify. The passage of such a Bill as the one before the House would give a sort of guarantee that these men were competent, without anything to show that they were so. He thought the practice of a profession of such importance, in this mining country, should be to some extent safeguarded, and he therefore opposed the Bill.

HON. MR. MCBRIDE concurred with the remarks of the last speaker. When the present Bill was introduced, a very generous exemption was inserted that two years should be allowed before its provisions should apply to those doing business in the Province at that time, so that such persons might have time to prepare for the examination called for. The Law, so far as he understood, had worked satisfactorily. Only two instances had come to his notice where complaint was made regarding it and those referred to the inconvenience of having to come to Victoria to pass the examination. To remove this objection, he intended to arrange that examinations should take place in the Kootenays, which seemed a proper locality, where the mining industry was so prominent. He hoped, if the hon. gentleman would not withdraw the Bill, that the House would condemn it in the strongest possible way.

MR. BROWN said he could not see why distinction should exist between the legal and medical professions and the profession of assaying, in this matter. If it was right to exempt from examination in the one case it was right in the other.

MR. MARTIN, in reply to the point raised by Mr. McPhillips as to the difficulty of determining whether a man was entitled to the exemption under the Bill, suggested that a provision might be added that such persons should have been doing business in the Province for a certain number of years prior to the passage of the Law.

The motion for the second reading of the Bill was then put and lost, and the Bill was accordingly rejected.

The House adjourned until 2 o'clock a. m. to-morrow.

2. The vacancy on the Board was filled by Mr. Thomas Cunningham.

3. Members of the Board of Horticulture are paid \$5 a day when actually employed."

## MECHANICS' LIEN ACT.

MR. HELMCKEN rose to continue the debate on the Bill to amend the Mechanics' Lien Act, having moved the adjournment, upon the motion for the second reading of the Bill, on the previous day, in order to give time for study of its provisions. Mr. Helmcken said that during the interval he had looked into the question, and as the workman was properly protected in the Bill, he considered there ought not to be any objection to its passage. He would simply state that the measure would have his hearty support.

MR. MCPHILLIPS, while not objecting to the principle of the Bill, considered that in view of the desire exhibited to economise the time of the House (he himself had consented to withdraw a Bill on that consideration) the measure might be allowed to stand over until the next session of the House. If the discussion of the Bill were proceeded with he would feel justified in reintroducing the Act which he had withdrawn.

MR. BROWN did not oppose the second reading of the Bill, although he thought the principle of admitting a provision regarding material men into the Act was a dangerous one. The introducer of the Bill had assured him, however, that priority would be given to mechanics in the Bill, and that it would practically continue to be a Mechanics' Lien Act, and in view of that he had no objection to it. At the same time he would like to see his hon. friend withdraw the Bill and let it lie over until next session.

MR. HUNTER remarked that the best way perhaps would be to allow all the bills that offered to be introduced. The House could then pass the Estimates and leave them on the Order Paper to be dealt with at the January session.

MR. EBERTS was glad to see that his hon. friend from New Westminster (Mr. Brown) had changed his mind with regard to this Bill. He reminded the House that since 1888 the Lien Act had been in force providing a lien for material men, and in that Bill the material men came after the laborers, on the same principle as proposed in the Bill before the House. But the member for New Westminster was not satisfied with that Act. He thought that material men should get no protection at all, not even the contractor, if he was a laborer upon the works, and in 1891 the hon. member introduced a Bill embodying those principles. He was glad to observe his conversion in that regard. For himself he had always been in favor of giving a lien for material men and would therefore support the present measure.

MR. BROWN corrected the hon. gentleman. What he argued in 1891 was, not that material men should not be protected, but that he considered such a provision out of place in a Mechanics' Lien Act.

The question being put, the motion carried and the Bill was read a second time. It stands for commitment to-morrow.

## LOAN SOCIETIES BILL.

The debate upon the motion for the second reading of the Investment and Loan Societies Bill, adjourned upon request of the Hon. Minister of Finance, was further deferred upon his request, to afford an opportunity to look into the question of fees appertaining to its provisions.

## GAME BILL SHELVED.

MR. MCINNES moved the second reading of the Bill to amend the Game Laws. He said that the present laws were not altogether satisfactory to a great many of those interested in this subject, and it was at the request of a large number of sportsmen he had introduced the Bill before the House. In the Bill an amendment was proposed to Section 8 of the Act, fixing a minimum penalty of \$50 for illegally taking trout. The section protecting game birds during the close season was also amended by imposing a minimum penalty of \$25 for shooting any game birds, to the number of six, during the close season. These minimum penalties were not in the Act before. Section 5 was amended also by making it unlawful



for any person under sixteen years of age to carry or have in his possession any gun or fire-arm, unless accompanied by his parent or guardian. Since this amendment was drafted, however, he had been advised that this might work hardship in the rural districts, and he had limited the application of it to within ten miles of any city. Section 13 of the Act was repealed and it was proposed to substitute the following:

"No person shall buy, or sell, or have in his or her possession, any of the said animals or birds, or any part or portion of any such animals or birds, during the period in which they are so protected; provided always, that if lawfully killed or obtained, they may be exposed for sale, or kept in cold storage for five days, and no longer, immediately after the commencement of such periods of protection; but, in all cases, the proof of the time of killing, taking or purchasing shall be upon the party in possession."

The object of this was to restrict the habit which was somewhat prevalent of killing very large quantities of game and keeping it in cold storage as a supply for the whole season. Provision was also made that it should be unlawful for the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council to remove any provisions of the Act regarding the close season until two years from the present time.

MR. McPHILLIPS argued that the Bill was not in order, holding that it dealt with the question of taxes or revenues, and therefore came within the prerogative of the Government. He cited the penalties imposed under the Bill as revenue-producing measures.

MR. MARTIN pointed out that this argument was fallacious. It was a fine and not a fee that was dealt with in the Bill; not a licence for doing anything, but a penalty as a preventative. The hon. gentleman was certainly not debarred from introducing the measure on that ground.

MR. SPEAKER ruled that the Bill was perfectly in order.

MR. OLIVER objected to the Bill on principle. The distinction drawn between cock and hen pheasants he could not see the force of. The Lieutenant-Governor could remove the prohibition only as regards cock pheasants. Suppose a person shot a hen pheasant in mistake, was he to be fined for it? He also took exception to the provision against boys under sixteen years of age carrying arms. He had a boy 13 years of age who was not only capable of handling a gun but was an adept in the use of the weapon, and he was proud of it. Some of the best gunners in his district were boys under 16 years of age. They could not only kill game birds but tackle bears as well. (Applause.)

MR. NEILL considered the Bill a contentious one which would hamper the business of the House and he proposed to vote against it. He moved that the Bill be read this day six months.

MR. MARTIN, although not particularly a sporting man, disbelieving in fact in any game laws at all, yet protested against the attitude of the last speaker. Surely the hon. gentleman did not consider because the Government in order to obtain a lease of power, had agreed not to do anything this session, that the House was to be bound by such an arrangement. So far as the Opposition was concerned at least it considered itself bound by the obligation it was under as representative of the people, to do what it felt necessary in the public service. He did not think that responsibility should be shirked in the manner suggested by the hon. gentleman.

MR. McINNES pointed out that this was a matter in which a large number of people were interested. Several largely signed petitions had been presented that very day in regard to this legislation; and he understood there would be more within a day or two. While there might be some question as to the general idea of the Act, there should be no contention whatever as to the propriety of giving the Bill consideration. The details could be amended in Committee as the House saw fit. As to the hurry being evidenced to shirk the duties of legislation, he re-

minded the House that the present session would cost just as much as a general session, and the people would probably look upon it in that way. They had been elected for that purpose, and not for the purpose of squeezing through the session with as little pains as possible in order to get away again quickly. It was an important thing also that the game should be properly protected, and for these reasons he was desirous that the Bill should be proceeded with.

HON. MR. EBERTS thought the present Bill contained some unnecessary provisions. It was on the statutes that a boy under 14 years of age should not carry fire-arms. The regulation in regard to cold storage he thought undesirable. He could not see why a sportsman should not be permitted to keep the birds he killed as long as he desired to do so. Of course, if he kept them over into the close season, the law would apply to that case. He sympathized heartily with the general purpose of the Bill. The protection of our game was an important matter. He instanced the State of Maine as an illustration of how important the preservation of game really was to a country in the interests of travellers and sportsmen. The preservation of the game meant to that State something like two or three million dollars in that way, and in the same manner it applied in this Province. He argued that the best way to protect the game was to prohibit the sale of game birds and thus do away with the pot hunter. He would support the motion for the second reading of the Bill.

MR. NEILL'S amendment, giving the Bill the six months' hoist, was then put, and carried on division. Names being asked for, there appeared:

For: Messrs. E. C. Smith, Oliver, Kidd, Neill, Green, Hall, Turner, Dunsmuir, A. W. Smith, Clifford, Hayward, Garden, Prentice, Wells, Pooley, Murphy, Rogers, Taylor, Dickie and Motzner.—20.

Against the amendment: Messrs. McInnes, Gilmour, Stables, Brown, Martin, Curtis, Munro, R. Smith, McPhillips, Helmcken, Eberts, Fulton, Tatlow, and Hunter.—14.

ORIENTAL EXCLUSION.

MR. RALPH SMITH, who moved the adjournment of the debate on Mr. Helmcken's resolution on Tuesday, in regard to the letting of Government contracts, rose to continue the discussion. It will be remembered in this connection, that Mr. McInnes moved an amendment excluding Chinese and Japanese labor, in the following words:

"Also that in all contracts, leases and concessions of whatsoever kind entered into or made by the Government, provision be made that no Chinese or Japanese shall be employed in connection therewith."

And that Mr. McPhillips moved an amendment to the amendment, substituting therefor the following:

"If any Provincial aid be granted in the way of contributions from the public funds of the Province, or a grant of Crown lands in aid of any public undertaking, that any such aid or grant be conditional upon a contract being entered into by any such person or Company receiving aid or the grant of lands, that no Chinese or Japanese be employed upon any such work or undertaking."

Mr. R. Smith said that, in moving the adjournment of the debate, he had done so with a desire to record his position on this question. He had seconded the original resolution, and personally he thought it a mistake that these amendments had been associated with it. However, it was now before the House as was also the amendment to the amendment, which embodied the same principle, but not to the same degree. His position was this: He was not prepared to support any principle, which appeared to him to be exercising an authority not possessed by this Legislature, and which the Government would not have the power to enforce. In the second place he did not intend to advocate any principle of legislation tending to interfere with the industrial interests of the Province. If the amendment moved by Mr. McInnes went beyond the powers of the Legislature he would vote against it, but at present he saw no reason to think that it did. And while he would not support any legislation on this question, that was shown to be ultra vires of the powers of the House, he would not oppose any measure which provided restriction of Mongolian immigration, unless convinced that the Leg-

islature had no right to pass such a measure. The junior member for Victoria was the only member who had discussed the constitutionality of the question, and he (Mr. Smith) did not think that he had proved to the House that the Government had not the power to go to the extent of the proposition made by the hon. member for North Nanaimo. He regarded that amendment simply as an order of the House to the Executive Council of the Government; simply an instruction to the Government, that in all its private contracts, it should provide for this necessary restriction against the employment of Mongolian labor, a restriction, which it seemed to be the unanimous opinion of members of the House, ought to be placed. The junior member for Victoria had read into his argument a plea that that would include statutory provisions, and was therefore subject to disallowance. He did not see where that came in at all. He did see that it would necessarily be involved in a statute of any kind. He was therefore prepared to support it. He considered that it was the duty of this House to do all in its power to effect a remedy in connection with this question, subject of course to a precaution not to interfere injuriously with public interests. He would have no hesitancy in voting against any measure which threatened to cause a revolution in that regard. The argument of the Leader of the Opposition, that it was useless for this House to pass resolutions urging the Dominion Government to do its duty in this respect, did not meet with his full concurrence. He thought that the unanimously expressed opinion of this House, embodied in a resolution, would have more effect than anything else in waking the Dominion authorities to the importance of this question, and in inducing action on its part. If possible any such measure should be backed by unanimity, so that there would be no escape through differences of opinion in this House in that regard. The hon. junior member for Victoria had complained that the Dominion authorities had not done all they could to bring relief to this Province in connection with this Oriental problem. He was not prepared to say the hon. gentleman was not right in that respect. Personally he agreed that the Dominion authorities should have done more, but he wanted to know what excuse any member of this House could have for not doing his duty, through a complaint being lacking in that regard. If it was true that the Dominion Government ought to have done more and had the power to do more, then he asked how any hon. member could find reason for not exercising the authority that belonged to this House in that regard. He regarded this question as one of immense importance. Every member in the House had pledged himself right and left in regard to it, and he considered that they should all be prepared to do everything within the powers of the House to effect a remedy, especially if their action was not likely to inflict any disaster upon the industries of the country, and he did not think the business of the Province would be seriously affected by the full application of the demands of the resolution before the House.

MR. CURTIS asked the indulgence of the House for a moment, as he did not wish this question to go to a vote without making a few remarks upon it. He had been very much surprised at the action taken by the hon. junior member for Victoria in refusing to support the amendment of the hon. member for North Nanaimo on the ground that it was ultra vires of this Legislature. How could a resolution on this question be ultra vires? The amendment was not to be incorporated into an act, and did not run the gauntlet of the disallowing powers of the Dominion. It was a mere expression of the opinion of this House for the guidance of the Government, and the only question of ultra vires that could arise, with regard to it was as to whether the Provincial Government, when entering into contracts, granting a concession or giving a lease, of something which it really owned, could annex to such concession, grant or lease, certain conditions upon which such privilege was to be enjoyed by the party securing it. It seemed to him a monstrous proposition for the hon. member to come there and tell them that they had not that power. But if he (Mr. Curtis) had any doubt about it he had not much confidence in the hon. gentleman in the matter of

law) he would ask question in the very he (Mr. McPhillips) there he said: "If be granted in the w from the public fun or a grant of Crow any public undertak aid or grant be cond tract being entered person or company; grant of lands that anese be employed u very principle in h he objected to in th well pointed out be for New Westminster mitted the principle pared to go a certai ped short. Now, w why they should n proposed in the ar grant made by the hon. member had a fair enough in the such a condition. Why should they at ing a charter, for any, that was, in a valuable commodity mon in Canada for quire a very great in granting such in vileges whatever sh this very reasonab gated in the ameb er for North Nan it was left entirely Government. It c It need not impos less it thought it a The House of cour it was a proper t the Government's, solutely free to at matter. He was other member of t the stand of the for Victoria that was not within House. Then the ment of the Hon., which he quite agr ment moved by J whom he underst other members ha amendment went as down by the Lea tive Party, in l (Mr. Curtis) took ment, and quoted speeches to show in exact line with fered by Mr. McIn son had suggested Japanese exclusio attached to privi Government, such and charters for telephone and tel was all that was endment of the ho Nanaimo, the mot honor of secondin gentlemen who fo Mr. Wilson, if the their election the amendment. would test them course he (Mr. Cu have the amend be very hard inde endment to the a them something, b all like what the ment itself. The tion of the first. He deprecated in this kind to his i gence he would say so that gentleman original resolution proper direction, prepared to go f he could towards labor. That reso if properly carri far as Governm concerned, and marte have a tendency labor, because w was established, v gally excluded, it stood it. Mongol used in this coun had at a lower white labor. (H therefore, glad a resolution was e has been approv ed from a speech Phillips, in May saged as a mea Oriental labor qu people) should se use that labor th he held that M



law he would find an answer to that question in the very amendment which he (Mr. McPhillips) had moved, for there he said: "If any Provincial aid be granted in the way of contributions from the public funds of the Province, or a grant of Crown lands in aid of any public undertaking, that any such aid or grant be conditional upon a contract being entered into by any such person or company receiving aid or the grant of lands that no Chinese or Japanese be employed upon any such work or undertaking." Why, he applied the very principle in his amendment, which he objected to in the first one. It was well pointed out by the hon. member for New Westminster that he had admitted the principle; that he was prepared to go a certain distance and stopped short. Now, was there any reason why they should not attach conditions proposed in the amendment to any grant made by the Government? The hon. member had admitted that it was fair enough in the case of a bonus that such a condition should be exacted. Why should they stop there. In granting a charter, for instance, to a company, that was, in cases of an extremely valuable commodity, it was not uncommon in Canada for such grants to acquire a very great value. Then why, in granting such franchises, or any privileges whatever should they not annex this very reasonable condition as suggested in the amendment of the member for North Nanaimo? In that, too, it was left entirely in the hands of the Government. It could use discretion. It need not impose this condition unless it thought it a proper thing to do. The House of course, instructed it that it was a proper thing to do, but still the Government's hands were left absolutely free to act as it chose in the matter. He was glad to see that no other member of this House had taken the stand of the hon. fourth member for Victoria that such an amendment was not within the powers of this House. Then they had also the argument of the Hon. Minister of Mines in which he quite agreed with the amendment moved by Mr. McPhillips; and whom he understood to say, as some other members had also, that that amendment went as far as the policy laid down by the Leader of the Conservative Party, in the late campaign. He (Mr. Curtis) took issue with that statement, and quoted from Mr. Wilson's speeches to show that his policy was in exact line with the amendment offered by Mr. Molines, wherein Mr. Wilson had suggested that a Chinese and Japanese exclusion condition might be attached to privileges granted by the Government, such as railway charters and charters for the construction of telephone and telegraph lines. This was all that was suggested in the amendment of the hon. member for North Nanaimo, the motion which he had the honor of seconding. He asked those gentlemen who followed the banner of Mr. Wilson, if they were going to keep their election pledges. The vote on the amendment to the amendment would test them in that regard. Of course he (Mr. Curtis), if he could not have the amendment carried, would be very glad indeed to support the amendment to the amendment. It gave them something, but it gave nothing at all like what they had in the amendment itself. Then again, take the position of the first member for Victoria. He deprecated making a condition of this kind to his motion. In the first place he would say that credit was due to that gentleman for introducing the original resolution, which was in the proper direction, though he was not prepared to go further and do what he could towards excluding Mongolian labor. That resolution itself, however, if properly carried out and applied, so far as Government works were concerned, and matters of that kind, would have a tendency to exclude Mongolian labor, because when a standard wage was established, such labor was practically excluded, because as he understood it, Mongolian labor was never used in this country unless it could be had at a lower price than ordinary white labor. (Hear, hear.) He was therefore, glad so far as the original resolution was concerned, to give it his hearty approval. Mr. Curtis quoted from a speech delivered by Mr. McPhillips, in May last, in which he had urged as a means of remedying the Oriental labor question, that they (the people) should set an example and not use that labor themselves, and in which he held that British labor should be

given the preference, and based an argument thereon that he (Mr. McPhillips) was not justified in opposing the amendment before the House. Some members in the House had stated that they were so tired of this question that they wished it were consigned to some limbo whence it would never return. He thought those gentlemen would be far more tired of the question eventually unless they agreed to measures such as they had proposed on this side of the House. Until Mongolian labor was practically excluded from competition with white labor in this Province, the question would not be at rest. In the interior of the country, it would be found that the question was a burning one. At Greenwood the feeling was so strong that the business people had joined hands with the Labor people and had agreed by resolution not to employ or use Mongolian labor, with the result that a large part of the Chinese population had left that place. He did not want to make this a party question at all, and would like to see the Government urge that the amendment of the member for Victoria be withdrawn and some resolution pass that every member of the House could agree on. Unanimity would have great effect at Ottawa and through the country. He thought the Government would strengthen itself by accepting a proposition like that contained in the amendment of the member for North Nanaimo. Referring to the recent action of the Japanese Government in prohibiting emigration, Mr. Curtis referred with amusement to Hon. Mr. McBride's claim that that was due to something contained in the Speech from the Throne. They all knew the reason of that. It was the exigencies of war that was causing the Japanese Government to keep its people at home. That could not be taken as a final settlement of the Japanese portion of the question. Nor could they depend upon the arrangement proposed by which only ten or eleven Japanese citizens per month, from each prefecture, should be allowed to come to British Columbia. Even if that carried to the full, the number would be nearly 6,000 emigrants per month, because there were 40,000 prefectures in Japan. And what safeguard had they that these regulations would be carried out? They might be abrogated to-morrow, and the full influx go on again. It was therefore of the highest importance that they should, without delay, take every step possible to suppress and keep down that immigration if not by direct then by indirect means, and the proposition of the hon. member for North Nanaimo was one that would go a long way towards accomplishing that result. (Applause.)

HON. MR. McBRIDE said that so far from being unfavorable to the stand he had taken on the Hastings in regard to this question, he would repeat that he would stand by every word he had uttered in connection with the Mongolian question. He would repeat here now—

MR. BROWN rose to a point of order. The hon. gentleman had already spoken to the amendment to the amendment.

MR. SPEAKER ruled that Hon. Mr. McBride was out of order.

HON. MR. McBRIDE: "My hon. friends opposite are a little afraid to listen to me on this question."

MR. GILMOUR thought if the hon. gentleman was going to make such a statement as he made in the last debate, that credit was due to this Government for the action of the Japanese authorities, it was better that his opinions were unspoken.

HON. MR. McBRIDE denied that he had made such a statement. What he did say was that the action of the Japanese Government was due to the policy outlined in the Speech, and not that it was directly attributable to the influence of the Government of British Columbia.

MR. GILMOUR said he thought members of this House should advocate Provincial rights, and not get up and tell the Dominion Government what it had not done. The Dominion Government, he admitted, had not done enough, but Conservatives and Liberals alike were responsible for that. He thought the House should support legislation as offered in the amendment as a means of doing something to remedy this question.

HON. MR. TURNER said he only had a word to offer. The member for Nanaimo (Mr. R. Smith) had said that he would not advocate anything that was likely to prove revolutionary with respect

to the trade and commerce of this Province. He thought the amendment of the member for Nanaimo was of that character. That amendment would affect all contracts, leases and concessions of whatsoever kind entered into by the Government. No Chinese or Japanese were to be employed in that connection. Now, they knew there were certain leases which the Government made to various businesses in the Province. Take the fishing industry. A large number of the canners were on leased ground, and if the amendment passed, they could not employ Chinese or Japanese labor. Then there was the lumber industry. A man coming for the renewal of his timber lease would be under the necessity of accepting the condition that no Chinese should be employed in connection with his work. In that light the amendment certainly struck him as being of a revolutionary character. As to the canning industry, which he really knew more about, it really meant an absolute prohibition of the industry. He had heard it said by a member during this session that he did not object to that, and that for his part he would prefer that there should not be a cannery in the Province, and that the salmon should be running up and down the river uncaught. He (Hon. Mr. Turner) hardly thought that was acceptable to the Province or the world at large. It was altogether against the doctrine of political economy. How would the people of Great Britain consider it? Was there nothing in that business which proved beneficial to the people of the Mother Country? Were they not interested in getting a supply of good food at a reasonable price? Would it not be a revolution of trade if that enormous amount of food was taken out of that market? When they considered that in one year a million or more cases of salmon had been sent there from this Province, representing many thousand pounds of good food for the people of Great Britain and when they took into consideration in connection with that the fact that the production that year of a million cases of salmon, or, say, eight hundred thousand cases, which was nearer the average, meant an expenditure on Chinese labor necessary for carrying on the work of \$400,000, the significance of this point would be seen. Then there was the expenditure for white labor and Indian labor, and for boxes and other products of the Province, the total expenditure in connection with those eight hundred thousand cases would be at least one million and a half dollars, that largely went into the pockets of white men, and of which not one cent would be expended in the Province, but for the expenditure of that \$400,000 on Chinese or some other cheap labor. If any labor could be got to replace the Chinese, at such prices as would enable the industry to go on, then it would not be revolutionary to prevent its employment, but he said it was revolutionary if such an enormous difference was made in the production of food in this Province and in the expenditure on the white labor, which had been, as he said, on that eight hundred thousand cases, one million and a half of dollars, in labor, and in purchasing the productions of the Province. Was it for this House to say "We will sweep away a million and a half expenditure in this Province, that goes into the pockets of the white laborer, because the Chinese get an approximate \$100,000 in connection with it? And in connection with that \$400,000 he would venture to say there was \$200,000 of it expended in this Province. He was not arguing for Chinamen now.



He wished they could do without the Chinamen. But at the present moment there was no means of carrying on that industry without them. But there was an erroneous opinion with respect to them. If they examined the books of any of these canneries they would find that the Chinamen expended large amounts in the actual productions of the country, in boots and shoes, clothing and food. Some of them spent very liberally indeed. He saw an hon. gentleman smile. He ventured to say that that gentleman had never been up the Cariboo Road and seen the Chinese shops there. The first thing perchance he would call for if he did visit one of those shops, would be a little brandy. He would find himself supplied with the very best "Three Star Hennessy" or the best cognac.

MR. McINNES: "They must be jolly good fellows."

HON. MR. TURNER continued that the matters he had referred to offered one reason why such a resolution would prove a revolution to the trade of this Province, and he thought to a large extent the same might be applied to the large manufacturing industries of the country. It was true if they could get workmen from the East, (he saw hon. gentlemen smile at that.) But the fact was that they could not get them although they were not earning as good wages in the East as they paid to the Chinamen in this Province. He felt perfectly safe in saying that.

MR. CURTIS: "Do I understand you to be making a plea for cheap labor in British Columbia?"

HON. MR. TURNER said the hon. gentleman could twist his words in any way he liked, but he was only stating what was a fact, that there were certain industries in British Columbia today, producing enormous revenue, which would not exist unless under the conditions he was referring to. When an hon. gentleman brought in a resolution of that kind which swept away one million and a half of dollars out of the pockets of the working men in British Columbia, he should produce a substitute to enable that expenditure of one million and a half to go on. But he did not do that. The hon. gentleman referred in his resolution to "contracts, leases and concessions." Now, what was a concession in public work? He imagined it must mean a concession from the Government of lands or monies by Parliament. Now, it was well known to every gentleman there that if a concession were made of land, an act must be brought in to make that concession without the authority of this House. If therefore, that act was brought into the House it would require to have this Chinese and Japanese exclusion clause placed in it, and then the act would be destroyed altogether, because, as the hon. gentleman stated himself, the Dominion Government would repudiate that act. So that he held again that that resolution was very much in the nature of a revolution with respect to the industries of this Province. Now, from this he took it that the proposition before the House meant disallowance. What the Government proposed was different. It was not a resolution which could be talked of in this House and heralded over the country with a view of making some people take certain ideas. What the Government proposed to do was to act so as to prevent the Chinese being employed more than was absolutely necessary in this Province. Their action was suggested in the amendment to the amendment, proposed by the fourth member for Victoria, in which he laid down something that they could carry out, which could not be objected to, and which would work out in some measure the remedy the country desired. The amendment on the contrary was useless as it would be subject to disallowance by the Dominion Government.

MR. CURTIS: "We are not asking for an act."

HON. MR. TURNER knew what they were asking for exactly. In the case of a concession their resolution required an act. In the case of a contract or lease he was quite aware it did not, and the hon. gentleman said the Government need not carry it out, if the resolution passed. What use would it be to advise the Government that it should insert certain conditions in the lease if the Government ignored those conditions? The hon. gentleman said: "Pass this resolution or instruct the Government to do so and so, but it need not do it."

MR. CURTIS: "You cannot be compelled to carry out the instruction."

HON. MR. TURNER said the other was an amendment framed in such a way that it could be carried out and would be carried out. When they saw a resolution which could not help the Province in any direction, and which stood a chance of destroying one very important industry at any rate in the Province, he could hardly think that gentlemen on the other side would be prepared to vote for such an amendment as that, but would vote for the amendment of the hon. fourth member for Victoria. (Applause.)

The vote was then taken, when Mr. McInnes' amendment was defeated on a division, the names standing as follows:

For the amendment: Messrs. McInnes, Gilmore, Stables, E. C. Smith, Oliver, Neill, Brown, Martin, Curtis, Munro, Green and R. Smith.—12.

Against amendment: Messrs. Kidd, Hall, McPhillips, Helmcken, Turner, Dunsinuir, Eberts, A. W. Smith, Ellison, Clifford, Fulton, Hayward, Garden, Tatlow, Prentice, Wells, McBride, Poolcy, Murphy, Rogers, Hunter, Taylor, Dickie, and Mounce.—24.

A vote was then taken on the amendment to the amendment, put by Mr. McPhillips, and on the original resolution as amended, which carried nem. con.

#### MR. TATLOW'S MOTION.

A lengthy discussion then took place on Mr. Tatlow's resolution affecting Chinese immigration, the debate upon which was adjourned on August 1st.

MR. HELMCKEN, who moved the adjournment of the debate on that occasion, took up the thread of the argument, dealing with the familiar history of this question, and eventually moved the following amendment, in substitution of the original resolution:

"Whereas resolutions have been passed by this House from time to time requesting the Dominion Government to increase the poll tax on Chinese immigrants into Canada;

And whereas the Dominion Government has passed an Act, known as the 'Chinese Immigration Act, 1900,' increasing the poll tax from the sum of \$50 to the sum of \$100;

Be it resolved, that in the opinion of this House, the said Act is ineffective and inadequate to prevent Chinese immigration into Canada;

Be it further resolved, that an humble address be presented to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor requesting him to respectfully urge upon the Dominion Government that the effective mode of dealing with the question of restricting Mongolian immigration into Canada would be by either increasing the amount of the per capita tax to the sum of \$500, or by the passing of an Act based on the lines of the Natal Act, known as the 'Immigration Restriction Act, 1897.'

MR. BROWN consented to the withdrawal of his amendment, and Mr. Helmcken's resolution passed unanimously.

#### COMPULSORY ARBITRATION.

The next question taken up was the adjourned debate on Mr. R. Smith's resolution providing for compulsory arbitration.

HON. MR. TURNER, who had moved the adjournment of the debate, explained that the resolution was of such an important nature that nothing could be done in the way of legislation this session. The Government would take the matter into serious consideration, however, with a view of introducing an act at the next session of the House.

MR. SMITH thereupon asked leave to withdraw his resolution, which was granted.

MR. BROWN registered an objection to the withdrawal of the resolution on the ground that no definite promise had been given that an act would be introduced and

MR. CURTIS also objected, on the same ground. He thought the Government had treated the subject inadequately.

MR. TURNER did not think hon. gentlemen opposite had any right to instruct the Government and

MR. GREEN supported him in that view.

HON. MR. McBRIDE also took a hand in the discussion, and pointed out that Mr. Brown had not shown any desire for hurry towards compulsory arbitration, until the present occasion. He thought the assurance given that

the Government would seriously consider the question with a view to framing legislation for the next session should be sufficient.

After considerable parrying the objection was withdrawn.

MR. McINNES raised a point that the consent for withdrawal must be unanimous, which was disallowed.

#### LIQUOR LICENCE BILL.

HON. MR. EBERTS moved the third reading of the Liquor Licence Bill. In doing so he drew attention to the words "Chinese" and "Japanese" where they were used in the excluding phrases of the Act, and suggested, on the ground that those terms might possibly jeopardise the constitutionality of the Act, that the broader term "Mongolian" should be inserted. This was done.

MR. McINNES mentioned that the term "Mongolian" had been held in cases to include the inhabitants of Finland, Sweden and Norwegians were included.

HON. MR. EBERTS thought that even so, although he was not assured in that regard, the application of it would be in the usual acceptance of the term.

On motion the Bill was read a third time and finally passed.

The House adjourned until 2 o'clock p. m. to-morrow.

## PROVINCIAL PA

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From Our Own Corre

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**PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT**

**An Immigration Regulation Bill.—Mr. Justice Martin Appointed Commissioner for Porcupine District.—Measures Advanced.**

From Our Own Correspondent.

**FIFTEENTH DAY.**

Victoria, Friday, August 10.

The House met at 2 o'clock p. m.

Mr. Tatlow introduced a Bill to regulate immigration into British Columbia. The Bill was read a first time. Its second reading is fixed for Monday next.

In reply to Mr. Oliver, the Attorney-General stated, that there were 249 licenses at \$100 per year, and 157 at \$200 per year in force under the Liquor Licence Act, in 1899.

**IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE.**

The House went into Committee of the Whole, on the Land Registry Bill, which was taken up from its adjourned stage, and concluded. The Bill was reported up, complete, without amendments and stands for its third reading on Monday next.

The Judgments Bill was also considered in Committee of the Whole. The Committee rose and reported progress.

The Official Administrators' Act was also dealt with, and was reported with amendments. It stands for its third reading on Monday.

**SUCCESSION DUTIES BILL.**

HON. MR. EBERTS moved the second reading of the Bill relating to Succession Duties. Section 13 of the Bill, proposed in substitution of Sub-Section 3, Section 4, of the Succession Duty Act, as proviso that where the aggregate value of the property of the deceased exceeded \$25,000, and passed under a will, intestacy or otherwise, either in whole or in part, to or for the use of the father, mother, husband, wife, child, grandchild, daughter-in-law, or son-in-law of the deceased, the same, or as much thereof as so passed, should be subject to duty as follows: "Upon the value up to \$100,000, at the rate of \$1.50 for every \$100 of value of the whole property; where said value reaches \$100,000, but does not reach \$200,000, at the rate of \$2.50 for every \$100 of value of the whole property; where said value exceeds \$200,000, at the rate of \$5 for every \$100 of value of the whole property." The Attorney-General explained briefly the various clauses of the Bill.

MR. CERTIS suggested in connection with the amount of succession duties to be paid that there should be a sliding scale to regulate the application of the law. He considered the jump from \$1.50 for every hundred dollars of property value on an estate valued up to \$100,000, to \$2.50 on estates valued between \$100,000 and \$200,000 and so on too great, and argued that there should be some intermediate scale.

MR. NEILL thought that the Succession Duty Law of the Old Country could be copied to advantage in some respects.

The Bill was read a second time.

**BENNETT-ATLIN COMMISSION BILL.**

HON. MR. EBERTS moved the second reading of the Bennett-Atlin Commission Bill. In doing so he said that the intention was to appoint a commission, immediately if required, to go to that country to inquire into the condition of certain mining property. Certain mining claims there had been staked over and over again, until it was impossible to tell who were the owners. It was with a view of determining this question, that the Commission was to be sent there. In Committee of the Whole, he intended to move an amendment that the Commission should be limited as to time. It was not necessary to have the Commission sitting very long, because he hoped, in the near future, that the Atlin country would have its own Court to settle disputes arising there. It was only with a view of settling disputes now in existence, that the Commission was to be appointed.

MR. MARTIN looked upon the Bill as a very drastic one, which could only be supported under special circumstances. He would not oppose the Bill, with the distinct understanding that it was to be modified, so that the Commission would cease after the present applicant had got through with the cases awaiting settlement. He looked upon it as a matter of some danger that a judge should be sent there, where he was outside of any law for guidance, to settle perhaps important questions affecting property, and he understood that there were no cases similar to those for which the Commission was appointed in 1899, namely, the boundary dispute and loose records. There would be no appeal from the decision of the Commissioner. He had absolute power, and the matter was therefore not without its graver aspects. Of course, he assumed that the Judge appointed would act in good faith, but they all knew, that the decisions of judges were often open to reasonable appeal.

HON. MR. EBERTS, in further explanation, of the proposed Commission, said that disputes had arisen in the Porcupine District in which the boundary question was involved. A great many miners went in there, with the idea that it was American territory and staked their claims in conformity with the American law; that is, they had taken up claims 200 feet in length, against 100 feet, under Canadian Law. Upon inquiry, through Mr. Graham, the Commissioner in the District, it had been found that under the circumstances it would be advisable to have the matter arranged in the same way as was done in 1899.

MR. CLIFFORD considered it of great importance that the Commission should be appointed as soon as possible. He instanced one case, that of the Yellow Jacket claim, where operations were at a complete standstill, pending a settlement of the points in dispute.

MR. STABLES said that he would be pleased to support the Bill, with the amendment proposed by the Attorney-General. As it was, he would have opposed it. He did not believe that the circumstances in Atlin were at all similar to what they were last year. With regard to the difficulties arising there over the first claims, he thought that while Mr. Justice Irving had no doubt given entire satisfaction, there was no doubt that a great many of the cases he had had to deal with were difficult ones. Of course there were a few of the disputants that were dissatisfied, but that could only be expected, under the circumstances. As it was at present, there was no difficulty in that district any more than existed in any other mining district, and he thought it would be unfair to give the judge going into that district any special powers such as Mr. Justice Irving had. There were certain laws governing mining there, and the miners in that district were men who for the most part, studied those laws and tried to live up to them. With regard to the Porcupine District, it might be necessary to give a judge such powers, and he trusted that no time would be wasted in sending a judge there, with a view to having the existing disputes settled. There was no reason why a judge should not have been there three months ago. There was no doubt that a great many miners were waiting to have the disputes arbitrated, so that they could get to work and earn something to keep them over the long and severe winter.

HON. MR. EBERTS, replying to the point that a judge might have been sent to the Porcupine District before, said that he had to amend the Jurors' Act in order that cases might be tried in Atlin; otherwise, it would have been necessary to take a jury up to Atlin to try the cases there. That Bill had been hurried as much as possible. It was now arranged that the judge should start in a few days for that district.

MR. McINNIS asked the name of the Judge?

HON. MR. EBERTS said it was Mr. Justice Martin.

HON. MR. McBRIDE paid a tribute to the manner in which Mr. Justice Irving had performed the duties connected with the commission of 1899. He agreed that it was a dangerous thing to give any judge special powers to deal with matters over which the laws of British Columbia had full and adequate control, but there was the isolation

of the district, and the distance, which repented it from judicial bodies, to be considered. It was nearly 1,000 miles into that country, besides which it was a matter of some little difficulty at some seasons to get into the country. Last year, the conditions were such that this Bennett-Atlin Commission was absolutely necessary. As to the Porcupine territory, a report had been received from the Gold Commissioner some months ago that it was likely to prove a very good country, at the same time suggesting that some steps should be taken to have a Provincial Commissioner sent in there. Since then a Commissioner and a police constable had been sent there, and a very good report sent in on the country. Discoveries had subsequently been made. He had received a report only the other day, showing what the conditions were there. There were certain claims about which there was contention as to whether they were in United States territory or in the Province of British Columbia, and it was with a view to the settlement of these disputes that a judge was required.

The Bill was read a second time and will be taken up in Committee of the Whole on Monday.

**ROYAL ASSENT.**

His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, during the afternoon visited the Chamber and assented to three bills, namely, The Liquor Licence Act.

An Act Affecting the Liability of Trustees, and An Act to Amend the New Westminster Relief Act, 1899.

**MECHANICS' LIEN ACT.**

The Mechanics' Lien Act was taken up in Committee of the Whole and progress reported.

**IN LIGHTER VEIN.**

A proposition was submitted by Mr. Speaker from a local photographer, to take a photograph of the members in a body. After a humorous debate on the subject, the date of the operation was set for Tuesday.

The House adjourned until 2 o'clock p. m. on Monday.



Text of the Liquor Lic  
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## LIQUOR LICEN

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PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT

Text of the Liquor Licence Act, 1900, as Amended, Passed and Consented To.—Other Measures.

LIQUOR LICENCE BILL.

The following is the text of Bill No. 5, introduced by the Attorney-General, as amended and passed, being an Act respecting Liquor Licences:

1. This Act may be cited as the "Liquor Licence Act, 1900."

2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires:

(a) The expression "hotel licence" means a licence for selling, bartering or trafficking by retail in fermented, spirituous or other liquors, which may be drunk in the hotel, inn, ale or beer house, or other house of public entertainment in which the same liquor is sold;

(b) The expression "wholesale licence" means a licence for selling, bartering or trafficking by wholesale only, in intoxicating liquors in warehouses, stores, shops or places other than hotels, inns, taverns, ale or beer houses, or other houses of public entertainment, in quantities not less than two Imperial gallons in each cask or vessel, and, in any case, when such selling by wholesale is in respect of bottled ale, porter, beer, wine or other fermented or spirituous liquor, each such sale shall be in quantities not less than one dozen retorted quart bottles;

(c) The expressions "liquor" and "liquors" respectively mean and comprehend all spirituous and malt liquors, and all combinations of liquors and drinks and drinkable liquids which are intoxicating;

(d) The expression "Government Agent" means the Government Agent residing in or nearest to the Licence District in which the premises sought to be licensed are situated.

(e) The expression "Magistrate" means any Police Magistrate, Stipendiary Magistrate, or Justice of the Peace;

(f) The expression "locality" means the territory in a Licence District situated within three miles of the premises for which the licence is sought, not included in any municipality;

(g) The expression "householder" means a person over 21 years of age, the owner or occupant in his or her own right of a dwelling house, who has been actually resident on such premises for 3 months immediately prior to the time of his or her exercising any rights under this Act, but shall not include or mean boarders or lodgers merely. The expression includes the wives of householders living with them and the children over 21 years of age of householders living with them, but does not include Mongolians or Indians.

(h) The expression "inhabitants" means all persons over 21 years of age who reside, lodge or board in a locality, but does not include Mongolians or Indians.

3. This Act shall apply to those portions of the Province which are not situate within the limits of any municipality.

4. The Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council shall establish districts for the purposes of this Act to be called "Licence Districts," and may from time to time alter and redefine the same.

5. There shall be a Board of Licence Commissioners to be composed of three persons to be appointed from time to time for each district, and who shall cease to hold office on the 31st day of December in each year, but may be re-appointed; provided, however, that the Licence Commissioners appointed before the 31st day of December, 1901, shall hold office until said date. Any two of the said Commissioners shall be a quorum, and each of such boards may elect one of its members to act as Chairman. The said office shall be honorary and without any remuneration, except that such Commissioners, when obliged to leave their homes to attend meetings of the Board, may be allowed the sum of \$5 per day and their actual railway, steamboat or stage fare, or expenses for horse hire.

6. The Board shall meet on the 15th day of June and the 15th day of December in each year, except when such days fall on a holiday, when the meeting shall be held on the day following which is not a holiday.

7. The Board may also be called together at any time by the Chief Inspector for the district. The Chief Inspector for the district shall fix the place of meeting of the Board, both for regular and special meetings.

8. All Provincial Constables shall be Licence Inspectors under this Act, and the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council shall appoint a Provincial Constable or some other person in each district to act as Chief Licence Inspector for such district.

9. Licences, written or printed, or partly written and partly printed, may be issued of the several kinds or descriptions following, that is to say:

(a) Hotel licences;

(b) Wholesale licences.

10. Liquor licences shall be signed by the Chief Licence Inspector and shall be in usual form, and shall be granted for six months or one year, expiring on the 30th day of June or the 31st day of December, except in case of special applications under Section 13 hereof, in which case the licence shall continue up to the 1st day of July or 1st day of January (as the case may be) and a proportionate fee only shall be paid.

11. Subject to the provisions of this Act as to removals and the transfer of licences, every licence for the sale of liquor shall be held to be a licence only to the person therein named, and for the premises therein mentioned, and shall remain valid only as long as such person continues to be the occupant of the said premises and the true owner of the business there carried on.

12. Every applicant for a licence un-

der this Act shall be in the usual form, and such application shall be sent to the Chief Licence Inspector, so that it may reach him on or before the 15th day of May or November (as the case may be.)

13. As soon as possible after the 15th day of May or November (as the case may be), the Chief Licence Inspector shall advertise by one insertion in a newspaper in each locality for which applications have been received by him, or as near each locality as possible, a list of all such applications received for such locality, showing the name of each applicant, description of licence applied for, and the place described with sufficient certainty, together with a notice of the time and place of the meeting of the Board of Licence Commissioners to be held to consider such applications; at least 14 days shall intervene between the publication of the advertisement and the date of such meeting. A notice containing similar information shall be affixed to the outer door of the building where the Board is to sit, and be sent to the Postmaster nearest to the proposed licensed premises to be posted up in the Post-Office.

14. The Chief Licence Inspector, upon receiving such application shall forthwith have the premises inspected, either by himself or by some other Licence Inspector, and a report of such inspection, shall be laid before the Board by the Chief Licence Inspector. Notwithstanding anything in this Act, an applicant who has complied with all the other provisions of this Act, may apply for and be granted a licence for a building either in course of construction or to be constructed, upon filing with the Chief Licence Inspector plans and specifications of the proposed building; but no licence shall be granted in respect of such proposed building until the Chief Licence Inspector reports that the building has been completed in accordance with the said plans and specifications.

15. Each applicant shall send to the Chief Licence Inspector, so that they may reach him at least six days before the meeting of the Board as advertised:

(a) The petition (schedule C);

(b) Affidavit of the applicant (schedule D);

(c) Affidavit of neighbors (schedule E.)

This section shall not apply to an applicant for renewal of licence unless since obtaining his last licence he has been convicted of an offence against this Act, or the liquor provisions of the "Indian Act."

16. The applicant shall send to the Minister of Finance, at Victoria, or Government Agent, the amount of the licence fee, so that it may reach him at least two weeks before the meeting of the Board. The Minister of Finance or Government Agent shall issue a receipt for same in duplicate, and send one copy to the applicant and the other to the Chief Licence Inspector for the district.

17. All papers connected with applications, while in the hands of the Chief Licence Inspector, shall be open to the inspection of the public.

18. In case any person wishes to apply for a licence at any other time than as above provided, he may send to the Chief Licence Inspector his application. Upon receipt of the application by the Chief Licence Inspector, he shall calculate the expenses of calling the Board together, of advertising, and of inspection, and he shall notify the applicant that his application will not be considered until the amount so estimated has been sent to the Minister of Finance or Government Agent. On this being done the Chief Licence Inspector shall arrange for the advertising of the application, the inspection of the premises, and the calling together of the Board at as early a date as possible to consider the application, provided that in case more than one application be made at the same time to the same Board the expense shall be divided pro rata among the applicants.

19. Nothing in the last preceding section shall authorise any person to apply for a licence at such other time whose application, made under Section 12 of this Act, has been refused.

20. Any person may appear at the meeting of the Board and oppose the granting of any licence.

21. No person shall be granted a licence for the sale of liquors by retail unless he has been a resident of the Province for a period of twelve months before applying for such licence.

22. No hotel licence shall be granted in any locality unless a petition (schedule C) for the granting of such licence, signed by at least two-thirds of the householders of such locality, shall be presented to the Board of Licence Commissioners for the granting of such licence. If in any locality there are not at least three householders then the Commissioners may grant hotel licences without the presentation of petitions.

23. The petition, referred to in the preceding section, must be signed within two months of the day on which the Board meets to consider the granting of such licence, and shall show the date of the signature of each person signing the same.

24. It shall be the duty of the person who inspects such premises to report whether such petition is in compliance with above provisions.

25. It shall not be necessary for any person who held a licence under the "Liquor Licence Act, 1899," on the 24th day of April, 1900, applying for a licence for the premises to which said licence applied, to obtain said petition, affidavit of himself or of neighbors, unless since obtaining such licence he has been convicted of an offence under the "Liquor Licence Act, 1899." It shall not be necessary for any licensee, under this Act, applying for a renewal of his licence for the same premises, to obtain the petition, affidavit of himself or neighbors, unless since obtaining such licence, he has been convicted of an offence under the provisions of this Act or under the liquor clauses of the "Indian Act."

26. No hotel licence shall be granted under the provisions of this Act, for the sale of liquors under the provisions of this Act, upon any premises for which a licence has not heretofore been granted under the provisions of the "Liquor Licence Act, 1899," within 300 feet of a building occupied exclusively as a church, or a high school, public school, university, college, or other public educational institution, to be measured from and to the main entrances along the street or streets, road or roads, or across the same at right angles, as the case may be.



27. The premises for which a "hotel licence" is applied for must have at least four bed-rooms, with a sufficient complement of bedding and furniture to accommodate the travelling public, and also attached to such premises there must be stabling for at least six horses in cases in which the Commissioners consider stabling accommodation necessary for the convenience of the public. The premises shall also be fitted up with appliances for keeping a well-appointed eating house for serving meals to travellers.

28. On every application for a hotel licence the Inspector shall report in writing to the Commissioners, and such report shall contain:

(a) A description of the house, premises and furniture; and

(b) If the application be by a person for a renewal of licence, a statement as to the manner in which the house has been conducted during the previous year or half-year, and the character of the persons frequenting the house, and the number of convictions against said person, if any; and

(c) A statement of the number, position and distance from the house in respect of which a licence is applied for of the licensed houses in the neighborhood; and

(d) A statement whether the applicant is a fit and proper person to have a licence, and is known to be of good character and repute; and

(e) A statement whether the premises sought to be licensed are or are not, in his opinion, required for public convenience; and

(f) A statement whether the applicant is or is not the true owner of the business of the premises proposed to be licensed;

(g) A statement whether the petition (schedule C) complies with the provisions of this Act;

(h) A statement whether the premises are within 300 feet of a building occupied exclusively as a church, high school, public school, university, college, or other public educational institution;

(i) A statement of the number of inhabitants within three miles of the premises sought to be licensed not included in any municipality.

29. On every application for a wholesale licence, the said Inspector shall report to the Commissioners in writing, and such report shall contain the information required by Sub-Sections (b), (d) and (f) of the last preceding section.

30. The report of the Inspector shall be for the information of the Commissioners, who shall, nevertheless, exercise their own discretion on each application.

31. It shall be lawful for the Superintendent of Provincial Police to grant licences to sell liquor in localities not in any municipality, and not included in any Licence District, and such licences shall conform to this Act, and the persons obtaining the same shall be subject to all the provisions of this Act as far as applicable, except Section 22 hereof. The Superintendent shall be guided by the provisions of this Act in granting such licences, except where the circumstances of the case render it impossible or inconvenient so to do.

32. The said Superintendent shall also have power to grant licences to sell liquor in any municipality, to expire on the first day of December, 1900, to persons who held licences under the "Liquor Licence Act, 1899," on the 24th day of April, 1900, and who have not been convicted of any infraction of said Act since the date of said licences, and to tenants who since said 24th day of April have gone into possession of premises where liquor was licensed to be sold on said last-mentioned date, and who since last-mentioned date have not been convicted of any offence under the liquor provisions of the "Indian Act." No advertisement, petition nor affidavit of himself or neighbors shall be necessary in the case of applications for said licences. The Superintendent, as to such licences shall, until said date, have all the powers conferred upon Boards of Licence Commissioners and Chief Inspectors by this Act. The fees to be paid for a licence for said term shall be a proportionate part of the amount required for one year. No such licence shall be issued to a person for other premises than those in respect of which the person held a licence on the 24th day of April, 1900.

33. Any Incorporated Company may become a licensee or licensees, and in such cases all acts required under the provisions of this Act to be done by any person as licensee, whether prior to or

after the granting of a licence, may be done in the name of the Company by the officer or agent of the said Company in charge of the particular premises for which the licence is to be or shall have been granted.

34. Licences may be issued in the name of a co-partnership, when two or more persons are carrying on business in the same name, but a separate licence shall be required in every separate place of business of such firm.

35. No licence shall be granted to any married woman, unless she be the owner or tenant in her own right of the premises for which the licence is sought, and she shall satisfy the Commissioners that the business to be carried on is for her own use and benefit irrespective of her husband.

36. If an applicant for a licence has at any time or in any place been refused on the ground that he is not a fit person to hold a licence, no application by such applicant, if opposed, shall be entertained by the Commissioners within a period of two years of the last of such refusal; and no application by any person for a licence shall be entertained by the Commissioners within the said period, if a person whose application has been refused for the same premises be living upon the premises of the applicant, or be in any way connected with the business proposed to be carried on by such applicant except as owner of the building.

37. No licence under this Act shall be issued or transferred to any person of the Indian race.

38. Every application for a licence shall be heard and determined by the Commissioners in a summary manner.

39. Every hearing of an application shall be open to the public, and every applicant for a new licence (except persons who held licences under the "Liquor Licence Act, 1899," on the 24th day of April, 1900) shall attend personally at such hearing unless hindered by sickness or infirmity. The Commissioners may summon and examine, on oath, any applicant for a licence and such witnesses as they may think necessary, as nearly as may be, in the manner directed by any act now or hereafter to be in force relating to the duties of justices in relation to summary convictions and orders, and any one of the Commissioners may administer such oath.

40. Any hearing may, at the discretion of the Commissioners, be adjourned from time to time to the same or any other building.

41. At all hearings under this Act, the Commissioners shall have the same powers as Justices of the Peace.

42. The decision of the majority of the Commissioners shall govern, and when once announced by them shall not be questioned or reconsidered:

Provided, nevertheless, that in cases in which the person or persons affected by such decision petition the Board, and allege facts and grounds for their consideration not formerly before them, or, in cases in which the Board have not been unanimous, the Board may, by resolution in which all the Commissioners concur, decide to rehear the case.

43. All sums of money payable as licence money or fees under this Act to the Government of British Columbia shall be paid to the Minister of Finance or the Government Agent.

44. Every person to whom a licence to sell intoxicating liquor shall hereafter be granted shall, before receiving such licence, be required to pay to the Government of British Columbia, as a fee for such licence, the following duties, that is to say:

For a "wholesale licence," \$200 for one year.

For a "hotel licence" in a locality of upwards of 200 inhabitants, \$200 for one year.

For a "hotel licence" in a locality of upwards of 100 inhabitants and not exceeding 200 inhabitants, \$125 for one year.

For a "hotel licence" in a locality of less than 100 inhabitants, \$75 for one year.

The expression "locality" in this section means the territory in a licence district situate within one mile of the licensed premises.

45. (1) In case any person having lawfully obtained a licence under this Act dies before the expiration of his licence, or sells, or by operation of the law or otherwise assigns his business, or removes from the house or place in respect of which the said licence applies, his said licence shall, ipso facto, become forfeited, and be absolutely null and void to all intents and purposes whatsoever, unless such person, his as-

signs or legal representatives, within two months after the death, assignment or removal of, or sale by, the original holder of such licence, obtains a written consent signed by the Chief Licence Inspector under authority from the Board, either for the continuance of the said business or for the transfer of such licence to some other person, who, under such transfer, may exercise the rights granted by such licence, subject to all the duties and obligations of the original holder thereof, in the house or place for which such licence was issued, and to which it applies, but in no other house or place.

(2) Upon receipt by the Chief Licence Inspector of an application for a transfer of licence, and pending the consideration thereof by the Board of Licence Commissioners, the Chief Licence Inspector may, within one month thereafter, issue to the proposed transferee a written provisional consent, under which the proposed transferee may exercise the rights granted by the licence issued to the premises until the written consent of the Board of Licence Commissioners may be obtained; provided, always that such written consent shall not operate beyond or extend beyond one month from the time of the death of the original licensee, or from the sale or transfer by the licensee, or by operation of the law.

46. In every case of transfer of licence, the person in whose favor any such transfer is to be made shall first produce to the Commissioners a report of the Inspector, similar to that mentioned in Sections 28 and 29, as the case may be, of this Act, and the petition required by Section 22 hereof, where such petition was required for the original applicant.

47. Where a licensee has been legally ejected from any licensed premises, the Commissioners may, on the application in writing of the owner of the premises and the proposed new tenant, grant a special licence to such new tenant, in such form as they shall think applicable, such special licence to be signed by the Chief Licence Inspector.

48. The Commissioners may, by order, authorise any person they may think entitled to the benefit of any licence to carry on the business in the licensed premises for the remainder of the term for which the licence was granted, in the same manner as if such licence had been formally transferred to such person, in any of the following cases:

(a) Whenever any person to whom a licence has been granted deserts the licensed premises, or refuses or neglects to transfer the licence when justly required so to do; or

(b) If, during the currency of any such licence, the holder thereof ceases to occupy the premises in respect whereof the licence is held, or his tenancy of such premises is determined by effluxion of time, or by notice to quit, or by any other process whatsoever.

49. Where any licensed person is convicted of any offence and, in consequence, either becomes personally disqualified or has his licence forfeited, the Commissioners, upon application by or on behalf of the owner of the premises in respect of which the licence was granted where the owner is not the occupier, and upon being satisfied that such owner was not privy nor a consenting party to the act of his tenant, and that he has a legal power to eject the tenant of such premises, may by order authorise an agent to carry on the business specified in the licence relating to such premises until the end of the period for which such licence was granted, in the same manner as if such

(Continued on Page Three.)

## PROVINCIAL P.

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licence had been for to such agent;

Provided always, pay as a fee for the expired term of the licence; part of the amount one year.

50. In case of the female, being a licensee held by her shall command the same privilege pose on him the sanctions and liabilities had been granted to.

Provided, that the application of the female licensee, shall to him his wife's remainder of the term thereof, and granted to that effect, which the Chief Licence Inspector shall be given permission shall be satisfied that can be made to the husband, and that the licence within three years.

51. The Chief Licence after order allowing Commissioners, and permission to the holder move from the house licence applies to and described in the made by the said Inspector.

Provided, always, which the licensee pay has all the accommodation law, and subject of this Act respecting original application for licence.

52. Such permission, val of the said Chief I is endorsed on said I to license the holder of sell liquors in the hot the endorsement during portion of the term for licence was granted, I ner and upon the conditions as he might do to which the licence of such permission shall to sell at any other the

53. In all cases provisions of this Act to 51, both inclusive, or val or change in a lic must be made in the if for an original application. The Chief L upon receiving the proceed as is provided this Act in cases where at other than the regulations, and if the same must be paid as are Section 18.

54. The Commission time cancel any licence ifactory to them that not keeping his premises with the provisions of

55. The Chief Licence at any time upon any cense, cancel a licen rebate to such licensee the licence fee paid p tion 41 of the Act, in 1 unexpired term of each cense also, upon the a licensee, may be cancelled on account of the premises, or for a factory to the Chief L In case such rebate be the duty of the Fin refund to such licensee allowed.

56. Any railway con liquor or any dining car train upon the line of but such company shall tain a licence from the of Provincial Police car for such purpose, f shall be at the rate of per annum. Such lic when issued, shall ex day of June in such ye licence be obtained, a company shall be liabilities contained in any ing the sale of intoxic any such sale.



## PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT

(Continued From Page Two.)

licence had been formally transferred to such agent;

Provided always, such owner shall pay as a fee for the balance of the unexpired term of the licence a proportionate part of the amount required for one year.

50. In case of the marriage of any female, being a licensee, the licence held by her shall confer on her husband the same privileges, and shall impose on him the same duties, obligations and liabilities as if such licence had been granted to him originally;

Provided, that the Commissioners, on application of the husband of any such female licensee, shall have conferred to him his wife's licence for the remainder of the term of the duration thereof, and granted him a certificate to that effect, which must be signed by the Chief Licence Inspector. Such confirmation shall be granted if the Commissioners be satisfied that no objection can be made to the character of the husband, and that he has not forfeited a licence within the next preceding three years.

51. The Chief Licence Inspector may, after order allowing the same by the Commissioners, endorse on any licence permission to the holder thereof to remove from the house to which his said licence applies to another house to be described in the endorsement to be made by the said Inspector on the said licence;

Provided, always, that the house to which the licensee proposes to remove has all the accommodation required by law, and subject to the requirements of this Act respecting the case of an original application for the same kind of licence.

52. Such permission, when the approval of the said Chief Licence Inspector is endorsed on said licence, shall authorise the holder of the said licence to sell liquors in the house mentioned in the endorsement during the unexpired portion of the term for which the said licence was granted, in the same manner and upon the same terms and conditions as he might do in the premises to which the licence originally applied. Such permission shall not entitle him to sell at any other than such one place.

53. In all cases provided for in the sections of this Act numbered from 45 to 51, both inclusive, of transfer, removal or change in a licence, application must be made in the same manner as if for an original application for a licence. The Chief Licence Inspector, upon receiving the application shall proceed as is provided in Section 18 of this Act in cases where persons apply at other than the regular time for licences, and if the same additional fees must be paid as are provided in said Section 18.

54. The Commissioners may at any time cancel any licence upon proof satisfactory to them that the licensee is not keeping his premises in accordance with the provisions of this Act.

55. The Chief Licence Inspector may, at any time upon application by a licensee, cancel a licence, and allow a rebate to such licensee of a portion of the licence fee paid pursuant to Section 44 of the Act, in proportion to the unexpired term of said licence. A licence also, upon the application of the licensee, may be cancelled under this section on account of the destruction of the premises, or for any reason satisfactory to the Chief Licence Inspector. In case such rebate be allowed it shall be the duty of the Finance Minister to refund to such licensee the amount so allowed.

56. Any railway company may sell liquor or any dining car attached to a train upon the line of their railway, but such company shall be bound to obtain a licence from the Superintendent of Provincial Police for each dining car for such purpose, for which the fee shall be at the rate of the sum of \$50 per annum. Such licence, no matter when issued, shall expire on the 30th day of June in each year. Unless such licence be obtained, any such railway company shall be liable to the penalties contained in any Statute respecting the sale of intoxicating liquors for any such sale.

57. Special licences may be granted by the Superintendent of Provincial Police to any person for the sale of liquor on any steamer in British Columbia waters. Such licences shall authorise the sale of liquor on such steamer only to the passengers and crew of said steamer, and to said passengers and crew only when the steamer is not at any port. The fee for such licence shall be at the rate of \$100 per annum, but such licence may be issued for six months and shall expire on the 30th day of June or the 31st day of December.

58. A special licence for the sale of liquors by retail at any booth or fair may be granted to the holder of any regular licence for the sale of liquors by retail, by the Chief Licence Inspector, but such special licence shall not be in force for more than 48 hours, and \$15 shall be paid therefor.

59. (1) The Superintendent of Police may issue licences empowering commercial travellers and commercial agents representing principals who carry on business outside the Province to take orders in British Columbia for liquor to be imported into British Columbia to fill orders given by persons who do not hold wholesale licences;

(2) The fee for such licence shall be \$200, and such licence shall be in force for one year from the date hereof;

(3) During the currency of such licence the Superintendent of Police may allow the said licence to be transferred to any person representing said principal approved by him, upon payment of a fee of \$5;

(4) Any commercial traveller or commercial agent, who solicits or takes any order or orders in British Columbia for liquors to be supplied from outside the Province of British Columbia to a person in British Columbia who does not hold a wholesale licence, without having obtained a licence under this section, shall be subject to prosecution under the provisions of this Act, and shall be liable to a penalty of not less than \$100 and not more than \$200 for each offence, and in default of payment of said penalty to be imprisoned for a term of not less than one month and not more than three months, in the discretion of the convicting Magistrate.

(5) This section shall apply to the whole of the Province.

60. Liquors sold under a wholesale

licence shall not be consumed in or upon the house and premises in respect of which the licence is granted.

61. No person having a wholesale licence shall allow any liquor sold by him or in his possession, and for the sale of which a licence is required, to be consumed within his warehouse, or within any building of which such warehouse forms a part, or which communicates by any entrance with such warehouse, either by the purchaser thereof or by any other person not usually resident within such building, under a penalty of \$50, and in default of payment, two months' imprisonment.

62. Any person selling liquor by wholesale to any person to whom he knows, or has reason to believe, to be selling liquor without a licence, shall be guilty of an offence for which he may be punished as if he were guilty of selling without a licence.

63. Every hotel-keeper whose licence is granted in respect of premises to be provided with stabling shall, at all times, keep upon his licensed premises a sufficient supply of hay, grain or other provender for the accommodation of the horses or cattle of travellers.

64. Every hotel-keeper having a licence to sell liquor, refusing, at a reasonable rate, either personally or through some one acting on his behalf, except for some valid reason, to supply lodging, meals or accommodation to travellers, shall, for each offence, be liable to a penalty of \$20, and in default of payment, one month's imprisonment.

65. Not more than one bar shall be kept in any house or premises licensed under this Act.

66. No person shall sell by wholesale or by retail any liquor, without having first obtained a licence under this Act authorising him so to do.

67. No person shall keep or have any liquor for the purpose of selling, bartering or trading therein, unless duly licensed thereto under the provisions of this Act.

68. The two last preceding sections shall not prevent any chemist or druggist, duly registered as such under and by virtue of the Act or Acts relating to the Pharmaceutical Association of British Columbia in force in this Province, from keeping, having or selling liquors, but

(a) Such sale must be for strictly medicinal purposes and in packages of not more than six ounces at any one time, except under certificate of a registered medical practitioner.

69. All informations or complaints for the prosecution of any offence against any of the provisions of this Act, except as herein specially provided, shall be laid or made in writing before a Stipendiary Magistrate, a Police Magistrate, or a Justice of the Peace, and such prosecution may be brought for hearing and determination before a Stipendiary Magistrate, a Police Magistrate or two Justices of the Peace.

70. Any person who sells or barter liquor of any kind, or who keeps or has any liquor for the purpose of selling, bartering or trading therein, without the licence therefor by law required, shall be liable to a penalty, for the first offence, of not less than \$50 nor more than \$250, and in default of payment, not less than two months' nor more than six months' imprisonment; for a second offence, of not less than \$200 nor more than \$500, and in default of payment, not less than three months' nor more than twelve months' imprisonment; for a third or subsequent offence, of not less than \$500 nor more than \$1,000 and in default of payment, not less than nine months' nor more than two years' imprisonment.

71. If any person sells or barter liquor of any kind on a steamer while the same is at any port, or if any person sells or barter liquor of any kind on a steamer to a person who is not a passenger or one of the crew thereof, he shall be liable to a penalty of not less than \$100 nor more than \$250, and in default of payment not less than two months' nor more than six months' imprisonment.

72. Every person who shall violate any of the provisions of this Act, for which violation no penalty is herein specially provided, shall incur and pay a penalty of not less than \$50 nor more than \$100, and in default of payment, imprisonment for not less than one month nor more than four months.

73. In every case where a penalty is authorised by this Act to be inflicted the Magistrate shall have the power to order costs to be paid in addition to the amount of the penalty, and such costs, when so ordered, shall be considered part of the penalty.

74. The description of any offence under this Act in the words of the Act, or in any words of like effect, shall be sufficient in law; and any exception, exemption, provision, excuse or qualification, whether it does or does not accompany the description of the offence in this Act, may be proved by the defendant, but need not be specified or negated in the information, but if it be so specified or negated, no proof in relation to the matter so specified or negated shall be required on the part of the informant or complainant.

75. In describing the offences respecting the sale or other disposal of liquor, or the keeping or the consumption of liquor, in any information, summons, conviction, warrant or proceeding under this Act, it shall be sufficient to state the sale, disposal, keeping or consumption of liquor simply, without stating the name or kind of such liquor, or the price thereof, or the name of any person to whom it was sold or disposed of, or by whom it was consumed, and it shall not be necessary to state the quantity of liquor so sold, disposed of, kept or consumed, except in the case of offences where the quantity is essential, and then it shall be sufficient to allege the sale or disposal of more or less than such quantity as the case may require.

76. In any prosecution or proceeding under this Act, in which proof is required respecting any licence, a certificate purporting to be under the hand of the Chief Licence Inspector shall be prima facie proof of the existence of a licence, and of the identity of the person to whom the same was granted or transferred with the person prosecuted; and the production of such certificate shall be sufficient prima facie evidence of the facts therein stated of such identity and of the authority of the Chief Licence Inspector, without any proof of his appointment or signature.



in proving the sale or disposal, gratuitous or otherwise, or consumption of liquor for the purpose of any proceeding relative to any offence under this Act, it shall not be necessary to show that any money actually passed or any liquor was actually consumed if the Magistrate hearing the case be satisfied that a transaction in the nature of a sale or other disposal actually took place, or that any consumption of liquor was about to take place; and proof of consumption or intended consumption of liquor on premises in respect to which a licence is required under this Act, by some person other than the occupier of the premises, shall be evidence that such liquor was sold to the person consuming or being about to consume, or carrying away the same, as against the occupant of the said premises.

78. Any house, shop, room, or other place in which it is proved that there exist a bar, counter, beer pumps, kegs, jars, decanters, tumblers, glasses, or any other appliances or preparations similar to those usually found in hotels and shops where liquors are accustomed to be sold or trafficked in shall be deemed to be a place in which liquors are kept or had for the purpose of being sold, bartered, or traded in, in contravention of Section 66 of this Act, unless the contrary be proved by the defendant in any prosecution; and the occupant of such house, shop, room, or other place shall be taken to be the person who has or keeps therein such liquors for sale, traffic, or barter therein.

79. The occupant of any house, shop, room or other place in which any sale, barter or traffic of liquors, or any matter, act or thing in contravention of any of the provisions of this Act, has taken place, shall be personally liable to the penalty and punishment prescribed in Section 69 of this Act, notwithstanding such sale, barter or traffic be made by some other person who cannot be proved to have so acted under or by the directions of such occupant; and proof of the fact of such sale, barter or traffic, or other act, matter or thing, by any person in the employ of such occupant, or who is suffered to be or remain in or upon the premises of such occupant, or to act in any way for such occupant, shall be conclusive evidence that such sale, barter or traffic, or other act, matter or thing, took place with the authority and by the direction of such occupant.

80. (1.) In any prosecution under this Act for the sale or other disposal of liquor without the licence required by law, it shall not be necessary that any witness should depose to the precise description of the liquor sold or bartered, or the precise consideration received therefor.

(2.) The Magistrate trying a case shall, in the absence of proof to the contrary, be at liberty to infer that the liquor in question is intoxicating from the fact that a witness describes it as intoxicating or by a name which is commonly applied to an intoxicating liquor.

81. In any prosecution under this Act, whenever it appears that the defendant has done any act or been guilty of any omission in respect of which, were he not duly licensed, he would be liable to some penalty under this Act, it shall be incumbent upon the defendant to prove that he is duly licensed.

82. The production of a licence which on its face purports to be duly issued, and which, were it duly issued, would be a lawful authority to the defendant for such an act of omission, shall be prima facie evidence that the defendant is so authorised; and in all cases the signature to and upon any instrument purporting to be a valid licence shall prima facie be taken to be genuine.

83. Each Chief Licence Inspector shall report annually, on the thirty-first day of December, to the Attorney-General, and this report shall contain:

- (a.) A statement of the number and description of licences, and of the names of applicants to whom licences were granted during the year;
- (b.) The names of applicants to whom licences were not granted;
- (c.) The prosecutions for infractions of this Act, and the result of the same;
- (d.) General remarks as to the working of the law within the District;
- (e.) And also any other remarks asked for by the Attorney-General.

AND THAT

#### NEW WESTMINSTER RELIEF ACT.

The following is the text of Bill No. 6, introduced by the Hon. Minister of Finance, being an Act to amend the "New Westminster Relief Act, 1899":

Whereas it is enacted by Section 20 of the "New Westminster Relief Act, 1899," that a rebate of sixteen and two-thirds per cent. as well as the interest which would otherwise be chargeable, on taxes levied by the Municipal Corporation of the City of New Westminster in the year 1898 and previous years, should be allowed to all persons paying the said taxes on or before the 1st day of July, 1899:

And whereas many persons were pre-

vented by the losses incurred in the fire of September 10th, 1898, from taking advantage of the said enactment, and it is desirable that a further opportunity be given them:

And whereas the Council of the Corporation of the City of New Westminster has by resolution, dated the 22nd day of January, 1900, which resolution was unanimously passed, expressed a wish that such opportunity should be given:

Therefore, Her Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of British Columbia, enacts as follows:—

1. This Act may be cited as the "New Westminster Relief Act, 1899, Amendment Act, 1900."

2. Notwithstanding anything contained in the "New Westminster Act, 1888," or in any amendment thereto, or in the "Municipal Clauses Act," or in any by-law of the Corporation of the City of New Westminster, the Corporation of the City of New Westminster shall allow a rebate of sixteen and two-thirds per cent., as well as the interest which would otherwise be chargeable on said taxes, to all persons who shall pay the taxes levied in the year 1898 and previous years, on or before the 1st day of October, 1900.

#### BENNETT-ATLIN COMMISSION ACT.

The following is the text of Bill No. 39, introduced by the Hon. Attorney-General, being an Act to amend the "Bennett-Atlin Commission Act, 1899:"

1. This Act may be cited as the "Bennett-Atlin Commission Act, 1899, Amendment Act, 1900."

2. Section 2 of Chapter 52 of the Statutes of 1899, being the "Bennett-Atlin Commission Act, 1899," is hereby amended by inserting after the word "may," in the first line thereof, the words "from time to time."

3. Section 4 of said Act is hereby amended by striking out all the words in said section following the figures "134," in the eighth line thereof.







PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT

Mr. Hayward's Resolution Re Naturalisation of Mongols Carried. - Railway Act Amendments in Committee.

From Our Own Correspondent. SIXTEENTH DAY, Victoria, August 12.

The House met at 8 o'clock p. m. Mr. Helmcken presented a petition from W. E. Fisher and others, re amendments to the Game Act.

Mr. Hall, Chairman of the Committee on Printing, reported that the correspondence relating to the fishermen's strike on the Fraser River, be printed for the information of the House.

Mr. Fooley, Chairman of the Railway Committee, reported a Bill to amend the Vancouver & Lulu Island Railway Act.

FIRST READINGS.

Mr. Helmcken introduced a Bill to permit the use of voting machines in the Province of British Columbia.

Hon. Mr. Prentice introduced a Bill to incorporate the Vancouver City Hospital.

Hon. Mr. Eberts introduced a Bill to confirm the Assessment Roll of the City of Greenwood.

Mr. McPhillips introduced a Bill to amend the Law relating to costs allowed to magistrates.

These Bills were read a first time and will receive their second reading at the next sitting of the House.

NATURALISATION PRECAUTIONS.

MR. HAYWARD, seconded by MR. HELMCKEN, moved:

"Whereas, the provisions of the Naturalisation Act are believed to be constantly evaded by Chinese and Japanese; and

Whereas it is most desirable that such practices should at once be stopped;

Resolved, that it is the opinion of this House that an humble address be presented to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, respectfully requesting him to urge upon the Dominion Government the desirability of amending the provisions of the Naturalisation Act in such a manner as to compel all persons wishing to become naturalised to be identified before a judge of the Supreme or County Courts personally."

In moving this resolution, MR. HAYWARD said that there seemed to be good ground for believing that a large number of Japanese had been admitted as citizens of Canada without having shown that they were people properly qualified. The law as it stood at present was inadequate to meet such cases, and in view of the necessity for more effective regulations in that respect, he hoped the House would be favorable to the passage of this resolution.

MR. HAYWARD said that in 1882 he had introduced an amendment to the Naturalisation Act along the lines now proposed in this resolution. Although the arguments used were sufficient to make it clear to any one that it was desirable to have the Act amended in that respect, for some reason or other the Government preferred not to accept the amendment offered. He was very glad the present resolution had been introduced in this House because he was confident that had his hands, and the hands of other members from this Province been strengthened, at Ottawa, by such a resolution, the amendment he had proposed there would have passed that House.

MR. MARTIN remarked that he had in the past opposed a number of resolutions that had come into the House dealing with matters that were beyond its jurisdiction. He still took the same view he had expressed before with regard to that question. One resolution of that nature had already passed the House this session, and he had not objected to it. Nor did he intend to object to this one because he considered that this was a matter upon which they had certain powers and a good deal of jurisdiction. Unfortunately, the Dominion Parliament also had jurisdiction, and there were certain phases of this question that they were not able to reach in this House. He saw no objection, under these circumstances in this House in letting the Dominion Government and Parliament know what their views were with regard to a matter of this kind, where it desired really to supplement its own legislation, with legislation that it had to ask from the Dominion because it was beyond the powers of this House. That was not the kind of resolution to which he objected. The kind of resolution to which he objected was one which took up in this House a disputed question of general policy, which was discussed at Ottawa, and upon which parties divided themselves, for them, as a House to undertake to express opinion with regard to what should be done by the Dominion Parliament in a matter that was conclusively within Dominion jurisdiction was altogether ultra vires. That was a proposition that he still adhered to, and he thought it would be a great waste of time of this House if resolutions such as those he had objected to in the past were continued to be brought into this House, over which it could not hope to have any jurisdiction whatsoever, and which it could not hope that its views would make any impression at all upon the two parties at Ottawa. He might point out however, that they were assuming something here which had never been provided to the House. That was, the resolution said: "Whereas the provisions of the Naturalisation Act are believed to be constantly evaded by Chinese and Japanese, etc." Now, they did not know as a matter of fact whether that statement was true or not. In fact, it did not put it very strongly. It simply

said it was believed, and did not say by whom. Personally he was under the impression that the statement was true, although he could not attempt to prove it in any way. If those provisions were evaded it meant that there was perjury on the part of somebody. The Dominion Act, if adhered to, and if its provisions were carried out, fully protected them in that regard. He would point out that the local Government was not without its responsibility in this matter. If the hon. gentleman was correct in saying that the Japanese and Chinese deliberately committed fraud on the country in obtaining naturalisation papers, the Government should follow up every such case, and a person guilty of perjury should be prosecuted to the fullest extent. It seemed to him, now that the attention of the Government had been very prominently called to this question, that it would be well to have on if some of their officials were to be instructed to look into the matter, and satisfy themselves whether these frauds were being practised on any large scale, and if necessary go to some considerable expense in order that an example might be made of any persons found guilty in that connection. That was something which was absolutely within their jurisdiction. While he did not object to the hon. gentleman calling the attention of the Dominion Government to this matter, he considered it was still more incumbent upon members of this House to press this local Government into a full sense of its responsibility in the matter.

HON. MR. EBERTS said he was not opposed to this resolution, although he foresaw that some injustice might be worked, if carried into execution by the Dominion authorities, upon some of these people coming into our country, who desired to become naturalised. Along the Coast, for instance, on the Stikine River, or in Allyn country, Japanese or Chinamen residing there, would not be able to become naturalised unless they came down before a judge of the Supreme or County Court, of which there was no permanent representative in that part of the Province, and where heretofore no judge had visited officially. It might be possible therefore that any of these people living in those parts would have to make a long and expensive journey to reach a place where a judge was located. As to the remarks of the Hon. Leader of the Opposition, he agreed that it was the duty of the Attorney-General's Department to prosecute any cases of fraud, where aliens went before the courts and made affidavit to the effect that they had lived a certain time in the country and had not done so. He might say that he had given instructions with reference to that already. In reply to a question asked the other day as to what would be done where a number of aliens had made application to be naturalised before the proper time, he had replied that it was the intention of the Attorney-General's Department to go into the matter very thoroughly, and if any of such applicants had made false affidavits they were to be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.

MR. CURTIS was very glad to hear the assurances that had fallen from the lips of the Attorney-General with regard to this matter. From newspaper reports he gathered that a number of applications for naturalisation by Chinese and Japanese had been made away up in Chilliwack, and according to the reports in many of these cases, the applicants did not understand the words read to them at all. He thought that in the investigation to be carried on by the Department of the Attorney-General special attention should be paid to that fact and that the Justices of the Peace who had certified in these cases should be very closely examined as to whether the individuals who came before them clearly understood what they were swearing to or if a number of Justices of the Peace were lending themselves to these fraudulent naturalisation schemes.

HON. MR. MCBRIDE: "I do not allow these remarks to pass unheeded. It seems to be insinuated by you, has been said, that a number of Justices of the Peace around Chilliwack had been lending themselves to securing fraudulent naturalisation."

MR. CURTIS said that while the applications were made before these Justices of the Peace, they might, perhaps have been sworn to and signed by a Judge elsewhere, say in Allyn.

HON. MR. MCBRIDE remarked that that would, of course, alter the statement somewhat. He personally knew several Justices of the Peace up there, and he felt sure that they would not lend themselves to anything of that kind. He was pleased to see that the Hon. Leader of the Opposition had somewhat climbed down from the position which he had taken in this House for two sessions at least regarding matters of this kind. When he (Hon. Mr. McBride) had brought forward a resolution dealing with the Fisheries in the Province he had received a severe castigation from his hon. friend, although it appeared to him that it would have done just as far toward remedying the evil complained of here, as the resolution which the hon. gentleman was supporting at the present moment. He ventured to think that the soothing influence of the hon. member for North Nanaimo had had something to do with the change of front in his hon. friend. With reference to the resolution, he thought that what the Hon. Attorney-General said would be seriously thought of. That was in the case of persons residing some distance from the courts it might possibly work hardship upon them. For instance, a man might have to travel from Stikine to Victoria to be naturalised, a long journey, and an expensive one. No matter where a Justice of the Peace was a man could go before him and make affidavit, but he must have that submitted before he became naturalised. Perhaps that was a phase of the question the might study before passing

MR. MCPHILLIPS, Hon. Leader of the Opposition, cancelled the motion which would have been carried by a majority of the members of the House. He was confident that the Government would not have the courage to carry it. He thought it was a very serious matter, and he thought it was a very serious matter. He thought it was a very serious matter. He thought it was a very serious matter.

character of the motion. He thought it was a very serious matter. He thought it was a very serious matter. He thought it was a very serious matter. He thought it was a very serious matter.

MR. MARTIN rose to a point of order. He had no objection to the motion being carried. He thought it was a very serious matter. He thought it was a very serious matter. He thought it was a very serious matter. He thought it was a very serious matter.

MR. SPEAKER held the motion. He thought it was a very serious matter. He thought it was a very serious matter. He thought it was a very serious matter. He thought it was a very serious matter.

MR. CURTIS said that the motion was a very serious matter. He thought it was a very serious matter. He thought it was a very serious matter. He thought it was a very serious matter.

MR. MCBRIDE said that the motion was a very serious matter. He thought it was a very serious matter. He thought it was a very serious matter. He thought it was a very serious matter.

MR. CURTIS said that the motion was a very serious matter. He thought it was a very serious matter. He thought it was a very serious matter. He thought it was a very serious matter.

MR. MCBRIDE said that the motion was a very serious matter. He thought it was a very serious matter. He thought it was a very serious matter. He thought it was a very serious matter.

The motion was then carried. He thought it was a very serious matter. He thought it was a very serious matter. He thought it was a very serious matter. He thought it was a very serious matter.







SUCCESSION DUTY BILL.

The following is the text of Bill No. 33, introduced by the Hon. Attorney-General, being an Act respecting Succession Duties.

1. This Act may be cited as the "Succession Duty Act Amendment Act, 1900."

2. Any sum payable under the "Succession Duty Act" (Chapter 175 of the Revised Statutes, 1897), shall be recoverable with full costs of suit as a debt due to Her Majesty from any

person liable therefor by action in the Supreme Court of British Columbia, and it shall not in any case be necessary to take the proceedings authorized by sections 4 to 10 of the said Act.

3. The Supreme Court shall also have jurisdiction to determine what property is liable to duty under the said Act, the amount thereof and the time or times when the same is payable, and may itself or through any referee exercise any of the powers which by the said sections 4 to 10 are conferred upon any officer or person.

4. Subject to the direction of the Court as to costs, an action may be brought for any of the purposes in this Act mentioned, notwithstanding the time for the payment of the duty has not arrived.

5. In every such action Her Majesty's Attorney-General shall have the same right either before or after the trial to require the production of documents, to examine parties or witnesses or to take such other proceedings in aid of the action as a plaintiff has or may take in an ordinary action.

6. Where for the better determining any question raised in any such action the Court deems it advisable to order the trial of an issue or issues, it may give such directions in that behalf as it deems expedient.

7. In case the Court shall think fit at any time to direct a reference, such reference may be to an officer of the Court as provided by the Supreme Court Rules, or to any other person.

8. An appeal shall lie in an action brought under this Act wherever an appeal would lie if the action were between subject and subject, and to the like tribunal.

9. Where any property which has, previous to the death of a person whose estate is subject to duty, been conveyed or transferred to some other person is declared liable to duty, the Court may declare the duty to be a lien upon the property and may make such declaration, although the amount of such duty has not been ascertained, and where any property which, had it remained in the hands of the person to whom or for whose benefit it was conveyed or transferred by such deceased person, would have been liable to duty, has been conveyed or transferred to any purchaser for valuable consideration, the Court may direct the person to whom or for whose benefit the said property was conveyed or transferred by such deceased person as aforesaid to pay the amount of the duty to which such property would have been subject as aforesaid.

10. Where it is claimed that any land or money secured by any mortgage or charge upon land is subject to duty, the Minister of Finance, or the solicitor acting in his behalf, may, when deemed necessary, cause to be registered in the proper registry office, or if the land is registered under the "Torrens Registry Act, 1897" in the proper office of land titles, a caution stating that succession duty is claimed by the Minister of Finance in respect of the said land, mortgage or charge on account of the death of the deceased, naming him, and any subsequent dealings with such land, mortgage or charge shall be subject to the lien for such duty, but nothing herein contained shall affect the right of the Crown to claim a lien independent of the said caution.

11. The preceding sections shall apply to the estate of all persons in respect of which duty is claimed, whether such persons have died before or after the passing of this Act.

12. Section 1 of the "Succession Duty Act" amended by Section 2 of Chapter 175 of the Statutes of 1897, is hereby amended by inserting the following as Sub-section (1) of Sub-section

standing in the case of a deceased person, or in trust for him, which are liable to pay succession duty, shall such duty be paid to the Minister of Finance, or to the person authorized by Section 1 of the said Act, and any corporate body or trustee of any stocks or shares, or any other duty payable in respect of such duty shall be deemed to be the duty payable in respect of such duty.

16. The provisions herein provided shall be in addition to those provided by the "Succession Duty Act."

17. Section 1 of the "Succession Duty Act" is hereby amended by striking out therefrom the words "by the Registrar of the Court" and inserting therefor, "to be approved by the Minister of Finance."







FRIDAY.....August 17, 1900

PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT

Lake Bennett Railway Bill Thrown Out.—Mr. McInnes on Monopolies and Dunsmuirism.—Mineral Act Amendments.

From Our Own Correspondent.

EIGHTEENTH DAY.

Victoria, August 15.

The House met at 2 o'clock p. m. Mr. A. W. Smith, Chairman of the Mining Committee, submitted the following amendments to the "Mineral Act":

Section 8, "Mineral Act": "Every person who mines for any minerals for his own sole use and benefit on any Crown lands in the Province of British Columbia without having taken out and obtained a Free Miner's Certificate shall, on conviction thereof in a summary way, forfeit and pay a penalty not exceeding \$25, besides costs."

Section 25B be repealed and the following substituted therefor:

"25B. Upon the failure of any one of several co-owners to contribute his proportion of the expenditure required by Section 24 of this Act, the co-owner or co-owners who have performed the labor or made the expenditure may, at the expiration of the year, give such delinquent co-owner notice by publication in a newspaper published and circulating in the division in which the claim is situated, or, in the absence of such local paper, in the one nearest thereto, for at least once a week for 90 days, and if, at the expiration of the 90 days of publication such delinquent should fail or refuse to contribute his proportion of the expenditure required by said Section 24, together with all costs of advertising, his interest in the claim shall become vested in his co-owners who have made the required expenditure, pro rata, according to their former interests, on the filing with the Mining Recorder of the division in which the claim is situated such notice in full, and there shall be attached thereto an affidavit of the publisher or publisher of the newspaper in which the notice was printed, stating the date of first, last and each insertion of such notice therein, and where and when the newspaper was published during the time, and the name of such newspaper. Such notice shall be recorded as aforesaid within 120 days after the first publication thereof."

Section 127 be repealed and the following substituted therefor:

"127. The owner of a mineral claim who has had his claim surveyed, and has filed in the office of the Mining Recorder in the Mining Division in which the claim is situated a declaration by a Provincial Land Surveyor stating that he has surveyed the claim as required by Sub-section (c) of Section 36 of this Act, and has delivered two copies of the plat of the claim, and a copy of the original field-notes, and delivered two copies of the plat and one copy of the field-notes to the owner, then the owner of such claim shall be entitled to have the cost of such survey, but to exceed \$100, counted as work done on the claim, as required by Section 24 of this Act."

Sub-section (h) of Section 36 of Chapter 125 of the Revised Statutes, 1897, is hereby repealed, and the following inserted in lieu thereof:

"(h) Twenty days after the expiration of the term of the said publication, unless a notice that an action has been commenced and a copy of the writ in such action have been filed in the office of the Mining Recorder in the Mining Division in which the claim is situated, the Mining Recorder shall forward to the owner or agent, under Form I of the schedule to this Act, the documents referred to above, together with a certificate that the notice provided by Section 36, Sub-section (d), has been posted in his office, and the field-notes and plat deposited for reference, therein from the date of the first appearance of the said notice in the "British Columbia Gazette," and continuously thereupon for a period of at least 60 days. The recorder shall also set out in Form I the name of the registered owner of the claim at the date of signing the same." The report was received.

RURAL RAILWAYS.

MR. FOSBERT, Chairman of the Railway Committee, presented the following report: "Your Railway Committee on Railways have leave to report as follows:

The preamble of Bill (No. 16) intituled "An Act to incorporate the Lake Bennett Railway," on the grounds that the necessity of the said railway has not been satisfactorily shown, and that it is against the interests of this Province to grant a charter prayed for at the said time."

Upon the motion that the report be received.

MR. STABLES rose and moved in amendments proposed by MR. MCINNES. The amendments after "that" be struck out, and the following substituted: "The Bill be not received, but be referred to the Railway Committee, with instructions to pass the preamble."

MR. STABLES said that he did this on behalf of his constituents. The people of this district were unanimous in the wish that that country opened up by further railway construction, and he thought it was just and fair that the matter should be fully discussed, and that good and sufficient cause should be shown why the preamble of this Bill should not pass. There was no doubt that the people of that district paid exorbitant railway rates at the present time, and in their behalf he asked that the Bill be referred back to the Committee.

HON. MR. TURNER said he thought it was known to the House that the policy of the Government in connection with railways had been defined by the statement that it objected to any railway charter which would have a terminus in foreign territory. It was opposed to this in the belief that to encourage such lines would have the effect of preventing the construction of an all-Canadian route. And it was felt that the energies of this Province should be devoted to securing such a road. He thought it had already been stated in the Railway Committee that it was the policy of the Government to discourage any railway, which would carry the trade of a part of Canada to an American port, where regulations were in effect to the disadvantage of Canada, and which regulations might be increased to the detriment of the merchants of British Columbia and the trade interests of the Province. He felt sure that, though such a railway might for a time apparently prove beneficial, it would in the long run operate adversely to the interests of the Province and the Dominion at large, and it would have the effect at any rate, of retarding the progress of railways which would have their terminus in British Columbia in connection with those important districts to which reference had been made. As to the question of exorbitant charges which the hon. gentleman had alluded to, by the railway at present operating in that country, he knew something about that, although not interested in the road in any way. There was this fact to be considered however, if a proposition had been made to the merchants of Victoria and Vancouver and the people of the Province generally, to the effect that that road could have only been built, with assistance from the public coffers, the people would have been willing to grant very strong concessions, rather than be without the railway, even at the rates

charged to-day. There was no question about that. As to the rates being exorbitant, he believed if this were really so, and representations were made to the proper quarter, they might receive consideration, but he felt that a company that had had the enterprise to construct a road through that country, at a large expenditure of money, should not have the rewards of its enterprise aken away from it. He would like to see it make money. He thought if that feeling were more generally exhibited there it would be calculated to encourage other enterprises of a like nature. He thought the policy of the Government was more in relation to the fact that it should not encourage the building up of a foreign port to the detriment of the Province of British Columbia. He knew that was the policy which the Premier had announced, and he was very strong on that question.

MR. MCINNES observed that the Hon. Minister of Finance had just informed the House that the Premier had announced a policy on this subject, and that certain statements had been made in the Railway Committee indicating that policy. So far as he was aware, and he was a member of the Railway Committee, he had not heard any statement of policy from the Premier either directly or indirectly, made there. As to the question before them he thought they would all agree that it was a very serious matter to refuse the right to any persons to engage in such an enterprise in this Province, and he thought it was far more serious in view of the circumstances surrounding this case, in which an attempt had been made to smother that enterprise in a corner of the Parliament Buildings. What were the circumstances? At the present time there was but one railway over the passes into the Yukon and Athlun districts. The whole of that great country was contributing to that railway, and the result was, that being in a position to monopolise the whole of that trade, they were able to charge excessive rates, and that they did charge excessively there was not the shadow of a doubt. The ordinary rate he believed was \$60 per ton. Now they knew as a matter of fact that freight could be brought from Montreal to Victoria, a distance of about 3,000 miles, for \$14 per ton. Yet this railway, the White Pass Company, which was attacking the application before the House, was charging \$60 per ton for carrying freight 41 miles. It was therefore clearly shown that the rates were not only excessive, but out of all reason. It had been shown in the Railway Committee, he thought to the satisfaction of every one present, that the White Pass Company had a decided tendency to monopolise every means of transportation into that country. There was a little foot-trail there, called Brackett's Trail. The Company immediately purchased it. There was another means of transportation by an air line, the Dyea Tramway, over the Chilkoot Pass. The Company also purchased that. The result was that at the present time there was little, if any, competition in the Athlun District, and so far as the Klondike was concerned, the only possible competition was the round-about means via St. Michael and the Yukon River, which in the nature of things was a very unsatisfactory competition with the White Pass Railway. Under these circumstances, the present applicant, the Lake Bennett Company, came before the House and asked for a charter for the purpose of building a new railway over the Chilkoot Pass so as to give relief to the people of the Athlun District against the present excessive freight charges. It would naturally be thought that there should be no opposition to such an application. More especially in view of the well understood proposition drilled into them above everything else, that it was necessary for Parliament to do everything possible to encourage the investment of capital and the building of railways in this Province. Yet strange to say the very members who had spoken most loudly along those lines had been the first and foremost in the present instance to defeat this application and to prevent people from investing in railways in the Province. It was but fair to say, however, that they had not held these opinions always. There was a time when they believed it was a good thing to have competition to this White Pass Railway. In fact during the early stages of the consideration of this Bill in the Railway Committee, they entertained those views. But, at the conclusion of one of the sittings in that Committee

nes that it was to what took p MR. MCINNES not right to mi fore the Comn House, but tha made.

MR. SPEAKE al references an MR. MCINNES up to a certain bers of that Co of granting th suddenly upon sterious misly those gentlemen their attitude a they were prep fore.

MR. SPEAKE particulars sho MR. MCINNES the reason of th It was becaus outlined a polic declared that it be granted. N ed that the Go this House had its policy. Th lately upon a g the Governmen frained from c with regard to it put up a cot in this House which it did no responsibility f all these other with the policy to the present mired its disc be doubted that mulated upon which was mor to the best in than the policy Finance Minist not a new polic this House. T merce-olists w prevent relief t bitant charges exactly in tun which this cou was the policy Turner Govern policy that ha Dunsmuirism f for years past, which they ha country to-day the Governmen was the reaso for not grant only statement vered a reaso some way ret the all-Canadi any immediat struction of an argument migh he submitted t no prospect, if diate and re all-Canadian r British Columi dian route at Kitimaat Arm Lake would be in the nature, pete with a lin Consequently, impossible to to put their ntion of such a with the exist The result wa a railway cou have to "see from this Gov ment at Ottav spect of such, so far as this it was possib grant a subat \$4,000 per mil outside limit. sldy for the Canadian gov Dominion Go to grant some then that roa Now was the sense who wo minion Govern sldy of \$10,00 construction



ness that it was not permissible to refer to what took place in Committee.

MR. McINNIS agreed that it was not right to make such allusions, before the Committee reported to the House, but that report had now been made.

MR. SPEAKER insisted that personal references should be excluded.

MR. McINNIS continued saying that up to a certain stage some hon. members of that Committee were in favor of granting this application, and then suddenly upon the production of a mysterious missive from the Premier, those gentlemen faced right about in their attitude and opposed that which they were prepared to support just before.

MR. SPEAKER suggested that no particulars should be given.

MR. McINNIS proceeded to ask what the reason of this change of front was. It was because the Government had outlined a policy upon the question and declared that the application could not be granted. Now he was not surprised that the Government heretofore in this House had not seen fit to declare its policy. They had had discussions lately upon a great many subjects, and the Government had persistently refrained from expressing any opinion with regard to them. Instead of that it put up a couple of pliable members in this House to make statements which it did not itself like to take the responsibility for. If its policy upon all these other matters was in line with the policy enunciated with regard to the present question, he rather admired its discretion, for it could not be doubted that no policy could be formulated upon that particular subject which was more diametrically opposed to the best interests of this country than the policy just announced by the Finance Minister. But that policy was not a new policy in this country nor in this House. The policy of standing by monopolists whenever they insisted, to prevent relief to the public from exorbitant charges of railways; that was exactly in tune with the policy with which this country was familiar. That was the policy which dominated the Turner Government. That was the policy that had been associated with Dunsmuirism throughout this country for years past, and that was the policy which they had much in view in this country to-day, conceal it as much as the Government wished to. Now what was the reason the Government had for not granting this charter? The only statement which in any way conveyed a reason was that it might in some way retard the construction of the all-Canadian route. If there was any immediate prospect of the construction of an all-Canadian route that argument might have some weight, but he submitted that there was absolutely no prospect, in the sense of an immediate and reasonable prospect, of an all-Canadian route being built through British Columbia, because an all-Canadian route starting on the Coast at Kitimaat Arm, and following Teslin Lake would be some 450 miles long and in the nature of things could not compete with a line only 41 miles in length. Consequently, it would be absolutely impossible to find business men ready to put their money into the construction of such a railroad, in competition with the existing White Pass Railway. The result would be that before such a railway could be constructed it would have to receive a subsidy from the Government and the Government at Ottawa. What was the prospect of such subsidies being granted so far as this Province was concerned? It was possible that the House would grant a subsidy to the extent say of \$4,000 per mile. That would be outside limit. But the bulk of the subsidy for the construction of an all-Canadian route must come from the Dominion Government, and unless the Dominion Government was prepared to grant something like \$10,000 per mile then that road would never be built. Now was there any man of common sense who would believe that the Dominion Government would grant a subsidy of \$10,000 per mile towards the construction of that line? Certainly

no one who had any knowledge of the feeling of the Government at Ottawa, and of the members of the Ottawa House, would contemplate for one moment that that Parliament would be disposed to grant such a subsidy as \$10,000 towards the construction of an all-Canadian route into that country. He therefore saw no immediate prospect of such a road. There was another reason why the authorities at Ottawa would not be prepared immediately at all events, to outlay money in connection with the construction of an all-Canadian route, and that was that such a course would destroy their chances of success in the arbitration between Canada and the United States, with regard to the boundary question; and for this reason. The contention of Canada and Great Britain was that these very ports of Dyea and Skagway were within British territory. If they were to go to work and largely subsidize a road altogether through Canadian territory, as at present defined, it would certainly appear very much as if they gave up all hope of acquiring Skagway or Dyea. Consequently, until it was absolutely determined that Dyea and Skagway were not within British territory, the Dominion Government was not going to subsidize a line which the settlement of that question might alter the complexion of. For that reason, if for no other, the Dominion Government would not be disposed to deal with that question for years to come. There was another point in connection with this question. It was that this proposed line was not contemplated, according to the bill before them, to cross the boundary at all. It was entirely within British Columbia, beginning and ending in the Province. It was a Provincial matter altogether, and that being so it could not in any way involve the question of the settlement of the boundary between Great Britain and the United States, and did not involve in any sense the question of what the policy of the Dominion Government was with regard to this matter. But, he contended, that this excuse which the Government offered for opposing the present Bill—that it would interfere with an all-Canadian route—this show of patriotism as a reason for perpetrating injustice, was really a pretext. It was not so much because it desired an all-Canadian route, not so much that it possessed the quality of patriotism, that actually the Government. The Government's desire to crush this railway was rather in the hope that an all-Canadian route might be started, engineered or negotiated by

particular favorites of the Government. They had seen things like that before in this country. So far as this present charter was concerned, and the attitude of the Government upon it, there were evidences already maturing in this Province which showed that favorites were already at work to get a subsidy from this Government. Not only that, but there was another circumstance which showed that possibly the Government had a disposition to be rather favorable to the White Pass Railway, in this instance, and that reason was found in the fact that up to a very short time ago the Premier himself held a prominent position in connection with this White Pass Railway Company. While it might be true—probably was true—that he had eliminated all his interest in that Company, it stood to reason that he could not eliminate so suddenly all his sympathy and interest in that work. Consequently it was apparent to every one that that sympathy must still exist. He (Mr. McInnes) thought that the Hon. Minister of Finance gave another reason why the Province personally should be very anxious to throw out this charter. He had given them to understand that, possibly as a substitute for this road, the day might come when the Squimilt & Nanaimo Line, along Vancouver Island, would be extended up the north end of the Island, so that by means of a connection with this line to Kitimaat into the Teslin Lake, there would be a straight line of communication all the way up, right into Dawson. If anything like that would mature, it showed again that inasmuch as it would directly benefit the Premier, it must of necessity lead to his being partial to the consideration of that scheme, and would consequently militate against the application for this charter. Why should they refuse these people who were coming here, asking for no subsidy, no bonus of any kind, no special privileges from this House? Why should they refuse them

within this Province? And particularly when it had been pointed out that it would be a relief to the people of the North districts, who at present were being undoubtedly squeezed by a monopolistic railway which controlled the whole country? He held that, in view of all the circumstances enumerated, it was the duty of the House to grant the application, and he therefore heartily supported the motion to refer the Bill back to Committee to have the preamble passed and the construction of the line authorized.

MR. CURTIS said he was surprised that they had not heard something more about throwing out this Bill on the other side of the House. He had expected, after the lucid statement of the hon. member for Nanaimo, and the cogent reasons offered by him why this Bill should be sent back to Committee, that some answer would be given by gentlemen opposite. The procedure with regard to this Bill and the manner in which it had been treated since its inception, did not seem to him to be fair or right. The Committee had for some days sought to consider the Bill clause by clause, and at the final end, when the question of whether it was to be reported or not came up intimation was given that it was the policy of the Government, as put forward there to-day by the Minister of Finance, to oppose any such Bill. That meant a very great waste of time, not only in the House, but in the Committee, and he took very great exception to that sort of procedure. But it was in Committee, as it was in the House. It was a matter of great difficulty to get the Government to announce any policy until the last moment. As to the present Bill, he thought the greatest possible weight should be given to the representation by members from the district where the railway would operate. The junior member for Cassiar had stated that the charter should be granted, and they had it from the senior member for Cassiar in another place, if not here, that his opinion was in the same direction, and he hoped the matter would not be disposed of until the House heard from the hon. senior member for Cassiar on that point. Mr. Curtis proceeded to enter a strong plea for the proposed railway, following pretty much the line of argument taken by Mr. McInnes. The construction of such railways meant the development of the mineral resources of the Province and incidentally an increased revenue for the Government. Referring to the point as to the reasons for competition alluded to by Mr. Turner, in which he suggested that the White Pass Company had ventured much and deserved reward, Mr. Curtis drew from that and other things that the Government should be satisfied in its present position. He suggested that the Company should be allowed to proceed to the next stage and complete its report to the shareholders. He stated that the shareholders had been asked to contribute on a monthly basis of \$100,000, and were stated to be \$170,000; that the working expenses for the past period amounted to 40 per cent., and that the net profits reached half a million of dollars. It was shown that the cost of that road 6 miles long, was in the neighborhood of \$10,000 per mile, a little less than \$50,000 per mile, and that the net profits for four months were sufficient to pay 35 per cent. dividends on actual cost of the road. The profits for a year at that rate would be 75 per cent., which meant that the road, according to returns for four months, was returning three-quarters of the cost in one year. He thought this showed that no argument that the road needed nursing should influence the House in preventing another road from entering into competition. Speaking of the Government's method of announcing policies, the speaker declared that they did not appear to have any policy. The only expressions which might be termed policies got from the Government were squeezed out at the last moment, as if they had difficulty in making up their minds to anything. In this connection he suggested that the "Colonist" newspaper seemed to be ahead of the Government so far at least as the House had advice in the matter. The House had had no announcement as to the policy in regard to the matter except that the Government was opposed to this charter. Yet the "Colonist" that morning contained a statement—which he presumed from the association of Government members with that paper, might be taken for something—that it, the "Colonist," felt satisfied in assuming that Premier



...the formation of a plan whereby the northern portion of British Columbia would be developed, etc., etc." He (Mr. Curtis) thought that the Government had any policy as suggested in that organ, that the present was the proper time to announce it, or inform the House whether there was anything in the statement.

HON. MR. EBERTS interpolated that the Government might be asked to get up every day and answer in regard to newspaper reports.

MR. CURTIS said that of course the Government was not bound to answer. Judging by the past, he ventured to think it would not inform the House. There was another matter he wished to refer to, as affecting his constituency. He understood the Hon. Minister of Finance to announce the policy of the Government with regard to railways which connected with American territory as being directly against them.

HON. MR. TURNER: "I said American parts."

MR. GILMOUR: "I took the words down. You said foreign territory."

HON. MR. TURNER said it was perfectly true that he mentioned foreign territory, but he then said ports in foreign territory. He thought the hon. gentleman should have taken that down also.

MR. CURTIS thought the Hon. Minister of Finance was trying to get out of a difficulty.

HON. MR. TURNER did not see any difficulty. Did the hon. gentleman dispute his statement that he said ports in foreign territory?

MR. CURTIS was willing to admit that such a qualification may have been used, but he understood the hon. gentleman to say that. In any case he would like to hear something more explicit from members of the Government with regard to their general railway policy, touching the International boundary line and in regard to competition generally. A great deal had been said about getting capital into this country, and surely the prevention of railway charters did not seem to conform to such a desire on the part of the Government. Mr. Curtis concluded by saying that he would support the motion that the Bill be referred back to Committee, with instructions to pass the preamble and report as this House.

MR. SPEAKER drew attention to the wording of the motion. It called upon the Committee to do a certain thing, and was therefore out of order. He pointed out that the proper motion would be to refer the Bill back for reconsideration.

MR. STABLES thereupon withdrew his motion, and

MR. McINNES moved in amendment, seconded by MR. STABLES:

"That the report be not now received, but that it be referred back to the Railway Committee for reconsideration."

Lengthy speeches ensued upon the amendment, during which questions of order cropped up here and there and evoked numerous sub-discussions. For instance,

MR. McINNES referring to the action of the Committee in refusing to pass the preamble of the Bill, said that no reasons had been offered there for the course taken with the exception of the bald fact that the Chairman had received a communication from the Premier that the Government did not wish it to pass.

MR. McPHILLIPS here raised the point of order that the proceedings of the Committee were not open for discussion in the House, that a member should not publish the evidence laid before a Committee before the report had been made, and

MR. MARTIN took the ground that the report had been made and that so far as the evidence was concerned, none had been taken and that it could not, therefore, be reported at all.

During the cross-firing which ensued upon the question of order, and following the point touched upon by Mr. Martin, that no record had been made of the Committee's proceedings,

MR. ROGERS asked if he might strain the point of order, if there was any against him, to state the reasons for his vote in Committee. His reason for opposing the application before the House, in Committee, was that there was another application before the Committee, asking for a charter for an all-Canadian route which would meet the needs of the country just as well as this. He therefore voted with a view of giving preference to the all-Canadian route.

MR. McINNES said that these might be the reasons for Mr. Rogers' vote, but they were certainly not the reasons which had influenced the Committee.

MR. GILMOUR referring to the question of an all-Canadian route as an influence on the opinion of members, pointed out that the officials of the White Pass Railway Company were all American citizens, whereas the promoters of the Company now seeking a charter were all Canadians and they

were asking to build a road through Canadian territory.

MR. MARTIN said that a year ago when this Bill was introduced and was reported favorably by the Railway Committee, he was the only one in the House to take the point that it was not advisable for this Legislature to pass charters of that kind, for the reason that the boundary negotiations were going on between Canada and the United States, and the interests of British Columbia were absolutely in the hands of the Dominion Government. The latter was their agent so to speak—though unfortunately they had no control over it—and it was most important that those boundary negotiations should have a successful issue. At that time it had been announced by the Ottawa Government that it would not charter any railway running to a port on the Lynn Canal, and this railway intended to do that, having so stated before the Committee. He had therefore opposed the Bill on the ground that the granting of such a charter might unfavorably affect the Canadian case before the High Commission. He was told that this Bill was now being opposed for reasons similar to those given by him last session. If that were so, he was prepared to support that proposition, as he had not changed his views, but he thought they were entitled to know really why the Bill was thrown out. The report from the Committee gave no indication of the reason, and he claimed that it should be a clear and definite one. It was a serious matter and certainly opposed to his ideas of what the House should do, to throw out any railway charter in that way. He understood that the action of the Committee was dictated by a Government communication. He did not say that was improper, but it evidenced the absurdity of the arrangement followed in this Province, whereby no members of the Government were represented on those important committees. Now, if the Government had come to the conclusion that the arguments put forward by him last session were sound, and it was its duty in the first place to have had a member on that Committee to explain the matter at once. The Committee would have been able to carry a report at that time and the matter could have been put to the House with a great saving of time. All this debate had arisen from the fact that while those were the facts the Government did not seem to have the nerve to get up and say so. While he was prepared for the reasons he had stated to support the Government in its present policy, the Government had no right to ask members of this House to support them unless they could so vote because of reasons which really actuated them. In addition, he added that it was utterly impossible for him to vote for the reception of the report of the Committee for the reasons he had mentioned. The report was not the report of the Committee. The hon. Chairman of the Committee (Mr. Pooley) would agree with him that the reasons for throwing out this Bill were never submitted to the Railway Committee; and the reasons put in the report were apparently put in by himself. Certainly the members of the Committee were not consulted with regard to them. For that reason he (Mr. Martin) thought it important that the Bill should go back to the Committee in order that it might bring in a report which would state clearly and definitely why the Bill had been thrown out.

MR. OLIVER announced his intention to vote for the motion to send the Bill back to Committee, supporting his position in a brief speech. He favored the Bill.

MR. POOLEY (Chairman of the Committee) offered a few remarks in view of the exception taken to the report of the Committee. He contended that the report did fully express the reasons of those who opposed the Bill. He had not given the reasons of those who voted for the preamble, and he did not presume to do so. He was representing the Committee and was not supposed to present the views of those gentlemen.

Some further discussion followed, taken part in by MR. CURTIS, MR. HUNTER, MR. BROWN, MR. McINNES; and others. MR. BROWN said that he had voted for the throwing out of the Bill, practically on the same grounds outlined by Mr. Martin.

The vote was then taken, when the motion of amendment to recommit the Bill was defeated, names appearing as follows:

For the amendment: Messrs. McInnes, Gilmour, Stables, Smith, E. C. Oliver, Brown, Martin, Curtis, Munro, Smith, R.—10.

Against the amendment: Messrs. Kidd, Neill, Green, McPhillips, Helmcken, Turner, Dunsmuir, Eberts, Smith, A. W. Ellison, Clifford, Fulton, Hayward, Garden, Prentice, Wells, McBride, Pooley, Murphy, Rogers, Hunter, Taylor, Dickie, Mounce—24.

The report of the Committee was passed.

#### BILLS ADVANCED.

Mr. Pooley reported from the Railway Committee an Act to incorporate the Pacific Northern & Omineca Railway Company.

Hon. Mr. Wells introduced a Bill to authorize a grant to the City of Vancouver of certain Crown lands, situate in said city. The Bill was read a first time and will be read a second time on Monday next.

Hon. Mr. McBride introduced a Bill as to mining claims in the Porcupine District of the Bennett Lake Mining Division, which was advanced a stage.

#### THE EIGHT-HOUR LAW.

MR. CURTIS rose to move the following resolution:

"Resolved, That this House endorses and affirms what is popularly known as the Eight-Hour Law, which provides that 'No person shall be employed underground in any metalliferous mine for more than eight hours in every twenty-four hours, and is opposed to any change in said Law whereby contracting out of same may be permitted, or by which the penalties for infractions of the Law shall be abrogated or suspended, but favors the enforcement of the Law as it now stands in its entirety and without any change.'"

He delivered an able speech in defence of the Eight-Hour Law, showing that the application of the Law had been most satisfactory to the employers and employees in the mines, and urged that any disturbance of that Law would be met with strong disapproval in the country.

HON. MR. McBRIDE announced that there was no intention on the part of the Government to interfere with the Eight-Hour Law, and was confirmed by an interpolation of

HON. MR. EBERTS, that the Government did not even intend to enquire into it.

MR. HAYWARD moved to give the resolution the six months' hoist, but was balked by the faulty construction of his motion, which he subsequently withdrew.

MR. McINNES moved that the question be now put, in order to induce a vote on the same. The motion was promptly voted down.

At this stage, it being just 6 o'clock, MR. MARTIN took the floor and moved the adjournment of the debate. The debate was adjourned and the House rose, to sit again at 2 o'clock tomorrow.

#### NOTICES OF MOTION.

Mr. Stables will move on Friday next, that Bill (No. 15) intitled "An Act to incorporate the Lake Bennett Railway Company" be placed upon the Orders of the Day for second reading.

Mr. McInnes will move, in Committee of the Whole on the Third Reading of Bill (No. 24) intitled "An Act to incorporate the Pacific, Northern and Omineca Railway Company," that the following words be inserted as a new clause:—"No person who is unable to read this Act and the 'British Columbia Railway Act' shall be employed in the construction or operation of the railway hereby authorized, under

a penalty of five dollars and every person who contravenes or fails to comply with the provisions of the 'Convictions Act,' shall not apply to or assist any person who is on the ground in any electoral district in the Legislative Assembly of any Indian or prairie.

Mr. Martin will move in Committee of the Whole on the Third Reading of Bill (No. 24) to incorporate the Pacific, Northern and Omineca Railway Company, that the following clause shall be bound to be a condition of the railway, without whose transportation there shall be a charge against the Province, and of the Legislature, that the preceding section shall be a condition of this Act, if passed, and upon bond-holders in any way in the Company or its property, any violation shall void the powers and privileges of the Act, but no such violation shall be a condition of the Supreme Court of Columbia by the Act.

Mr. Gorden will move in Committee of the Whole on the Third Reading of Bill (No. 15) to incorporate the Pacific, Northern and Omineca Railway Company, that the following clause be inserted:—"The following clause shall be a condition of this Act, if passed, and upon bond-holders in any way in the Company or its property, any violation shall void the powers and privileges of the Act, but no such violation shall be a condition of the Supreme Court of Columbia by the Act."

Bill (No. 12) intitled "An Act to incorporate the Vancouver Railway Company" will be read a second time on Monday next.

Bill (No. 13) intitled "An Act to incorporate the Electric Light and Power Company" will be read a second time on Monday next.

Bill (No. 14) intitled "An Act to incorporate the Telegraph Company" will be read a second time on Monday next.

Bill (No. 20) intitled "An Act to amend the 'Vancouver Railway Company Act'" will be read a second time on Monday next.

Bill (No. 22) intitled "An Act to incorporate the River Railway Company" will be read a second time on Monday next.

Mr. Green will move in Committee of the Whole on the Third Reading of Bill (No. 24) intitled "An Act to incorporate the Pacific, Northern and Omineca Railway Company," to strike out the following clause:—"15. The section of the 'British Columbia Railway Act' shall be a condition of this Act, if passed, and upon bond-holders in any way in the Company or its property, any violation shall void the powers and privileges of the Act, but no such violation shall be a condition of the Supreme Court of Columbia by the Act."

and except in the case of inconsistency or of the clauses of this Act, in which case the provisions of this Act shall prevail over any clause or section of any other Act to the extent of such inconsistency.



# PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT

## Hon. Finance Minister Delivers His Budget Speech.—Meagre Debate Indulged in.—Estimates Pushed.

From Our Own Correspondent.

### NINETEENTH DAY.

Victoria, August 17.

The Budget Speech, delivered in the House yesterday, did not provoke such a lengthy discussion as might have been anticipated. In fact it looked very much as if the desire for debate had been pretty well exhausted, as only three speakers followed the Finance Minister, namely, Mr. Brown, Mr. McInnes and Mr. McPhillips. This, however, with the routine which preceded it, occupied the time of the House during the afternoon. The House assembled again at 8 o'clock in night session, it being the understood intention of the Government to attempt to rush the Estimates through in one sitting. Notwithstanding the fact that there was very little objection, however, the House was obliged to desist, through sheer weariness, and the adjournment took place at 1 o'clock this morning.

Night sessions, it is announced, will be held almost continuously until the business before the House is well in hand, and a safe conclusion in sight.

### AFTERNOON SESSION.

The House met at 2 o'clock. Hon. Mr. Eberts introduced a Bill to amend the License Act, which was adopted.

Hon. Mr. Eberts introduced a Bill to amend the provisions of the Canadian Temperance Act, which were passed in 1898, and to provide for the removal of certain provisions of the said Act, the Mineral Act, and the Liquor Act.

Mr. Eberts moved from the Committee on the Bill, recommending the rejection of the same, and that the Commission on private bills be extended for ten days from the date hereof, and recommend the same accordingly.

The report was adopted. Mr. Peole, Chairman of the Royal Commission, reported "the preamble approved of Bill No. 18, intitled 'An Act to Incorporate the Chiklat Pass Railway & Navigation Company,' upon the grounds that it is not desirable in the interests of the Province to pass the same at the present time."

### QUESTIONS.

Mr. Clifford asked the Government the following questions:

1. Is it the intention of the Government to inquire into the conduct of Mr. N. Woods, Stipendiary Magistrate at Atlin, on the 30th July last, in confining William Queen in gaol for alleged contempt of Court?

2. Is it the intention of the Government to punish the Deputy Returning Officer at Bella Coola (B. Bryntfisan) for culpable stupidity in cancelling the votes of ten of the electors without cause?

Hon. Mr. Eberts replied as follows:—  
1. The Attorney-General's Department is making inquiry into the facts in connection with the alleged imprisonment of one William Queen for contempt of Court.

2. Unfortunately, I know of no means whereby a man may be punished for such stupidity.

Mr. Gilmour asked the Government the following questions:

1. Was an injunction issued at the instance of the Government against the building of a saw-mill on Deadman's Island? If so, when?

2. Is it the intention of the Government to move in the way of withdrawing the said injunction? If not, why not?

3. What action, if any, is it the intention of the Government to take with reference to said injunction?

Hon. Mr. Eberts replied as follows:—  
1. No. An interim injunction was issued restraining Theodore Ludgate

a penalty of five dollars per day for each and every person so employed in contravention of this section, to be recovered on complaint of any person under the provisions of the 'Summary Convictions Act.' This section shall not apply to or affect in any way any person who is on the register of voters in any electoral district for the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia, any Indian or person of Caucasian blood."

Mr. Martin will move, in Committee of the Whole on Bill (No. 12) intitled "An Act to Incorporate the Vancouver and Westminster Railway Company," to add the following section:—"In case at any time the said railway is declared by the Parliament of Canada to be a work for the general advantage of Canada, then all powers and privileges granted by this Act, or by the 'British Columbia Railway Act,' shall thereupon cease and determine."

Mr. Martin will move, in Committee of the Whole on the third reading of Bill (No. 24) intitled "An Act to Incorporate the Pacific, Northern & Omineca Railway Company," to add the following clauses:—"The Company shall be bound to carry over its line of railway, without charge, all persons whose transportation is otherwise be a charge against the Government of the Province, and also all members of the Legislature."

The preceding section is hereby declared to be a condition upon which this Act is passed, and shall be binding upon bond-holders and all other persons in any way interested in the said Company or its property. In case the said preceding section is violated, such violation shall work a forfeiture of all powers and privileges granted by this Act, but no such forfeiture shall operate except upon proceedings instituted in the Supreme Court of British Columbia by the Attorney-General."

Mr. Garden will move, in Committee of the Whole on Bill (No. 19) intitled "An Act to revise and consolidate the Vancouver Incorporation Act," to insert the following section:—"For the charging of all persons who own or occupy property, whether vacant or otherwise, with a reasonable rent for the use of any water main or pipes, and for assessing the property adjacent to any water main or pipe with a reasonable proportion of the cost thereof, whether the water from such main or pipe is used on the property or not."

Mr. Curtis will move, in Committee of the Whole on, on the third reading of—

Bill (No. 12) intitled "An Act to Incorporate the Vancouver and Westminster Railway Company."

Bill (No. 13) intitled "An Act to Incorporate the Crow's Nest Pass Electric Light and Power Company, Limited."

Bill (No. 14) intitled "An Act to Incorporate the Western Telephone and Telegraph Company."

Bill (No. 20) intitled "An Act to amend the 'Vancouver, Northern and Yukon Railway Company Act, 1898.'"

Bill (No. 22) intitled "An Act to Incorporate the Rock Bay and Salmon River Railway Company."

To add the following section to each of said bills:—

"Notwithstanding anything hereinbefore contained, the Company shall not have the right to purchase, lease, or use any lands belonging to the Province until it has entered into a contract with the Provincial Government with respect to such right, and upon such terms and in such manner as the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council may prescribe."

Mr. Green will move, in Committee of the Whole on Bill (No. 24) intitled "An Act to Incorporate the Pacific, Northern & Omineca Railway Company," to strike out Section 15, and insert in lieu thereof the following:—

"15. The sections of the British Columbia Railway Act, and all further amendments thereto, shall apply to the Company hereby incorporated, save

and except in the case of any conflict, inconsistency or repugnancy between the clauses of this Act and the said Railway Act, in which case the clauses of this Act shall prevail and override any clause or section of the said Railway Act to the extent of any such conflict, inconsistency or repugnancy."

from cutting any trees or otherwise trespassing on said land, 16th May, 1899. This injunction will remain in force until trial of action.

2. It is not intended to remove the injunction until the question as to whether Deadman's Island belongs to the Province or Dominion is decided.

3. To proceed to trial of the injunction now pending."

### COMPLAINTS AGAINST ATLIN OFFICIALS.

MR. CLIFFORD moved:—"That an order of the House be granted for copies of all complaints made by people in Atlin District against Government officials there, since January 1st, 1898, and the answers thereto by the Government thereof."

He said the intention of the motion was to call the attention of the Government to the unfortunate condition of affairs existing in the Atlin country. There were about 4,000 miners there, who were divided into two factions, the regular miners and the hydraulic operators. Friction was constantly occurring between these two factions as to mining rights, and in the appeals made to the Gold Commissioner it was held by the miners that that official was inclined to unduly favor the hydraulic companies. Speaking for himself, he had always found Mr. Graham a very efficient officer, and it was as much in his best interests in the interests of the miners that he looked to the Government to take active steps in this matter. It was unfair to Mr. Graham to have this charge hanging over him, if untrue, and it was in the interests of all parties that steps should be taken to have the disputes settled. He asked that the Government should empower Mr. Justice Martin to hold a Court of Inquiry so that all parties to the dispute could be heard and an important judgment rendered.

MR. STABLES heartily endorsed what his colleague had said as to the necessity for the Government taking action in this matter. As to the references to Mr. Graham, he was not so sure as to the ability of that gentleman to deal with those cases. He was very glad his colleague had brought the matter up as he thought it in the interests of the district and of the Gold Commissioner as well that the matter should be thoroughly sifted. He seconded the motion.

HON. MR. McBRIDE said that an inquiry into these cases would be at once arranged for. He assured the hon. gentlemen that the Government was only too anxious to set at rest once and for all any feeling of soreness with regard to the application of the laws in that regard. If there was room for changes in the Placer Mining Act he was sure the Government would give the matter attention. That was one of the subjects which would be inquired into through the Commission it was proposed to appoint. The motion passed.

### THE BUDGET SPEECH.

At this point,

HON. MR. TURNER, Minister of Finance, rose and delivered the Budget Speech. He said:

"In moving that the House go into Committee of Supply, I must call attention to the fact that owing to conditions that have been existing for some time past, I can hardly take up this matter in the usual way. I think we must acknowledge the principle that when this resolution is made, the mover, in speaking of the finances of the country, refers to the Public Accounts for the preceding year, comparing them with the Public Accounts of the year then to be provided for. Owing to the election that has occurred in this Province, and owing to what I might call the abortive session, which took place early in the year, we find ourselves in this position, that, in addition we have to refer to the Public Accounts of the previous year, which ended on the 30th of June, 1899, and which would in order come up at the regular session of the House, which took place in February last. Owing to certain things which occurred then, the Estimates were never introduced, and the condition arose that another year had terminated since the session was held in February, that is, terminating on June 30th, 1900. Consequently, we find ourselves face to face with the fact that we cannot avoid very well taking up the Accounts terminating on June 30th, 1900, though at the same time they are not actually before the House. I might



perhaps explain, though the reason why the accounts for June 30th, 1900, are not before the House. It arises in a great measure from the fact that at a certain period at the termination of the financial year, an

**EXTENSION OF TIME**

was always given in order to get the Accounts in for that year. So that the Accounts that are furnished for actual payment made up to August 31st, go into the previous year. This arises in a measure from the configuration of the Province and from the difficulty, the impossibility in some cases, of getting in the accounts which properly belong to the previous year, until six weeks or perhaps two months after the actual termination of that year. With this explanation, I simply say that I propose—though we have not those accounts completely before us—to refer to those accounts to a certain extent, and I think I am entitled to that, from the fact that in reply to a question the other day, I stated the approximate revenue and expenditure to the 30th June last year, at a certain figure.

In referring to the Estimates, I think the method usually followed in all legislatures, is to deal first with the previous year's accounts, which, owing to the conditions that I have pointed out, are not altogether available. Now, if we refer to the Estimates which have been laid on the table of the House, we find that the estimate of receipts for the year, amounts to \$1,757,329, whereas the estimates on expenditure for the year ending June 30th last amount to \$2,218,328. Now, it will be seen that the estimated revenue is some \$317,999 in excess of the amount estimated for the year ending June 30th last, and this arises under several heads. I will refer to these as they appear, under the head of receipts in the Estimates placed before the House.

The first of these is the

**LAND SALES.**

These are estimated at \$15,000 in excess of the amount made for the previous year. I am informed that there is every reason to believe that we can obtain larger amounts of payments from lands, and it is the intention of the Government to do something with regard to the pre-emption as an inducement for persons who find their payments in arrears, of which there is a very large sum, approximately, I am told, \$1,000,000, and interest on the same. It is the intention of the Government, with a view of bringing in some, at any rate, of that money, to make certain concessions which I cannot fully explain at present, but which will be laid before the House later on. (Applause.) I feel confident that this will induce certain settlers to make payments, so that before June 30th next, we hope to have a substantial showing from this policy. I grant, Sir, that we have underestimated this item, on the whole, but it is probably better to do so than to overestimate it. I might say that the same applies to these Estimates all the way through. Still the revenues are, of course, uncertain, owing to changing conditions in the country, but I think it very reasonable to assume that, instead of increasing only \$218,000, that increase will be over \$300,000.

Under the next heading of

**TIMBER ROYALTY AND LICENCES.**

There is an increase of \$10,000. That arises from the intention of the Government to make some change with respect to the royalty imposed on timber, which will, it is estimated, increase the revenue to that extent.

Under free miners' certificates, there is an increase of \$5,000. That is a very moderate increase, and is one which is influenced by the conditions of affairs in connection with the mining industry, as compared with previous years, I think it is a very conservative estimate of the increase under that head.

In the item of mining receipts in general, there is an increase of \$25,000. I think I need hardly say anything more about this—which means an advance from some \$50,000 in previous years—than that the indications that we have in the mining districts seem to warrant the assumption that we shall have that increase of revenue.

Referring to the receipts from the tax on wild lands, there is an increase of \$5,000. This is based on the fact that the Government intends to go more

fully into the matter of taxes on the wild lands, with a view of deriving a fuller return.

Under the head of

**INCOME TAX**

there is an increase of \$10,000. That arises from a proposed change in the Assessment Act, increasing in some cases, the tax on incomes. There will be a different division of the tax, increasing in proportion to the amount. I may state that it is proposed to do this in the way in which I think some members of the House have suggested this session, that is that if an income of \$5,000 pays 1 per cent, an increase of \$5,500 shall not all come under the \$10,000 rate, but pay the \$5,000 rate up to the \$5,000 and the higher rate on the excess.

Under the head of Revenue Tax there is an increase of \$40,000. That is a tax concerning which there has been considerable difficulty, it has always been felt in this House, that this tax was not fully collected, and I think that the measure we are taking now in this direction will insure a better collection of that tax. In many districts we have to resort to the commission system in collecting that tax, for we find where this system is adopted, it comes in very much better and works fairer to all parties.

Coming to the

**MINERAL TAX**

there is also a slight increase under that head. We have only estimated \$5,000 over that of last year, but as a matter of fact, that is a very much larger increase in reality. In this case I must refer to the actual receipts of last year. The estimated receipts for that year were \$90,000, whereas it only produced \$31,000, but it is the intention of the Government under certain conditions, to increase that mineral tax, taking care, of course, to protect the small miner, so that it will not be an increase on him, but will apply itself more particularly to the larger properties, which we feel confident, are not complaining the revenue to this Province, which they are entitled to pay. It is absurd, on the face of it, that that tax should only produce \$31,000, and when we turn to the expenditures in connection with the mining districts, it seems hardly proportionate. Of course, it is said, on the other hand, that that is not all the revenue we get from mining properties. We get miners' licences, and mining receipts generally which are very large, but they are not taxes at all. They are virtually payments for a right. They enable a man to take possession of a property, but a mineral tax is only a tax on the mines direct, and this is an endeavor to right what I think has been wrong hitherto in the very small amount received from that source.

Under the head of Chinese restriction, an increase is shown of \$10,000. I think there is a very great uncertainty about that. Of course, we know that the tax upon the Chinese has been largely increased, but I fancy that the influx of Chinese will as a consequence be very much smaller.

As to succession duties, the same remark applies.

Then comes a very important matter, that is the

**ROYALTY TAX ON COAL**

It is estimated that this will realize \$60,000. That, of course, refers to a tax on all the coal in the Province, of 5 cents per ton, and in addition to the royalty on coke. This means a tax therefore on the total product of coal in the Province of British Columbia. At the same time though, we estimate this to produce the sum of \$90,000, yet it is not a clear increase to the revenue, because, on the other hand, the coal mines, and coal mining property, have been under taxation as personal property hitherto, and you cannot tax personal property, and then tax the revenue derived from that personal property. That would be dual taxation.

So that, though this estimate appears as \$60,000, on the other hand, it will be seen that under the head of personal property, that estimate shows a decrease of \$30,000 from the estimate of the previous year. Now that is a little more, I think, than the actual tax on the personal property of coal mines brings in now, but it is approximately correct. And taking these together,

there is a total increase of \$80,000, and there is a decrease against that of \$30,000, so that the actual increase is a little over \$70,000.

There is another item, that of miscellaneous receipts, \$30,000. The estimate for the year, under this head, was \$30,000. But there was some special return at that time, which estimated a refund from the Dominion Government, so that the estimate is actually the same as that of the previous year.

Now, turning to the

**ESTIMATE OF EXPENDITURE**

we find an increase under that head of \$343,595, over the previous year. Now this increase is first seen under the head of civil government (salaries) and administration of justice (salaries.) Apparently there is an increase under these two heads of \$30,000, but as a matter of fact that is hardly an actual increase of salaries. The actual increase arose in this way: \$20,000 was attributable to new appointments necessitated in the North, and in various parts of the Province, where recent developments have made them necessary; the balance is the actual increase to present salaries, and is due almost entirely to a return to the amount of salary paid in 1898. When I say return, I may explain that there are some cases of old employees who have been restored approximately to the salaries formerly enjoyed by them prior to 1898.

MR. BROWN: "You have overlooked some of them."

HON. MR. TURNER: "It is possible that some of them have been overlook-

ed and I may say here what I intended to say before in this connection. It is this, that it is well known that the elections took place a very short time before the meeting of the House, and when the Government came in it found there was a tremendous lot of

**BACK WORK**

on its hands. Now, when I say that I do not at all propose to blame the previous Government, I have no doubt it arose largely from the unsettled condition of affairs in the Province, and from the elections coming on, for it is a fact that in some of the departments there are months of back work which have to be brought up. Now when we came in, we found these conditions existing, and we were still more hampered by an incessant stream of deputations from all over the Province, seeking the attention of the Government. The Government wanted to meet the House at the time arranged for by the late Government, but it was found impossible to do so, as the work could not be brought up in time. So in the present case in going through the Estimates, and as to the salaries to which the hon. member for New Westminster has alluded, it is possible that there may have been some cases where deserving persons have been overlooked. At the same time we have endeavored to avoid this and I think on the whole we have fairly considered all those that were entitled to it. Now I have said that this expenditure is an increase of some \$343,000, over that of the previous year. This arises, as pointed out, partly from salaries, but the principal item of increase comes under the head of public works. There is also a slight increase under the head of Education, but down at \$285,000, for last year, but which is now \$285,000. This is a matter of the most vital consideration for this Province. This does not represent the real cost for

**EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES.**

as it only applies to the running of schools. There is the cost of building schools which reaches a very considerable amount, and which has to be added to this cost, and it is felt that before another session, this question should be fully considered, and a plan devised by which some relief can be given to the Province in connection with educational expenses. We all believe, I think, in establishing a thoroughly good educational system for this Province. We want to keep it up to the foremost lines, and the difficulty then is to carry out what we wish and yet manage it in moderate bounds in connection with expenditure, so as to appportion it to the actual revenue of the Province. At the first glance this expenditure seems to be very much out of proportion to other

expenditure in comparison with more than have been made. I suppose, I estimate, connection with our case, whole Province matter for whether the way so as people, and system of c. Then, as curr under

This year t. estimated at. It amounted proximate l. It will be that this is crease in the tion. It is haps, to the reduce pu many parts neglected. much large pairs than been. This Province has arising from public work fact that the instances an tent. And Speaker, is I and start I and this G that it is that this Pr by such w this connect the Province have a larg and various later to

as I think of public work mitted at an hope to incr revenues, u liberal hand This shows, that the exp proximately, because on came in with There was a is all expend to fall the revenue, as 600 less than

Now the or with public w diture it ent loan should t and in the ord no difficulty, the Province tion, that it credit, by tho for loans. B ply impossible to propose m for a loan, as, dition is the

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of \$80,000, and against that of \$30,000, an increase is a...

of miscellaneous... The estimate in hand, was \$30,000, some special research estimated a million Government, is actually the previous year.

**EXPENDITURE**

under that head of... Now mean under the... (salaries) and... (salaries). Ap- increase under... but as a mat-... an actual in-... actual increase... was attribut-... necessitated... various parts of... recent develop-... necessary; the... increase to pre-... almost en-... amount of sal-... I say return, I... are some cases... to have been re-... to the salaries... prior to 1898." have overlooked

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re what I intended... connection. It is... known that the... a very short time... of the House, and... at came in it found... lot of

**WORK**

when I say that I... to blame the pre-... I have no doubt... the unsettled con-... the Province, and... coming on, for it is... of the departments... back work which... up. Now when we... these conditions ex-... still more hamper-... stream of deputa-... the Province, seek-... of the Government... wanted to meet the... arranged for by the... it was found im-... the work could not... time. So in the pre-... through the Esti-... salaries to which... or New Westminster... possible that there... cases where de-... been overlooked... we have endeavored... think on the whole... considered all those that... Now I have said... there is an increase... of that of the previous... as pointed out, part-... the principal item... under the head of... there is also a slight... head of Education... 00, for last year, but... 000. This is a mat-... that consideration for... does not represent

**GENERAL PURPOSES,**

to the running of... the cost of building... ches a very consider-... which has to be... and it is felt that... session, this ques-... sionly considered, and... which some relief can... to the Province... with educational ex-... believe, I think, in ex-... tremely good education... Province. We want... the foremost lines, and... is to carry out what... manage it in moderate... tion with expenditure... in it to the actual re-... province. At the first... nditure seems to be... of proportion to other

expenditures. I know it looks that way in comparison with other provinces. I fancy that, as a Province, we expend more than any other. Of course, we have different conditions here owing partly to our municipal arrangements. Other provinces, such as Ontario, and I suppose, Quebec, do not show in their estimates the actual expenditure in this connection for the whole country. In our case, the total expenditure for the whole Province is shown, and it is a matter for serious consideration as to whether this can be adjusted in some way so as not to bear too hard on the people, and still keep up a thorough system of education.

Then, as I said, a great increase occurs under the headings of

**PUBLIC WORKS.**

This year the cost of this service is estimated at \$665,323, whereas last year, it amounted to \$335,698, showing an approximate increase of \$300,000. I think it will be admitted by the Province, that this is not any too large an increase in the expenditure in that connection. It is a fact that, owing, perhaps, to the endeavor a year ago to reduce public works expenditures, many parts of the country, have been neglected. Consequently there is a much larger demand for ordinary repairs than there would otherwise have been. This lapse in the life of the Province has not only entailed the loss arising from the deterioration of our public works, but added to that is the fact that they have gone back in many instances and lost their value to an extent. And now what is to be done, Mr. Speaker, is to take up the threads again and start the loom afresh. We feel, and this Government has always felt, that it is of the utmost importance that this Province should be opened up by such works as are provided for in this connection. It is impossible for the Province to advance, unless we can have a large system of roads, bridges and various public services. I will turn later to

**THE RESULTS**

as I think of the expenditure on these public works, but I think it can be admitted at once that this country cannot hope to increase its population, and its revenues, unless it is treated with a liberal hand.

This shows, however, as a final result, that the expenditure this year, is approximately \$500,000 over the Estimates because on the 1st of July last, we came in without money in the Treasury. There was a loan made last year which is all expended, and consequently we had to fall back on the revenue, and the revenue, as pointed out, is some \$500,000 less than the expenditure.

Now the ordinary way in connection with public works, and the large expenditure it entails, is to provide that a loan should be raised for such works, and in the ordinary way there would be no difficulty in that respect, because the Province has got in such a condition, that it is known to be worthy of credit, by those to whom we would look for loans. But just now that is simply impossible. It would be suicidal to propose in this House to pass a Bill for a loan, as, owing to the present conditions in the European money market

**A LOAN**

would be floated with great disadvantage. I think, though I do not like to refer to these matters, that a very great mistake was made in connection with the loan of 1899. There was an Act passed in 1897 or 1898, providing for the borrowing of a large sum of money, part of which was to be applied for railway subsidies, and the balance for public works in the Province. There was also the remainder of the previous loan, some two or three hundred thousand pounds, which had never been fully taken up. Now the mistake in 1899 was this: That, instead of taking up the whole of the loan that was offered, they took part of it; for what reason, I do not know; but I know contrary to the general opinion of financiers, because, if you negotiate for a loan, it is best to raise a fairly considerable amount, so that you are not constantly going for small sums, such a practice being prejudicial to the credit of a country. But there is a very good reason

for that in connection with our loans, as you know they have been taken up by the Underwriters. Now, especially in this last case, the Underwriters have a large part of this on hand, and it would be

**PREJUDICIAL TO SEEK ANOTHER**  
loan under those circumstances. This was the case in 1899, that loan being practically a failure, so far as the public was concerned, as not three per cent. of it had been taken by them, whereas, of former loans, 75 per cent. was taken. I may say to-day that the last quotation of the British Columbia Loan was only 93; and the Underwriters took it at 96; that is the Underwriters stand to lose about three per cent. Therefore, if we went to the market now, your Underwriters would be already loaded, and they would oppose very much any further loan being raised. I was looking to-day at the last quotations. I see that Dominion is quoted at 101, Ceylon at 100, and British Columbia at 83, seven per cent. difference between Ceylon and British Columbia, whereas that difference used to be only four per cent. Even between this Province and Nova Scotia, a preference was made. Last year it was favorable to the Province; this year it is unfavorable. This shows that there is something wrong in the state of Denmark, when our loan has gone so much out of proportion to what it was before. For these reasons it is very evident that it would be very bad policy to attempt to raise a loan for public works. Instead of that arrangements, have been made with the bank, and the bank is willing to allow us

**TO OVERDRAW**

to the extent of our requirements up to June 30th, 1901, and of course there is one advantage in this method, as in a loan you have to borrow a lump sum and pay interest on the whole of it, whereas in getting this money from the bank, it is simply current account, and if you withdraw \$100,000 to-day, you can pay in \$40,000 to-morrow, and are only paying interest on the actual overdraft in the interim, so that it does not come to so high a rate as it looks. That is why we propose to provide for this expenditure. I put this before the House, because the question will certainly arise: "What do you propose to do in respect to this?"

And now, coming to the public debt of the Province, I have thought it advisable to refer to this matter at this time. The public debt at present, less sinking fund, is about \$5,000,000 approximately. Now, comparing that with the public debt of 1894, we find that the public debt at that time, less sinking fund, was \$2,129,000, so that there is an increase of \$3,000,000 since that year. In connection with that I must just make a slight reference in connection with the way this money, this \$3,000,000 has been expended. I find that the public works executed since 1894 amount to \$4,503,394. So that \$3,000,000 of this has been provided by loan, and the difference has been

**TAKEN FROM THE REVENUE.**

I do not think that is a very bad showing for this Province. I feel that we have had a good return for that investment in public works, as I will show later.

What I refer to specially are these things. The Province has by this expenditure created vast assets in the shape of railroads, roads, public buildings, etc. There are, approximately, I think, 500 or 1,000 miles of railway, that have been built largely through the assistance of the Government. We have been building railroads, public roads, and public buildings, all over the Province. These are the assets, in addition to the lands of the Province. So that I think we can claim that that expenditure was a very good one.

In addition, we have the Dominion

subsidy, which is coming in yearly, \$240,000 or \$200,000, which is

**A PERMANENT ASSET,**

and which if capitalised, would represent many millions of dollars, which would be placed against loans which have been raised by this Province. So that the debt of this Province is not at all excessive, taking into consideration its assets.

In this connection I would like to refer to the value of our public works, as shown by the increasing revenue from them to the Province. Take the year 1894. The reason I take that year is particularly is this, that up to that year the Land Act was in a different condition. A large amount of land sales were made prior to that date, and after that year they practically stopped. Now the revenue in that year was \$796,507, while the revenue to June 30th in the last Public Accounts was \$1,509,882, an increase since 1894 of 90 per cent. That is clearly a good showing, it seems to me.

The expenditure in the same time, increased largely. In 1895 and 1894 it amounted to \$1,514,405; in 1896 and 1899 is amounted to \$2,156,473, an increase of 42 1/2 per cent., so that while the revenue increased 90 per cent., the expenditure increased only 42 1/2 per cent.

Then take another comparison. That is, with respect to the cost of running the Province in that time. The expenditure for civil government, administration of justice, and salaries, in 1894 was \$370,000; and in 1899-00 it was \$242,855. So that the cost of running

**HAS NOT INCREASED**

at all in proportion to the increase of the revenue. The increase of the cost of administration in that time was 17 per cent., whereas the increase in the revenue was 90 per cent.

Under another heading, I see that the increase for Education between those periods amounted to 59 per cent., outside of the buildings for educational purposes. On the other hand, the public works in that time increased 82 per cent., a little more than the increase in the revenue. I think that seems to indicate that there is a great deal of life at any rate in this Province. It shows, back of me, and shows clearly that the public works carried on in this Province have returned a very good result.

If I turn to the year in which I first came into this House, in 1897 (this is the twelfth time I have had the honor of introducing the Budget), we find that the revenue was only \$2,000,000, and it has increased now as we see to \$1,700,000, that is, nearly 80 per cent. in that time. I merely turn to these facts, to give

**A LITTLE ENCOURAGEMENT**

to the present members, though I think they hardly need it. I see the hon. member for Kootenay (Mr. Curtis) smiling—but I feel confident in the member for Kootenay will consider these expenditures in view of the improvements made in his own district, he will agree that they have been beneficial to the country, and I will come to that later on.

Now, it was stated in the House yesterday by the hon. member for North Nanaimo in connection with an application for a railway charter, that the present Government had followed the policy of a former Government, that was to encourage monopolies to the detriment of the public. Well Mr. Speaker, I would like to have it more definitely stated what monopolies have been encouraged to the detriment of the public either by the previous Government or by the present one. I would like to have that gentleman put his finger on a monopoly that has been encouraged to the detriment of this Province. Without going through the figures at this time, I can state that through the policy of the Government preceding the last one, the affairs of this Province have been brought up to such prosperity, that in 1898 this was one of the most prosperous Provinces under the British Government, and it stood in its credit also as one of the highest. The policy of this Government was to encourage the development of the Province. Its policy is now to endeavor

**TO GET CASHWAL**

into the Province to build up industries here, to add to its population, and generally to diffuse prosperity throughout British Columbia. I have no doubt that the policy of this Government is diametrically opposed to that of the hon. member for North Nanaimo, because the policy of that hon. gentleman, if pursued to its full application, means the destruction of property in this Province. We have had his resolution in respect to that. The policy of that hon. gentleman means the



introduction of the introduction of capital into this Province, and consequently it is a policy tending to work injury to the laboring man."

MR. McINNIS: "Ha, ha!"  
HON. MR. TURNER: "It is a policy also which means reduction of wages. The hon. gentleman denounces the Leader of the Government as having a policy which encouraged monopoly, whereas the Premier has introduced a system of taxation by which his own property will pay \$30,000 or \$40,000 a year into this Treasury for the benefit of the Province. (Hear, hear.) Now, Mr. Speaker, is that an indication of a policy for the

#### SUPPORT OF MONOPOLIES?

What are these gentlemen saying? It is the easiest thing in the world for men to get up and declare that we are supporting monopolies, but I say that the hon. member for North Nanaimo is supporting monopoly."

MR. McINNIS: "Don't hit your desk. There was a point of order taken on that yesterday."

HON. MR. TURNER: "These are the facts. They evidently affect the hon. gentleman very much. They are true. If you bring labor into conflict with capital; if you do anything to weaken the credit of the country thereby preventing capital from coming in, the wages of the laborer will fall. (Hear, hear. Capital and labor should work together in sympathy. There is nothing so good for the working man, the artisan, and mechanic of a country, as to convince the public that we have a country which is developing, where we have expended capital for roads, and other means of development, and where the capitalist will be protected in his investment, and have a chance of getting a profit on his enterprise. The workman knows that if you can induce capital to come in, his wages will be increased, and that a greater abundance of employment will result. There is no question about that. Take capital out of this country to-day, and

#### WHAT WOULD WAGES BE?

They would decline immediately. I do not say that these gentlemen are wilful in their policy—that they really intend to drive out capital and to diminish wages, but the effect was there just the same. That would be the result of that sort of proceeding."

MR. CURTIS: "What sort of proceeding?"

HON. MR. TURNER: "I say, such a proceeding as you were speaking of yesterday. What I am speaking of now is this, that the Government is charged with encouraging monopolies to the detriment of the public. I say that the Government of this country to-day and the governments of this country for a number of years before the late Government followed a policy of encouraging the introduction of capital, and the development of the country. I can go to the city of the hon. member for North Nanaimo to-day, and will find wages higher than they were before."

MR. McINNIS: "Not at all."

HON. MR. TURNER: "You can go over the country anywhere in British Columbia, and find more work and more wages, due to the policy of this Government, although 18 months ago, a reverse set in, under the former regime. There is a proof that the expenditures that have been made by the Government have been of such a nature that there has been a direct and steady increase in prosperity, in the revenue of the Province."

MR. CURTIS: "Excuse me for a moment. So far as the Interior is concerned, times

#### WERE PERFECTLY GOOD

up to the 10th of December last, when the War news and other things affected capital."

Cries of "Oh, oh!" and "What news?"

MR. CURTIS: "The reports of reverses to British arms had the effect of disturbing the money market in London. Before that, the prices of mining stocks were never higher—for instance, \$3.95."

HON. MR. TURNER: "I demur to that statement entirely, as incorrect. The fact is, that I have, through my own business connections, a practical knowledge of the condition of affairs in London, and I say they fell off much before that. There was a sudden shut-

down of business generally throughout the Province. The hon. gentleman must know that. Turning from that again to this subject with respect to capital and monopolies, I would ask

again what monopolies these gentlemen referred to? They do not know."

MR. McINNIS: "Oh, yes, I do."

MR. CURTIS: "I might mention the White Pass Railway monopoly."

HON. MR. TURNER: "I am not speaking on the White Pass Railway monopoly now."

MR. SPEAKER, at this stage, ruled that it was out of order to refer to what occurred in previous debates.

HON. MR. TURNER: "Certain gentlemen made charges yesterday against the Government of being supporters of monopolies. I was only saying a few words to show that instead of supporting the monopolies, they were supporting the working men in the Province, supporting the introduction of capital and the spread of prosperity. On the other hand, I say that it is individuals who are as blind to the condition of affairs as the hon. member for North Nanaimo and his colleagues, who are really imposing on the workmen of this Province, and by their bad policy reducing their wages, and preventing capital coming in."

MR. McINNIS: "I understood the Hon. Minister of Finance to make a speech the other day

#### IN FAVOR OF CHEAP LABOR."

HON. MR. TURNER: "I think the hon. gentleman is out of order."

MR. SPEAKER: "Entirely out of order."

HON. MR. TURNER: "I made no such speech. I made a speech saying that, as a consequence of some cheap labor that was here, we were enabled to pay out \$2,000,000 of good wages to white men, which this hon. gentleman tried to prevent us paying out."

In speaking of the expenditure on public works as being very productive, I notice that the hon. member for Kootenay (Mr. Curtis) raised the inference that the expenditure in the Kootenays was not what it should be. I am inclined to admit that at once. I think that is so in many districts. I think it lies with us to build up the industries of the Province, so that more generous expenditures can be made on public works. And I wish we could have studied more fully the wants of these districts, but under the present conditions, this is impossible. I notice in looking back for a few years at the Kootenay revenue, that in 1891 that district produced \$48,000; in 1893 it produced \$67,000, and in 1899 \$325,000. Now, that is an indication, I think, that by the opening up of the Province, by trails, roads and railways, industries have been established, which have led to an enormous increase of revenue. This is clearly indicated by the fact that from 1891 to 1899, only eight years, it has increased from \$43,000 to \$325,000. That is

#### A WONDERFUL INCREASE.

This means that there are other portions of our Province that will return perhaps not so gigantic an increase, but still a very large increase on the outlay that has been made there. I think this applies more particularly to the northern parts of our Province, at the present time. I think that strong efforts should be made by this Government to open up this northern section. If we can get railways through that section of the country, especially through the Omineca and Cassiar Divisions, we should see a proportionate increase that will rival the Kootenays for the last seven or eight years, and that, within eight or nine years from this time, the revenue will amount to hundreds of thousands of dollars from that section alone. That being the case, it must have an important effect also on other sections of this Province, as trade and business there mean that the central parts would also derive a benefit. We would not only have the revenue accruing from that country, but we would have the sympathetic increase of business in other parts of the Province. Therefore, I think that every effort should be made in this House to encourage the introduction of capital to that part, and more especially to encourage railway construction at an early date, not only opening up the Cassiar and Omineca Districts, but connecting with the

#### GREAT FUKON COUNTRY

as well, and bringing the wealth and trade of that country more thoroughly in touch with the Province of British Columbia. Now, it is a fact that the trade of this Province has been largely improved by railways. I might particularize the White Pass Railway. There has been an enormous improvement in trade, solely due to that line. Before it was constructed, it cost \$500 per ton for freight through that section. Now I do not say that \$60 per ton is low enough, except in comparison with the disadvantage that existed before its construction. But there is a point to consider, in the trade which it has brought to the merchants of this Province. I do not believe that, on account of the rates, there has been one pound of flour, or one pound of bacon less imported into that country."

It was stated by one hon. gentleman that it was an American enterprise. I happen to know the principal owners of the railway, one of the largest firms in London, who got up that concern. It is true they may have employed Americans in connection with the line, but the capital has been found in England. I hold that it is no argument that

#### WE SUPPORT MONOPOLIES

because yesterday action was taken in this House with a view of encouraging a line, which would run entirely through the Province of British Columbia, an all-Canadian line, and much more promising of benefit to the people of this Province than that line can be.

There is one point in connection with the line proposed yesterday that should be borne in mind, namely, that at any time, through the advocacy of American merchants, the Port of Skagway may be closed against us, so that difficulties may arise sooner or later in connection with it.

I think I have nothing more to say. I have taken the usual liberty at this time to refer to many matters which are not perhaps connected directly with the subject before us. I have much pleasure in now moving, Mr. Speaker, that you do now leave the chair." (Loud applause.)

MR. BROWN, in the absence of Mr. Martin, then rose to reply. He did not feel much responsibility for the acts of the Semlin Government, attacked by the Finance Minister, although he had taken some slight part in returning it to power. The Province, however, was making a sort of new beginning, and on the whole a good one. It looked as though the Province would go ahead, in spite of the Government now in power. (Laughter.) And so he felt like saying nothing that would draw attention to the other side of the case. The hon. gentleman had said that the whole day was wasted yesterday. Well, that might be, but whose fault was it? The Opposition did not deserve all the blame. For instance, he had heard that one Government member had spoken 24 times. Again, as to the length of the session, while he had forecast some six weeks or two months, he noticed, however, that it was now a month old and the Budget was just brought down, and to-day the Government had eight more new bills coming in. Again, members were supposed to have been returned here because of principles that they claimed to represent. However, when they came here and thought it their right and duty to bring up such subjects as Government ownership of railways or Chinese restriction, anyone doing so was said to have tried to dictate to the Government or talked to the galleries. Again, when the Opposition brought up questions, no matter even if the Government members supported them they were handicapped at every turn and invariably voted down. The hon. Minister had departed from his usual tone in attacking Mr. McInnes. Well, that gentleman could well be left to take care of himself. Mr. Turner had spoken of the policy of the former Government regarding the inducement of capital. But on this there was some conflict between the principles of the

science of gov- his policy. Ag- tions, in order the Opposition h- mit the vicious; ment to pass, a- the country out- ing excessive ral- the policy was d- over the Province- facts. As to th- Southern, it wou- any rate about- the Dominion s- ince could have- grants if it only- low that there- shown again an- the House, and l- position that th- people and wist- (As to gallery p- lster of Finance- cry. "We are- friend"? He c- rather to stand e- and the Govern- was gratifying- orable Minister- revenue would i- in the past three y- more gratifying- ment in the met- 1896 public work- than Government- \$1,000 less, whil- gave twice as m- salaries afores- right direction, I- depend only upo- he got. He was- left out, viz., th- departments. H- Government ridi- more than the (Slocan got more- Richmond twice- was opposed to- principle, but as- man, he would i- He was glad to- had some hopes- would have som- Chinamen, and- As to the royalt- compliments wer- mler, he himself- sumer would pay- the Minister had- was about the- \$95,000 was fou- liquor licences, a- a move in the- readily support- expenditures, to- As to the Ministr- about public wo- out of revenue I- wishing to make- he could only e- referred to, so I- out, money had- even the Govern- MR. McINNIS- some of the stati- of Finance shou- would begin, hov- ing the Province- created for the r- resources. This- which expendit- this stage in exc- had no sympathy- the salaries of K- and was glad to- posed to restore- time, it was not- big an excess- revenue, and so I- revenue were ne- his constituents- Among these wa- royalty on coal- had acted upon- see, it was but v- imposed a 6-cent- not followed up- if effective, beca- the coal must n- could not the C- clared a maximu- had been fixed- and why not by- precedent for th- case of the Britis- which was fore- Government not- \$2 a ton. And- claimed to be the- men. But the e- already put up t- ton, which on t- assumption of 400- the consumer wo-



science of government and those by his policy. Again, on railway questions, in order to have roads at all the Opposition had in the past to permit the vicious projects of his Government to pass, and to-day all through the country outcry was heard regarding excessive railway charges. Either the policy was defective, or people all over the Province were misrepresenting facts. As to the British Columbia Southern, it would have been built at any rate about that time, simply on the Dominion subsidy, and the Province could have saved all its enormous grants if it only liked. He must allow that there was a better way, as shown again and again by his side of the House, and he should not take the position that this Government is the people and wisdom will die with it. As to gallery play, did not the Minister of Finance thump his chest, and cry, "We are the workingman's friend"? He (Mr. Brown) preferred rather to stand even between all classes and the Government and the law. It was gratifying to see that the Honorable Minister anticipated that the revenue would increase as it had during the past three years, and it was much more gratifying to see some improvement in the method of spending it. In 1896 public works had had \$40,000 less than Government salaries, in 1897 only \$1,000 less, while the present Budget gave twice as much to works as to the salaries aforesaid. This was in the right direction, and it seemed now to depend only upon how the money could be got. He was sorry to see one vote left out, viz., that to the various fire departments. He noticed, too, that the Government ridings got considerably more than the Opposition ones. The Sloan got more than Rossland, and Richmond twice as much as Delta. He was opposed to the revenue tax on principle, but as it caught the Chinaman, he would abide with the impost. He was glad to see that the Minister had some hopes that the increased tax would have some effect in excluding Chinamen, and hoped that it would. As to the royalty on coal, while many compliments were being paid the Premier, he himself thought that the consumer would pay for it. On one point the Minister had said nothing. That was about the increases. Of these, \$25,000 was found in the returns from liquor licences, which he thought was a move in the wrong direction. He readily supported the policy of liberal expenditures, to develop the Province. As to the Minister's remarks, however, about public works having been paid out of revenue in the past, while not wishing to make any hostile criticism, he could only say that in the years referred to, so far as he could make out, money had been borrowed to pay even the Government salaries.

MR. McINNIS did not think that some of the statements of the Minister of Finance should go unnoticed. He would begin, however, by congratulating the Province upon the amount suggested for the opening up of its rich resources. This was a Province in which expenditure was necessarily at this stage in excess of the revenue. He had no sympathy in the reductions of the salaries of Civil Servants in 1898, and was glad to see that it was proposed to restore them. At the same time, it was not desirable to have too big an excess of expenditure over revenue, and so new modes of devising revenue were necessary. He had told his constituents of some of these. Among these was the imposition of a royalty on coal. This the Government had acted upon, but so far as he could see, it was but very little use. It had imposed a 5-cent royalty, but it had not followed up the matter and made it effective, because the consumer of the coal must now pay for it. Why could not the Government have declared a maximum price on coal? It had been fixed, as a matter of fact, and why not by the Government? A precedent for this was found in the case of the British Columbia Southern, which was forced by the Dominion Government not to charge more than \$2 a ton. And yet Hon. Mr. Turner claimed to be the friend of the laboring man. But the coal mine owners had already put up the price by 50 cents a ton, which on the annual local consumption of 400,000 tons means that the consumer would pay \$200,000 more

for it. Thus it was a complete delusion, for the consumer paid. Indeed, the coal mine owners might well advocate a 10-cent tax next year. In evidence of his friendship to the coal mine owners, the Honorable Minister had wiped out the \$30,000 of personal property tax besides.

HON. MR. PRENTICE: "Will you fix a maximum rate of wages as well?"

MR. McINNIS: "No; the questions are very different." Again, the mineral revenues should be taxed, too. Last year their output was over \$3,000,000, yet they paid only \$1,000, while the \$4,000,000 worth of coal was now expected to pay \$90,000. Here was a case of great inequality between coal mine owners and those of other mines. But it would be eminently fair to put a tax on the profits of every mine. Another tax that was levied in the Old Country was on male domestics. This might well be enforced here, payable by the employer. Half the houses in this Province have Chinese servants, and a tax of \$25 in these cases would amount to \$250,000, and probably a great deal more without doing any harm and at the same time doing much good. Again, there might be a suitable tax on land, stronger in every way against land owners who did not occupy their lands, or held them by people who live outside of the Province, and they might well disgorge a little. On this Island, there were nearly 2,000,000 acres upon which no taxes were paid. He did not approve of repudiation, but there was a very grave doubt whether these lands were free from taxation or not. He did not ask the Government to do anything drastic about it, but a test case might well be taken before the Supreme Court, and as a lawyer—(here the House laughed)—he submitted that there were good and tangible reasons for such a case being taken.

MR. SPEAKER here saw 6 o'clock.

#### EVENING SESSION.

On the House convening again after recess,

MR. McINNIS continued his speech, by pressing a sharp attack upon Hon. Mr. Turner. While criticising his form in the Budget Speech, he claimed that he was the Jonah of his side, assuring the House that this, his twelfth Budget Speech, was his last. From the Hon. Minister of Finance, he turned upon the Government generally, calling it the friend of monopoly, and instancing the Esquimalt & Nanaimo and White Pass Railways as examples of its work. By going back over the debates of the present session he said it was the enemy of labor and the friend of the Chinese. The attack then turned upon the Premier. The latter was not deserving, the speaker claimed, of the praise so freely offered over the taking of the Chinese out of the mines. In this he urged that he was none too sincere. Chinese still worked in the mines, and no doubt they would continue to do so. The mines were treated by the workmen as other people would treat a pest. That was the reason that in spite of all the advertisements men could not be found to work there. However much the Premier might desire to make a change, the strong man of the Government stood in his way, and the Hon. Attorney-General must be turned about before any good could be done.

MR. McPHELLIPS thought Mr. McInnes' speech a very interesting one. It might have been delivered by the Leader of the Opposition. Where was he? He had knowledge that Mr. Turner would deliver his Budget Speech that day, and it was to be expected that the Leader of the Opposition would be present and reply. He was absent, however, and left the task to the member for Nanaimo. The latter gentleman's views were not in accord with the views and feelings of the vast majority of the people of the Province. Had the policy of the Opposition been carried out, disaster would have ensued. That disaster was circumvented by the votes of the people, who had put in power a Government which had already done much to restore confidence. He had been somewhat amused at not finding any reference in the speeches of the Opposition to Mr. Cory S. Ryder, who was at one time Finance Minister under Mr. Martin. (Laughter.) Mr. Ryder's chief act during his tenure of office was the saving of \$15 on the purchase of head pencils! The departments were disgracefully neglected while the

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bers were on a junketing tour of the Province. Mr. McInnes had said that in this Province it was possible to put a fixed price on coal. How could it be possible? If it were so, any article exposed for sale could be similarly treated, and this would mean an end of commerce. He was astonished at a man of intelligence putting forward such absurd views. He must know in his heart it was impossible to accomplish any such thing. (Hear, hear.) Such speakers were simply playing to the galleries. Every one knew that the local consumption of coal was insignificant to the amount exported. The tax on coal could be put on in a fair manner on the output at the pit-head. Mr. Brown had spoken of members occupying time. He thought the hon. member for New Westminster had erred in that respect to a greater degree than any other speaker. He was continually rising to points of order; that was of course within his right; but there was such a thing as overdoing it. He was somewhat surprised that the member for North Nanaimo should have alluded to the Finance Minister in the terms in which he did. He had never heard a word spoken against that gentleman's character. The electorate of the Province had demonstrated that the attacks made against him were without foundation. Mr. McInnes, in treating of the labor question, had misinterpreted his remarks on this point of the Hon. Minister of Finance. All were agreed that there should be no disturbances affecting the industries of the Province. Mr. McInnes had also referred to the taxation of the Esquimalt & Nanaimo Railway lands. If it was the intention of the Legislature that the lands should be exempt from taxation, would Mr. McInnes read into the Act a provision that they should be taxed?

MR. McINNIS: "Circumstances alter cases." The valuable property given the Esquimalt & Nanaimo Company had not been administered properly, and if the people could find any flaw in the Act they would be perfectly justified in taking advantage of it. (Cries of "Repudiation!")

MR. McPHELLIPS looked upon the question as a purely business proposition. It cost \$2,400,000 to build the road, and the Company only got \$75,000 from the Dominion Government. Where was it to get the balance to build the road? It had embarked in what was then a very speculative enterprise. The hon. member for North Nanaimo was trying to reconcile the conditions of to-day with the conditions of years ago.

MR. CURTIS: "You say the road had cost \$30,000 a mile. How do you figure that up? What is your authority?" (Cries of, "It cost more than \$30,000 a mile.")

MR. CURTIS: "Oh, we know those figures are only based on watered stock."

Continuing, MR. McPHELLIPS proceeded to criticise the Opposition for its claim of being purist. It looked upon the Government and all its supporters as being a gang of boot-lickers. It could not get beyond that. (Laughter.) The member for North Nanaimo had contended that the Opposition was the friend of labor, and the Government the enemy. He (the speaker) thought the capitalists were the true friends of labor when they afforded legitimate opportunities for the investment of money. Take the Eight-Hour Law. The Opposition took much credit for the enactment of that measure. What was the fact? The Premier for years had the Eight-Hour Law operating in his mines.

MR. McINNIS: "Is the hon. member aware that the Premier refused his workmen the privilege of forming a union?"

MR. McPHELLIPS did not know anything about that. He had no knowledge that the Premier had ever refused such a privilege. He would allude, in concluding, once again to the peculiar fact that the Leader of the Opposition was not in his seat on the important occasion of the delivery of the Budget Speech. What little had been asserted in criticism by the Opposition was not of a very important character. In regard to the claims that the revenue of the Province should be increased, all were agreed that this was desirable, and no doubt the Government would give the matter its earnest consideration.



This concluded the debate on the Budget.

#### THE ESTIMATES.

The House then went into Committee of Supply, Mr. Hunter in the chair, the remainder of the evening session being devoted to the Estimates, which were rushed through without any appreciable discussion.

Upon the vote of \$3,000 in aid of educating the deaf and dumb, an inquiry from Mr. Brown elicited the information that it was the Government's intention to provide proper facilities for this work. The Provincial Secretary explained that there were about 51 deaf-mutes, who had been sent to California and Manitoba for instruction, who would be brought here and placed under competent tuition.

The Estimates were more than half finished when the House adjourned about 1 o'clock a.m.

It is the general opinion now that the close of the session is well in sight, some venturing the opinion that three sessions a day will be resorted to in order to hurry the business.

SUNDAY.....August 15, 1908

## PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT

### Estimates Passed After Abbreviated Debate.—Mr. Tatlow and the Militia.—Vancouver City Charter Rushed Through.

From Our Own Correspondent.  
TWENTYFIFTH DAY.

Victoria, August 17.

The time of the House to-day was devoted for the most part to the Estimates which were voted, without any appreciable opposition, to the finish. A considerable amount of routine business was also despatched, and an inclination shown on both sides of the House to hurry matters forward. Mr. Martin was not in his place, and the Opposition Leader was also absent during the Budget debate on the preceding day.

The House met at 2 o'clock p. m. Petitions from the British America Corporation and others, and the London & British Columbia Goldfields Company, Limited, regarding the mining industry in the Kootenay, were presented by Messrs. Curtis and Green respectively.

#### THE ESTIMATES.

The House went into Committee of Supply and the Estimates were again taken up.

Upon the vote of \$11,050 for public works in New Westminster District (Richmond Riding).

MR. TATLOW called attention to necessity of completing the Hastings-Barnet Road, and thought the work deserved a larger grant. He also referred to the South Vancouver and Steveston trunk road as being in need of general repairs, and asked that provision be made for that work.

MR. BROWN asked that attention be paid to the Vancouver and New Westminster Road, which he pointed out was a much frequented highway between the two cities. There was a strong feeling he said that that road should be regarded as a Provincial rather than a Municipal work, and he requested that provision be made for doing necessary repairs, such as widening, etc.

MR. KIDD endorsed what had been said as to the Hastings-Barnet Road, and hoped the vote would be supplemented to meet that work.

HON. MR. WELLS said the present appropriation was intended to cover the clearing of the right of way only. The road work itself could not be very well prosecuted during the Winter, and the Government therefore intended to leave the appropriation until next session.

The appropriation for general repairs in Delta Riding \$5,750, brought

MR. OLIVER to his feet. He said that he had been instructed that arrangements had been made by the late Government whereby the Government agreed to advance \$10,000 to the Municipality of Delta for the purpose of constructing a road in the neighborhood of Ladners Landing, to New Westminster, along the banks of the Fraser River. One condition of this arrangement was that the Municipality agreed to pay four per cent. per annum upon that amount for ten years at the end of which time the Government was to cancel the debt. That arrangement, although the Municipality was anxious that it should be carried out, had not been observed. The Municipality also had a definite promise that \$2,500 would be granted for the purpose of repairing the trunk road into Delta, and on the strength of that promise, that Municipality had spent between three and four thousand dollars in repairs to the western portion of the road. He did not see that that money was included in the present estimate and therefore asked that his riding should be dealt with fairly.

MR. BROWN also spoke on these lines.

HON. MR. McBRIDE said, with regard to the road along the Fraser River referred to, the Government fully recognized the importance of the work. Time had not permitted, however, at the present session, to have all necessary matters placed before the Commissioner of Lands and Works so that they might be dealt with. Immediate action would be taken, however, with a view of constructing that road.

For Nelson Riding, West Kootenay District, the sum of \$11,300 was provided in the Estimates.

MR. HOUSTON found fault with the Government's generosity in this connection. He had only asked for \$11,000. He was willing that the extra \$300 should be distributed among dissatisfied districts. (Laughter.)

In connection with the vote for the Kootenay Ridings generally,

MR. CURTIS entered a plea for more consideration for those districts, arguing that the amount of the vote was altogether out of proportion to the revenue derived from that portion of the Province, and unfair as compared with the grants made to public works in the Eastern sections. Incidentally he urged that the Government should provide some better means of communication along the Coast line. He also referred to the Trail Creek Mining Section, as a location worthy of consideration, and pointed out that that district had returned to the Government one-half million of dollars in revenue within the last five or six years and yet no provision was made in the Estimates for the needs of that district. Grand Forks also merited attention. It was a promising section, rich in minerals, and also possessing agricultural possibilities. It was important that a trail should be built into that district this Fall. Mr. Curtis also asked that the construction of a wagon road from Gladstone to Cascade be considered.

HON. MR. TURNER said that there was a limit to the money that they had to dispose of in the Estimates. He reminded the House that, he had stated on the previous day that the Government fully recognized the fact that there were many districts which deserved attention, which the public funds would not allow it to attend to.

MR. STABLES, speaking to the motion to vote \$18,000 to Cassiar, expressed himself as generally satisfied with the appropriation. He pointed out, however, that the road from Atlin to Surprise Lake needed some repair, and asked that provision be made or considered for a plank trail from Atlin to Bennett, to enable the people to get their mails in during the Spring and Fall, which they were unable to do at present owing to the want of such a trail. He asked that the sum of \$500 be placed in the Supplementary Estimates to provide for that work.

Speaking in connection with the appropriation for wharf construction, etc., in the Province,

MR. HELMECKEN argued that the Dominion Government should be asked to bestow some of its favors in that regard upon this Province. He noticed that that Government expended considerable sums on the construction of wharves in Eastern Canada, and he thought the Provincial Government might communicate with Ottawa, with a view of letting the Dominion authorities know that there was a Coast line on this Province where a few wharves might be built.

MR. TATLOW, speaking regarding the vote of \$600 in aid of the Militia, thought there was room for more generous treatment in this connection. New Militia companies had been formed, and if the monies were to be apportioned as they had been, among them all, it would make the respective grants pretty small. He referred to the recent action of the Militia in Vancouver in responding to a midnight call, as an evidence that they were a deserving body, and repudiated the idea that the citizens were dissatisfied with them because they had shown themselves ready to perform their duty on that occasion.

HON. MR. TURNER said that this vote should have been \$700, instead of \$600. The deficit would be made good in the Supplementary Estimates.

In response to an inquiry of Mr. Houston, in connection with the vote

to the Province Finance Minister contracted in smallpox scare quiring emergency, would be earnest if the be just.

The vote for a suggestion for

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#### BILLS

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to the Provincial Board of Health, the Finance Minister stated that any debts contracted in connection with the smallpox scare of last Winter, in acquiring emergency accommodations, etc., would be made good by the Government if the accounts were shown to be just.

The vote for superannuations elicited a suggestion from

MR. HELMCKEN, that the Government should provide a scheme by which officials of the Government should have a retiring allowance.

HON. MR. TURNER replied that he thought there should be some method of insuring the Civil Servants of the Province, and it seemed to him very reasonable that the Government should consider some scheme in that direction.

**BILLS ADVANCED.**

The Companies Bill was taken up in Committee of the Whole, which reported it up with certain amendments. The Bill was on motion read a third time and finally passed.

Hon. Mr. McBride moved the second reading of the Bill to provide for the settlement of disputes as to mining claims in the Porcupine District of Lake Bennett Mining Division. Mr. McBride said in this connection that he had been convinced that in order to have the disputes existing in that country settled it was necessary that a commissioner should be sent there, and it had been arranged that such commissioner should leave Victoria during the early part of next week.

**ATLIN HYDRAULIC LEASES.**

Mr. Helmcken presented a report from the Standing Committee on Printing, recommending that a list of applications for hydraulic leases in the Atlin District be printed for the information of the House.

**SPECIAL SERVICE RELIEF.**

Hon. Mr. McBride moved the second reading of the Bill to relieve members of the Canadian Military Contingent serving in South Africa from the operation of the Placer Mining and Mineral Acts. The purpose of this Bill, he explained, was to preserve to those of the contingent who were interested in mining claims, of whom there were perhaps 15 or 20, the interests they possessed in such mines before leaving for the front. He thought the Bill would commend itself to all.

Mr. Helmcken suggested that the franchise rights of these volunteers should also be safeguarded.

The Bill was read a second time, passed in Committee of the Whole, and finally passed.

The House then adjourned.

**EVENING SESSION.**

The House re-assembled at 8 o'clock and at once went into Committee of the Whole on the Vancouver City Charter, which was disposed of in the one sitting, the final clause being reached and passed when the adjournment took place at 12 o'clock. There was comparatively no discussion on the amendments, which, thanks to the intelligent explanations of Mayor Garden, were well understood, as they were proposed, and the fact that the Bill had already been before the House greatly facilitated the work. Progress was also assisted by an agreement to take all the unamended clauses as read.

MR. BROWN, speaking for Mr. Gilmore, proposed an amendment to Section 124, relating to the borrowing powers of the City, providing that in the event of a petition signed by at least 1,000 voters, any question relating to the public interest should be submitted to the vote of the electors upon certain conditions as to guaranteeing expenses. He said that many people in Vancouver were interested in this question, and argued that means should be provided by which the people could have an opportunity of hearing the merits of any such question discussed. Of course, this would only apply to such questions as to which public interest was strongly excited.

MAYOR GARDEN thought as the Council was elected once a year, the people were fully protected, and had sufficient control, in that way, of the actions of that body. The amendment was lost.

The following amendments to Section 125, relating to the powers of the

Council to pass by-laws, were passed without serious discussion. In fact, so wearisome was the task of wading through the Bill that there was a bare quorum in the House most of the time.

7. To amend Sub-section 1 of Section 125, by inserting between the words "the" and "city," in the 4th line thereof, the words "limits of the."

8. To amend Sub-section 4 of Section 125 by adding thereto the following: "Provided that nothing in this Sub-section shall be held to impair or prejudice the rights now vested in the British Columbia Electric Railway, or the New Westminster & Burrard Inlet Telephone Company, or the Vancouver Gas Company, by any statute in force or requirements under any agreement or agreements with the City."

9. To amend Sub-section 5 of Section 125 by striking out, in the 6th line thereof, the word "and," and substituting therefor the word "or," and by striking out, in the 8th line thereof, the word "either," and substituting therefor the word "any."

10. To amend Section 125 by striking out Sub-section 9 thereof, and substituting therefor the following:

"(9.) If such company or companies refuse the price offered by the City, or if, at the expiration of 30 days from the time that notification of the price offered has been delivered, they fail to accept such price, or within the period aforesaid fail to give the notice requiring an arbitration as aforesaid, then the Council may proceed forthwith to exercise the powers conferred upon them by the first four of the preceding sub-sections to this section of this Act."

10. To amend Sub-section 7 of Section 125 by striking out, in the 1st line thereof, the word "clause" and substituting therefor the word "sub-section."

11. To amend Section 125 by striking out Sub-section 10 thereof and substituting therefor the following:

"(10.) The provisions as to purchase contained in the preceding sub-sections of this Act shall have no force or effect whatsoever in favor of the Vancouver Gas Company if the said Company shall charge more than \$2.50 per 1,000 cubic feet for gas supplied by them, nor in favor of the part of the undertaking of the British Columbia Electric Railway Company, Limited, which pertains to the business of electric lighting if the said Company shall charge any citizen more than one cent per ampere hour 16-candle power lamp for electricity supplied by the said Company for lighting purposes; and in the event of such companies, or either of them, making charges in excess of the above rate, the Corporation shall have the right to construct, purchase, maintain and operate gas or electric light works, or both, and supply the inhabitants of the City therewith, without first offering a price for the works of any company charging such excessive rate as aforesaid."

13. To amend Section 125 by striking out Sub-section 11 thereof and by substituting therefor the following:

"(11.) Provided, however, that the Council may enter into the lighting of the public streets, highways, public places and buildings with electric light at any time upon their first acquiring any boilers, engines, dynamos, poles, wires and all other arc lighting plant then being utilised in the lighting of the streets of the city by the said British Columbia Electric Railway Company, Limited, the price to be paid for such plant, and the preliminary steps to be taken for the acquiring of the same, are to be the same as hereinbefore provided with reference to the compulsory purchase of the other portions of the undertaking of the Company."

14. To amend Section 125 by striking out Sub-section 12 and substituting therefor the following:

"(12.) If the Company declines to accept said option referred to in the next preceding Sub-section, or if, after acceptance, the Company fails to construct the said railway or lighting works within a reasonable time, then the Council may pass a by-law authorising the City to construct, equip, operate and maintain the said railway or tramway or lighting works on and over such street or streets; but no such by-law shall be acted upon by the Council until it shall have been submitted

to and have been ratified by a similar vote of the ratepayers as is hereinbefore provided with respect to by-laws requiring the assent of the electors."

15. To amend Sub-section 45 of Section 125 by adding after the word "property," on the first line thereof, the words "any lots or," and by inserting between the words "drained" and "into" in the third line thereof, the words "whether the same is drained into a sewer or not."

17. To amend Section 125 by adding the following sub-sections:

(47.) For regulating the keeping of horses and defining the structure, materials and class of buildings in which horses may be kept.

(60.) For providing for the appointment or election of three Commissioners to arrange and control the Cemetery or burial grounds of the City.

(61.) For providing for the appointment or election of Commissioners not exceeding 15 in number, for the control and management of the City Hospital, and for defining the duties of such Commissioners."

18. To amend Sub-section 89 of Section 125 by inserting between the words "governing" and "bill," in line 1 thereof, the words "and defining."

19. To amend Sub-section 91 of Section 125 by inserting between the words "licensing" and "skating," in line 5 thereof, the words "buildings used as theatres and for exhibitions of any kind."

20. To amend Sub-section 93 of Section 125 by adding thereto the words "and regulating the keeping of dogs."

21. To amend Sub-section 99A of Section 125 by inserting before the word "Trading," in the first line thereof, the words "For licensing."

22. To amend Sub-section 113 of Section 125 by adding thereto the words "within the City."

23. To amend Sub-section 114 of Section 125 by inserting between the words "For" and "licensing," in the first line thereof, the words "regulating and."

24. To amend Sub-section 116 of Section 125 by inserting between the words "owners" and "of," in the first line thereof, the words "and drivers."

25. To amend Sub-section 117 of Section 125 by adding thereto the words "unless such revocation is occasioned by a breach of the law having been made by the licensee."

26. To amend Section 125 by adding thereto the following sub-section:

"(119.) For the appointment of a Licensing Inspector and defining his powers and duties."

27. To amend Section 125 by placing Sub-section 118A under the head note "Land, Erection of Buildings and Prevention of Fire."

28. To amend Sub-section 121 of Section 125 by adding to the end thereof the following words: "And such by-law shall not be repealed."

29. To amend Sub-section 126 of Section 125 by inserting between the words "purposes" and "or," in the third line thereof, the words "Roads, streets" and by adding to the said sub-section the following words: "Excepting in the case of Suburban Lot 99, Hastings Townsite, known as Hastings Park, situate at Hastings, which may be leased by the Council of the said City for a term of years."

30. To amend Sub-section 127 of Section 125 by adding thereto the words "and any branches thereof."

31. To amend Sub-section 207 of Section 125 by adding thereto the words "But this sub-section shall not be taken to limit the powers conferred on the Council by Sub-section 15 of this section."

32. To amend Section 125 by adding the following sub-section:

"(209.) For allowing a rebate or rebates on all taxes if paid before a certain time or times to be named in the by-law."

33. To amend Sub-section 5 of Section 125 by striking out the following words in lines three and four thereof: "or injuriously affected by the exercise of any of its powers."

34. To amend Sub-section 1 of Section 124 by adding thereto the following words: "And the cost of purchasing, appropriating and obtaining any lands or rights necessary to be purchased, appropriated or obtained in order to carry out any of the above objects."



25. To amend Section 181 by striking out in lines two and three thereof the words, "From 1st April to 1st October, and from 2 o'clock a. m. to 4 o'clock p. m. from 1st October to 1st of April."

A discussion arose upon Sub-section 18, giving the City power to oblige electric companies to place their wires underground.

MR. GARDEN upheld the rights of the City valiantly, holding that on principle this power should be given, subject, if the Legislature so desired, to the approval of the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council.

MR. McPHILLIPS moved that the whole section be struck out and MR. POOLEY supported him.

The benches were comparatively empty at the time, particularly on the Opposition side of the House, where there was but a single representative present.

MR. McPHILLIPS, who moved the striking out of the section.

MR. TATLOW supported Mayor Garden.

The sub-section was struck out. The House adjourned until 2 o'clock on Monday next.

TUESDAY.....August 21, 1900

**PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT**

**Provisions of Mr. Oliver's Municipal Clauses Act Amendment Bill. —The Kettle River Railway Act.**

**THE PORCUPINE COMMISSION.**

Below will be found the gist of the provisions of Bill No. 52, introduced by the Hon. Minister of Mines, being an Act to provide for the settlement of disputes as to mining claims in the Porcupine District of the Bennett Lake Mining Division:

Whereas, on account of the uncertainty as to the boundary line between Canada and the United States of America, disputes have arisen and are likely to arise as to the location, ownership and size of quartz and placer mining claims in the Porcupine District of the Bennett Lake Mining Division:

And whereas, it is desirable that such disputes should be settled in a summary and inexpensive manner:

The Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council may appoint a Judge of the Supreme Court of British Columbia a Special Commissioner for settling disputes and difficulties with regard to matters arising under Chapters 135 and 136 of the "Revised Statutes, 1897," and amending Acts, in the Porcupine District of the Bennett Lake Mining Division.

4. The said Commissioner shall have power to settle and dispose of in a summary way all matters which may be brought before him by the parties interested, and also all matters which may be referred to him by the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council, or by the Government Agent of the said District, touching the above questions.

5. The said Commissioner shall not be bound, in giving his decision in connection with any of the above matters, by the provisions of said Chapters 135 or 136, but, in view of the complications which have arisen in connection with said matters in said District, he may decide all such questions in accordance with equity and good sense. The said Commissioner shall, however, so far as possible, consistent with doing justice in the premises, follow the provisions of said Chapters 135 and 136.

6. The decision of said Commissioner, with regard to all matters so brought before him, shall be final and without appeal.

7. Any decision given by such Commissioner shall be carried out by the Government Agent, Gold Commissioner, and all mining recorders and other officers of the Crown in or for said District, and any such decision shall be considered an order of the Supreme Court of British Columbia, and may be proceeded upon in said Court in the same manner as if the same were made in any action in said Court.

**VANCOUVER CITY CROWN LANDS**

The following are the terms of Bill No. 51, introduced by the Hon. Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works, being an Act to authorize a grant to the Corporation of the City of Vancouver of certain Crown Lands situate in said City:

It shall be lawful for the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council, upon such terms and conditions as he shall see fit, to grant to the Corporation of the City of Vancouver—

(a) All the estate, right, title and interest of Her Majesty the Queen in the right of the Province of British Columbia, in the foreshore of False Creek, in the said City of Vancouver, and in the land covered by the waters of said creek, which said foreshore and land covered with water are colored pink upon the map signed by the Honorable Wilmer Cleveland Wells, Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works, and by James Ford Garden, Mayor of said City, and filed in the Department of Lands and Works at Victoria, the 14th day of August, A.D. 1900.

(b) All the estate, right, title and interest of Her Majesty the Queen in the right of the Province of British Columbia, in the foreshore of the portion of Coal Harbor, in the City of Vancouver, colored pink upon said map, and in the land covered by the waters of said portion of Coal Harbor, which said land covered with water is also colored pink upon said map.

**MORTGAGEES' COSTS ACT.**

The following is the text of Bill No. 49, introduced by Mr. McPhillips, being an Act to amend the Law relating to Costs allowed to Mortgagees:

1. This Act may be cited as the "Mortgagees' Legal Costs Act, 1900."

2. (1) Any solicitor to whom, either alone or jointly with any other person a mortgage is made, or the firm of which such solicitor is a member, shall be entitled to receive for all business transacted and acts done by such solicitor or firm in negotiating the loan, deducting and investigating the title to the property and comparing and completing the mortgage, all such usual professional charges and remuneration as he or they would have been entitled to receive if such mortgage had been made to a person not a solicitor, and such person had retained and employed such solicitor or firm to transact such business, and do such acts; and such charges and remuneration shall accordingly be recoverable from the mortgagor.

(2) This section applies only to mortgages made after the commencement of this Act.

3. Any solicitor to or in whom either alone or jointly with any other person any mortgage is made or is vested by transfer or transmission, or the firm of which such solicitor is a member, shall be entitled to receive and recover from the person on whose behalf the same is done or to charge against the security for all business transacted any acts done by such solicitor or firm subsequent and in relation to such mortgage or to the security thereby created or the property therein comprised, all such professional charges and remuneration as he or they would have been entitled to receive if such mortgage had been made to and had remained vested in a person not a solicitor, and such person had retained and employed such solicitor or firm to transact such business and do such acts, and accordingly no such mortgage shall be redeemed except upon payment of such charges and remuneration.

(2) This section applies to mortgages made and business transacted and acts done either before or after the commencement of this Act.

4. In this Act the expression "mortgage" includes any charge on any property for securing money or money's worth.

**MUNICIPAL CLAUSES ACT.**

The following is the text of Bill No. 45, introduced by Mr. Oliver, being an Act to amend the "Municipal Clauses Act."

1. This Act may be cited as the "Municipal Clauses Act Amendment Act, 1900."

2. Sub-section (106) of Section 50 of Chapter 144 of the Revised Statutes, 1897, is hereby repealed, and the following sub-section is substituted therefor:

"(106) In Township or District Municipalities, for raising within the municipality such sum, by way of road tax, not exceeding in the whole two dollars per head per annum, and defining who shall be liable to pay such road tax among the male persons between the ages of twenty-one and fifty residing for two weeks within the municipality, and for levying and collecting road tax, subject to the other provisions of this Act with reference thereto:"

3. Sub-section (146) of said Section 50 of said Act is hereby repealed, and the following sub-section is substituted therefor:

"(146) To prevent the growth of weeds and to provide for the destruction of weeds at the expense of the owners or occupiers of the lands on which they grow, and such expense may be collected at the same time and in the same manner as taxes are collected."

said Act, as of Chapter 35 is hereby amended as follows:

"But the My resolution deduce of the credit of 11 or of the special aid, instead aforesaid, shall the same shall the payment value as the can agree for or any of the or constituting of it payable, ed for in such Municipal Council, and costs of the produce the credit of 11 clal rate accou resolution."

5. Section 11 amended by a Sub-section (a)

"(a) In case, property in an municipality as vendor or vend in accordance the assessment been properly whom the said upon the last re

6. Sub-section said Act is he following sub- therefor:

"(i) The tota person may pay in lieu of st

7. Sub-section said Act is he following sub- therefor:

"(h) The tota person may p money in lieu of

8. Sub-section Section 163 of s pending, and the are substituted.

"(a) Every m than twenty-one years of age, res or district mun thirty days, shal statute labor or ways in the m that such statut eed two days in

"(b) Every per Assessment Roll district municipi her land be asses five hundred dol hundred dollars thereof over five additional day.

any township or may by a by-lav and ratably r days' labor to v rated on the Ass respectively liabl of days' labor to liable under this proportion to the each person is that the statute Sub-section (a) s the Municipal Cl the municipality this Act at a ra dollars per day, r levied under Sub commuted by th officer of the mu Section 141 at a ri half of one per e tion. But the c less rate to be l operating general

"(c) For the pu the amount of st each person is l tion (b), each ic other legal wudd puted separately."

9. Sub-sections Section 163 of sal repealed.

10. Section 133, amended by add Sub-section (a):

"(a) Notwithst this section to the cil of any townsh cipality may by



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Sub-section (l) of Section 113 of said Act, as re-enacted by Section 11 of Chapter 25 of the Statutes of 1898, is hereby amended by adding thereto the following:  
"But the Municipal Council may by resolution decide that part of the produce of the special rate levied, and of the credit of the sinking fund account, or of the special rate account as aforesaid, instead of being invested as aforesaid, shall, from time to time as the same shall accrue, be applied to the payment or redemption at such value as the said Municipal Council can agree for any part of such debt, or any of the debentures representing or constituting such debt, or any part of it payable, to be selected as provided for in such resolution, and the Municipal Council shall thereupon apply, and continue to apply, such part of the produce of the special rate at the credit of the sinking fund or special rate accounts as directed by such resolution."  
5. Section 115 of said Act is hereby amended by adding the following as Sub-section (a):  
"(a) In case of the transfer of real property in any township or district municipality and a declaration by the vendor or vendee has not been made in accordance with this section, then the assessment shall be held to have been properly made if assessed to whom the said property was assessed upon the last revised Assessment Roll."  
6. Sub-section (l) of Section 141 of said Act is hereby repealed, and the following sub-section is substituted therefor:  
"(l) The total amount in cash the person may pay as commutation money in lieu of statute labor (if any)."  
7. Sub-section (h) of Section 143 of said Act is hereby repealed, and the following sub-section is substituted therefor:  
"(h) The total amount in cash the person may pay as commutation money in lieu of statute labor (if any)."  
8. Sub-sections (a), (b), and (c) of Section 163 of said Act are hereby repealed, and the following sub-sections are substituted therefor:  
"(a) Every male person of not less than twenty-one and not over fifty years of age, residing in any township or district municipality for at least thirty days, shall be liable to perform statute labor on the roads or high-ways in the municipality, provided that such statute labor shall not exceed two days in any one year.  
"(b) Every person assessed upon the Assessment Roll of any township or district municipality shall, if his or her land be assessed at not more than five hundred dollars, be liable to one day's statute labor, and for every five hundred dollars or fractional part thereof over five hundred dollars, one additional day. But the Council of any township or district municipality may by a by-law operating generally and ratably reduce the number of days' labor to which all the parties rated on the Assessment Roll shall be respectively liable so that the number of days' labor to which each person is liable under this section shall be in proportion to the amount at which each person is assessed: Provided, that the statute labor levied under Sub-section (a) shall be commuted by the Municipal Clerk or other officer of the municipality under Section 141 of this Act at a rate not exceeding two dollars per day, and the statute labor levied under Sub-section (b) shall be commuted by the Municipal Clerk or officer of the municipality under said Section 141 at a rate not exceeding one-half of one per centum on the valuation. But the Council may direct a less rate to be imposed by a by-law operating generally and ratably.  
"(c) For the purpose of ascertaining the amount of statute labor for which each person is liable under Sub-section (b), each lot, portion of lot or other legal subdivision shall be computed separately."  
9. Sub-sections (d) and (e) of said Section 163 of said Act are hereby repealed.  
10. Section 238 of said Act is hereby amended by adding the following as Sub-section (a):  
"(a) Notwithstanding anything in this section to the contrary, the Council of any township or district municipality may by by-law appropriate

any one or more town or suburban lots for the purpose of obtaining gravel, stone, timber or other material which may be required in the construction, maintenance or repair of any roads, bridges or other public works, and the said Council shall make compensation as provided by Sections 239, 240, 241, and 242 of this Act."  
11. Section 243 of said Act is hereby amended by inserting the word "first" between the words "have" and "arise," in the eighth line thereof.  
**GRAND FORKS & KETTLE RIVER.**  
Hereunder will be found the salient sections of the Bill to Incorporate the Grand Forks & Kettle River Railway Company.  
Whereas, a petition has been presented for an Act to incorporate a company with power to construct, equip, maintain and operate a standard or narrow gauge railway for the purpose of conveying passengers, freight, merchandise and goods, commencing at a point on the Canadian side of the International boundary, at or near Cascade City, in the Osoyoos Division of Yale District, in this Province; thence along the westerly side of Kettle River by the most feasible route to a point on the Canadian side of the International boundary line at Carson, in the Osoyoos Division of Yale District aforesaid; with power to construct, equip, maintain and operate branch railways and tramways in connection therewith, and all necessary roads, bridges, ways, ferries and other works; and with power to build, own, equip, operate and maintain telegraph and telephone lines in connection with the said railway or tramway or branches of either; with power to construct, equip, operate and maintain branch lines in connection with the said telegraph and telephone lines, and to build and operate all kinds of plant for the purpose of supplying light, heat, electricity and any kind of motive power; and with power to expropriate lands for the purposes of the Company, and to acquire lands, bonuses, privileges or any other aids from any governments, persons or body corporates; and to make traffic or other arrangements with railways, steamboats or other companies or persons; and with power to build wagon roads and trails to be used in the construction of the said works and in advance of the same, and to levy and collect tolls from the parties using and on all freight or goods passing over any of such lines, roads or trails built by the Company, whether built before or after the construction of the tramway, railways, telegraph or telephone lines, and with all other usual necessary or incidental rights, powers or privileges;  
Therefore, the Honorable James Robert Stratton, Provincial Secretary of Ontario; Thomas Patrick Coffee, Manager of the Trusts and Guarantee Company of Toronto; and Frederick Montford Holland, Manager of the Dominion Permanent Loan Company, all of the City of Toronto, in the Province of Ontario, and George Henry Cowan, of the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, Barrister-at-law, together with such other persons and corporations as shall become shareholders in the Company hereby incorporated, shall be and are hereby constituted a body corporate and politic by the name of the "Grand Forks & Kettle River Railway Company"; hereinafter called the Company.  
2. The Company may survey, lay out, construct, equip, maintain and operate by steam, electricity or any other kind or kinds of motive power, a line of railway, of standard or any other gauge, from a point on the Canadian side of the International boundary at or near Cascade City, in the Osoyoos Division of Yale District, in this Province; thence along the westerly side of Kettle River, by the most feasible route, to a point on the Canadian side of the International boundary at or near Carson City, in the Osoyoos Division of Yale District, in this Province, with power to construct, equip, maintain and operate branch railways and tramways in connection therewith, and all necessary roads, bridges, ways, ferries and other works.  
3. The said James Robert Stratton, Thomas Patrick Coffee, Frederick Montford Holland and George Henry Cowan are hereby constituted a Board of Provisional Directors of the Company, of whom three shall form a quorum, and they shall hold office as such until other Directors are elected under the provisions of this Act by the shareholders and shall have power to fill the place or places of any of their

number whom they become vacant, and to open stock books and procure subscriptions for the undertaking, to make calls upon the subscribers, to cause surveys and plans to be executed, and to call a general meeting of the shareholders for the election of Directors as hereinafter provided, and with all such other powers as under the British Columbia Railway Act are vested in ordinary directors, and such provisional Directors may appoint a Committee of one or more from their number to exercise all or any of the powers of such Board.  
11. The capital stock of the Company hereby incorporated shall be \$1,000,000, (with power to increase the same in the manner provided by the British Columbia Railway Act), to be divided into 10,000 shares of \$100 each, and shall be raised by the persons and corporations who may become shareholders in the Company, and the money so raised shall be applied in the first place to the payment of all fees, expenses and disbursements of and incidental to the passing of this Act, and for making the surveys, plans and estimates connected with the works hereby authorized, and the remainder of the said money shall be applied to the making, equipping, completing and maintaining the said railway and for the other purposes of this Act.  
12. So soon as \$100,000 of the capital stock shall have been subscribed, and 10 per cent. of the amount subscribed shall have been paid into some chartered bank of Canada, the Provisional Directors shall call a meeting of the shareholders of the Company at the place where the head office is situate, giving due notice at which meeting the shareholders who have paid ten per cent. on the amount of stock subscribed by them may from the shareholders elect not less than three and not more than fifteen Directors who shall hold office until others are elected.  
13. The annual general meeting of the shareholders of the Company shall be held in such place in the City of Vancouver or at such other place on such days and at such hours as may be directed by the by-laws of the Company upon due notice.  
14. The head office of the Company shall be at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, or at such other place within the said Province as the Company may from time to time by by-law appoint.  
15. The number of Directors to be hereinafter elected by the shareholders shall be such number not less than three nor more than fifteen as shall be fixed by the by-laws of the Company who shall each hold at least five shares in the capital of the Company, and of whom three shall form a quorum for the transaction of business.  
16. No call upon unpaid shares shall be made at one time for more than ten per cent. upon the amount thereof, and at least 30 days shall intervene between each call.  
17. The Company shall be deemed to be a "Power Company," within Part IV. of the "Water Classes Consolidation Act, 1897," incorporated for the purposes mentioned in Sections 79, 80, 82 and 83 in said Act, and shall have all the rights, powers and privileges granted to such "power company" thereunder, and be subject to the restrictions placed on same (where not inconsistent with this Act), but only when and so long as the Company shall exercise such powers, rights and privileges thereunder.  
18. The said James Robert Stratton, Thomas Patrick Coffee, Frederick Montford Holland and George Henry Cowan are hereby constituted a Board of Provisional Directors of the Company, of whom three shall form a quorum, and they shall hold office as such until other Directors are elected under the provisions of this Act by the shareholders and shall have power to fill the place or places of any of their



PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT

Estimates Disposed of.—Lake Bennett Railway Bill Killed.—Porcupine District Commission.—Vancouver City Bill.

From Our Own Correspondent. TWENTY-FIRST DAY.

Victoria, B. C., August 20. The bill-of-fare disposed of in the House to-day was a very meagre one, and from the spectators' point of view decidedly uninteresting. The formal reading and passing of the Estimates through their remaining stages occupied a considerable time, and a long wrangle over a knotty point in the Vancouver City Charter, was accountable for another good portion of the sitting. The only tactical episode between the Opposition and Government parties lay in an attempt on the part of the Opposition to have the Bill to incorporate the Lake Bennett Railway Company placed on the Orders of the Day for the second reading. It will be remembered that this Bill was thrown out by the Railway Committee, which occasioned a long debate in the House last week. The motion to revive the Bill met with a similar fate to-day. Notwithstanding the promising nature of the proceedings, the galleries were well occupied during the afternoon.

The House met at 2 o'clock p.m. The petitions from the British America Corporation, Limited, and others, and from the London & British Columbia Gold Fields, Limited, and others, asking for an enquiry into the conditions of the mining industry, which were presented on Friday, were on motion received.

Mr. Martin raised an objection to the reception of these petitions, on the ground that they were vague in meaning, and asked for nothing of a specific nature, and also that they contained lines which had been scratched out and altered. The objection was overruled.

ESTIMATES AGREED TO. The various items in the Estimates as passed in Committee of Supply last week, were passed by the House, and finally agreed to.

NEW BELLS. Hon. Mr. Eberts introduced a Bill to amend the Railway Assessment Act; also a Bill to amend the Provincial Elections Act; also a Bill to amend the Tramway Incorporation Act; all of which were read a first time.

THE LAKE BENNETT RAILWAY BILL.

MR. STABLES moved, seconded by MR. CURTIS—That Bill (No. 16), intitled "An Act to incorporate the Lake Bennett Railway Company," be placed upon the Orders of the Day for second reading.

MR. STABLES said that he did this in order to obtain, if he could, some further information regarding that railway. He understood it was the policy of the Government to prevent that road being constructed. Why that should be so, he could not understand. The point had been raised in Committee and in the House, that it was the policy of the Dominion Government not to grant charters to any railroads that will have their terminals in an American port. He thought it would be well to look into that matter, as it seemed to him the Dominion Government should be quite capable of conducting its own business. This charter simply called for a road through British Columbia territory, and so long as it did not cross the boundary line it seemed to him that it would be quite within the province of this House to grant the charter. For himself, he would say that he was quite as much in favor of an all-Canadian route as anybody, but what guarantee had they that such a line would be constructed in the near future? Some of them had had experience with all-Canadian

routes through that country already, an experience that had cost many thousands of dollars. He referred to the road from Telegraph Creek to Teslin Lake. They had had it from one of the Ministers in the House at Ottawa that a wagon-road had been constructed, and that part of the road had been graded. Taking it for granted that these things were so, thousands of people went into that country over that all-Canadian route, with a result that was only too well-known to every one in the country. He regretted that such utterances should have come from the lips of a member of the Government at Ottawa, and he regretted that this Government should seek to prevent the construction of a road as promised by the present charter. There was no question about the need of such a competing line in that district, and he thought it would only be just and fair if this Government should grant that charter, and leave it to the Dominion Government to deal with the other part of it as it saw fit.

MR. CURTIS desired to express his concurrence in the remarks of the junior member for Cassiar. He considered it only proper that this Bill incorporating the Lake Bennett Railway Company should be read a second time, and dealt with by this House. He could see no reason—and no reason had been offered yet—why the charter should not be granted. He was satisfied that it would be of very great benefit to the locality in question and he could not see how it could injure any Canadian interest.

The motion for the second reading of the Bill was then put and lost, the House dividing as follows:

For the motion: Messrs. McInnes, Gilmour, Stables, Oliver, Brown, Curtis, Smith, R., Houston—4.

Against the motion: Messrs. Kidd, Neill, Green, Hall, McPhillips, Helmcken, Turner, Dunsmuir, Eberts, Smith, A. W., Ellison, Clifford, Fulton, Hayward, Garden, Prentice, Wells, McBride, Pooley, Murphy, Rogers, Hunter, Taylor, Dickie, Mounce—23.

QUESTIONS.

Mr. Kidd asked the Hon. the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works the following question:

Is it the intention of the Government to open for settlement, in small holdings, by lease or otherwise, to actual settlers, the Provincial lands now under reserve in the Municipalities of South Vancouver and Burnaby?

The Hon. Mr. Wells replied as follows:

"Up to the present time the Government has not considered the advisability of opening for settlement, by lease or otherwise, the Provincial lands referred to."

Mr. Tatlow asked the Hon. the Minister of Mines the following question: Is it the intention of the Government to establish a mining division with a gold commissioner resident in the City of Vancouver?

The Hon. Mr. McBride replied as follows:

"The Government is collecting data with reference to the establishment of such mining division."

BILLS SENT DOWN.

His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor transmitted a Bill to amend the Mineral Act, with a recommendation in its favor. The Bill was introduced and read a first time.

His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor also transmitted a Bill to amend the Licence Act. The Bill was introduced and read a first time.

IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE.

The House went into Committee of the Whole when the Bill to provide for the settlement of disputes over mining claims in the Porcupine District was taken up for consideration.

Mr. Stables asked if the Government intended to exact a \$25 fee from parties seeking to have their claims settled, as was done in connection with the Commission last year? In many cases he said the payment of this fee had worked a hardship, and compelled the abandonment of claims altogether.

Hon. Mr. McBride said that the experience of last year had shown that this \$25 fee was necessary to prevent frivolous claims being presented to the Commissioner. There were some cases, however, in which it may have

worked hardship, and the Government would try to arrange to meet such cases this time, and if possible remit the fee in such instances as seemed to warrant it.

The Bill was reported up without amendments.

The Vancouver & Westminister Railway Bill was then taken up in Committee of the Whole. It will be remembered that when this Bill was in Committee last week, the clause giving the Company the right to build a branch line 20 miles in length, extending from the main line, was objected to by Mr. Martin and others, and was laid over for further consideration. This clause was taken up to-day, Mr. Helmcken offering in amendment to limit the length of the branch lines to 15 miles.

Mr. Oliver, Mr. Curtis, Mr. Martin and Mr. Gilmour objected to the amendment. They contended that the Company would still have power to construct branch lines, longer than the main line itself, which was only 12 miles, and that such a provision would give the Company a blanket charter to build where it chose over the whole district, and thus deter any other company which might otherwise be willing to construct a line, from operating.

Mr. Martin, in particular, urged the point that the Company should not be given such an indefinite charter, holding that it should be stated where the proposed branches were to run to.

To this Mr. Helmcken said he understood that it was contemplated to build a branch to Steveston.

Mr. Martin held that such a road would not be a branch within the meaning of the Act, but a main line.

Mr. Oliver offered an amendment confining the Company to the north bank of the Fraser River, which was voted down.

Mr. Helmcken's amendment was carried on a party vote.

Mr. Helmcken then moved to strike out Clause 32 of the Bill, which provided that the preceding Section (31), stipulating that the Company should carry free all persons whose transportation would otherwise be a charge against the Province, should be a condition upon which the Act was passed, and should be binding upon the bondholders and all other persons interested in the said Company or its property.

The motion passed, the Opposition dissenting.

Mr. Helmcken was to further move that Clause 34, providing for the exclusion of Oriental labor in connection with the construction and operation of the road, be struck out, but at this stage he asked that the Committee rise and report progress, to give time for further consideration of the clause. The Committee rose.

VANCOUVER CITY CHARTER.

The sections of the Vancouver City Charter dealing with wards and the constitution of the Council, which were laid over, at the last sitting of the Committee, were again taken up in Committee of the Whole. Section (3) providing for the number of wards, was, after some discussion, amended, to read that the City Council may, by by-law, divide the City into two or more wards, instead of ten or more wards, and that such wards shall be represented on the basis of population, as well as assessed values.

Section (4), dealing with the constitution of the Council, was amended to read as follows:

"4. There shall be elected annually a fit and proper person who shall be called Mayor of the City of Vancouver, and in the event of the whole City being declared by by-law to be one ward, ten fit and proper persons, who shall be called Aldermen of the City; in the event of the City being by by-law divided into two or more wards, one or more fit and proper persons to represent each such ward. The Council shall by by-law fix the number of Aldermen to represent each ward."

The Committee rose and reported progress.

VOTING RETURNS.

Mr. Brown asked the Government when the returns showing the number of votes cast in the different constituencies, requested some days ago, would be brought down?

Hon. Mr. McBride said that the re-

turns had been laid on the table early day. The House to-morrow.

NOTICE.

Mr. Oliver on Wednesday 1. Did the expenses of session to the Province for 1897 or 1898? 2. If so, for Hutcherson v. H. 3. Did Mr. E. report to the Government the nature of Mr. Oliver's on Thursday? 1. Is the "brown" an alarming of this Province? 2. Has any 12 among Province as to 1. Mr. McPhillips day: Will the Gov. tion by the in- to persons and moneys as we reason of the Act Amendmen "Placer Mining ment Act, 1898, that all mining pite on the 21st when issued? Mr. Gilmour v on Wednesday: As the promo net and Chiles aware of the po in reference to they had incurre tion with th Government. Is them for said as Mr. Tatlow, on ask:

NOTICES.

The Hon. Mr. consideration of "A 30) intitled "A Land Registry end of Section 8 "And thereupon title or of regist ing in respect o deemed to be cas estate or interest. Mr. Helmcken v tee of the Whole tuted "An Act to loops & Atlin (3) strike out Section reported by the and to substitute ing words, that is "15. The clause "British Columbia amendments the this Company, an villeges conferred be applicable as line of the Compa lines constructed hereof, save and conflict, inconsiste between the claus any of the claus "British Columbia which case the p shall prevail and of section of the Railway Act," ind to the extent of a consistency or repi Mr. Brown will of the Whole on— Bill (No. 13) intit corporate the Crov tric Light & Pow ted." Bill (No. 14) intit corporate the West Telegraph Company That the followi new section to Sec "28. Any duly in ally shall at any one year's notice the right to purch uary shall be comp



turns had been prepared and would be laid on the table of the House at an early day.

The House adjourned until 2 o'clock to-morrow.

**NOTICES OF QUESTIONS.**

Mr. Oliver will ask the Government on Wednesday next:

1. Did the Government pay the expenses of sending Mr. E. Hutcherson to the Province of Manitoba, in the year 1897 or 1898?

2. If so, for what purpose did Mr. Hutcherson visit Manitoba?

3. Did Mr. Hutcherson make any report to the Government? If so, what was the nature of the report?

Mr. Oliver will ask the Government on Thursday next:

1. Is the Government aware that the "brown rot in plums" has spread to an alarming extent in the orchards of this Province?

2. Has any information been circulated amongst the fruit-growers of the Province as to the best methods of eradicating this pest?

Mr. McPhillips will ask on Wednesday:

Will the Government, upon application by the interested parties, refund to persons and corporations all such moneys as were paid twice over by reason of the passage of the "Mineral Act Amendment Act, 1899," and the "Placer Mining Act Further Amendment Act, 1899," said Acts declaiming that all mining certificates should expire on the 31st May, 1899, no matter when issued?

Mr. Gilmour will ask the Government on Wednesday:

As the promoters of the Lake Bennett and Chilkat Railways were not aware of the policy of the Government in reference to railway charters until they had incurred large expense in connection with their charter, does the Government intend to recompense them for said expense?

Mr. Tallow, on Wednesday next, will ask:

At what price did the Trustees for the Sinking Fund purchase the stock required for the half-yearly investment of that Fund in June or July, 1900?

**NOTICES OF MOTION.**

The Hon. Mr. Eberts will move, on consideration of the report on Bill (No. 30) intitled "An Act to amend the 'Land Registry Act,'" to add to the end of Section 8 the following words: "And thereupon any certificate of title or of registered estate outstanding in respect of the same shall be deemed to be cancelled as to the said estate or interest."

Mr. Helmcken will move, in Committee of the Whole on Bill (No. 34) intitled "An Act to incorporate the Kamloops & Atlin Railway Company," to strike out Section 15 of the said Bill, as reported by the Railway Committee, and to substitute therefor the following words, that is to say:

"15. The clauses or sections of the 'British Columbia Act,' and all future amendments thereto, shall apply to this Company, and all powers and privileges conferred by the said Act shall be applicable as well to the main line of the Company as to all branch lines constructed under the provisions hereof, save and except in case of any conflict, inconsistency or repugnancy between the clauses of this Act, and any of the clauses or sections of the 'British Columbia Railway Act,' in which case the provisions of this Act shall prevail and over-ride any clause or section of the 'British Columbia Railway Act,' incorporated herewith, to the extent of any such conflict, inconsistency or repugnancy."

Mr. Brown will move, in Committee of the Whole on—

Bill (No. 13) intitled "An Act to incorporate the Crow's Nest Pass Electric Light & Power Company, Limited."

Bill (No. 14) intitled "An Act to incorporate the Western Telephone and Telegraph Company."

That the following be inserted as a new section to Section 23:

"23. Any duly incorporated municipality shall at any time, upon giving one year's notice to the Company, have the right to purchase, and the Company shall be compelled to sell, any of

the works and property of the Company situate, lying and being within the corporate limits of the said municipality, on such terms as may be agreed upon by arbitration or otherwise, together with such rights, privileges and franchises in connection with such works as the Company may have acquired under the powers of this Act; and upon the completion of such purchase the municipality shall have power to maintain and operate such works, and to hold, exercise and enjoy all the rights, privileges, and franchises which the Company held, exercised or enjoyed in connection therewith."

**CORRECTION.**

Mr. Curtis' remarks upon immigration from Japan some days ago should have read that there were 47 prefectures in Japan, and that under the arrangement, whereby ten or eleven immigrants would be permitted access per month from each prefecture, that country could send nearly 6,000 immigrants to Canada per year.

**DECEIVED WORKMEN'S ACT.**

The following are the provisions of Bill No. 40, introduced by Mr. Curtis, being an Act respecting Deception in Procuring Workmen or Employees:

1. This Act may be cited as the "Deceived Workmen's Act, 1900."

2. It shall be unlawful for any person, society, association or organisation of any kind doing business in this Province by himself or itself, or by his or its agent or attorney, to induce, influence, persuade or engage a workman to change from one place to another in this Province, or to bring a workman of any calling or class into this Province to work in any of the departments of labor in this Province, through or by means of deceptive representations, false advertising or false pretences concerning the kind and character of the work to be done, or amount and character of the compensation to be paid for such work, or the sanitary or other conditions of the employment, or as to the existence or non-existence of a strike or other trouble pending between employer and employees, at the time of or immediately prior to such engagement. Failure to state in any advertisement, proposal or contract for the employment of a workman that there is a strike, lockout or other labor trouble at the place or the proposed employment, when in fact such strike, lockout or other trouble then actually exists at such place, shall be deemed as false advertisement and misrepresentation for the purposes of this Act.

3. Any workman of this Province or from a locality outside this Province who has or shall be influenced, induced or persuaded to engage with any person or party mentioned in Section 2 of this Act, through or by means of any of the things therein prohibited, shall have a right of action for recovery of all damages that such workman has sustained in consequence of the false or deceptive representations, false advertising and false pretences used to induce him to change his place of employment, against any person, society, association or organisation directly or indirectly causing such damages.

**REFERENDUM ACT.**

Below will be found the more important sections of Bill No. 41, introduced by Mr. Brown, being an Act to make certain Provisions respecting Grants in Aid of Private Enterprises:

3. No Act of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of British Columbia, under and by virtue of which—

(a) any grant, bonus, gift, or subsidy or other valuable consideration is made or given, or to be made or given, to any person or corporation by way of aid to any work undertaken or to be undertaken by such person or corporation; or

(b) which revives or purports to revive any former Act under and by virtue of which any such grant, bonus, gift or subsidy or other valuable consideration was made or given, or to be made or given, to any person or corporation; or

(c) which extends or purports to extend the time allowed by any former Act for the fulfillment of the conditions under which any such grant, bonus, gift or subsidy or other valuable consideration was to be made or given to any person or corporation, shall come into force until proclamation to that effect has been made by the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council; Provided that neither the right of incorporation nor the right of way through lands belonging to the Crown shall be held to be a grant, bonus, gift, subsidy, or valuable consideration within the meaning of this Act; and, provided further, that no Act which, upon being reported from Committee of the Whole of the said Legislative Assembly, receives the affirmative vote of at least three-fourths of the members of the said Legislative Assembly shall come within the provisions of this Act; nor shall charitable grant or grants in aid of public institutions or corporations subject the "Supply Act" to the operation of this Act.

4. Such proclamation shall be made immediately upon the expiration of three calendar months from the day upon which the Act in respect of which it is made received the Royal assent, unless in the meantime a lawful petition praying that such Act be submitted to a vote of the electors has been presented to the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council.

5. In case two or more such Acts shall be passed at any session of the Legislative Assembly, it shall not be necessary to present a separate petition in respect of each such Act, but any such petition may pray for the submission to the electors of any number of such Acts which may, under the provisions of this Act, be lawfully submitted to the said electors.

6. Every such petition shall be in the regular form, and no petition shall be received or acted upon which does not bear the signature of a number of electors equal to at least five per centum of the total number of electors according to the then last revised list of electors, but it shall not be required that five per centum of the electors of each riding shall sign such petition, but only that the total number of electors signing such petition shall be equal to at least five per centum of the total number of electors as shown by the then last revised lists of electors.

7. Upon receipt of a lawful petition by the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council a notice shall forthwith be published in the "British Columbia Gazette," addressed to each of the persons or corporations to whom any grant, bonus, gift or subsidy or other valuable consideration is made or given, or proposed to be made or given by the act or acts in respect of which such lawful petition has been presented, setting forth that a lawful petition praying for the submission of such act or acts to the electors has been received, and calling upon the person or persons, corporation or corporations to whom such notice is addressed to pay into the Consolidated Revenue Fund of British Columbia before the expiration of a period to be named in such notice, which period shall not exceed sixty days, the sum of seven thousand five hundred dollars of lawful money of Canada in respect of each act included in such lawful petition, as security for the cost of submitting such act or acts to the vote of the electors.

8. Should the person or persons, corporation or corporations, or any of them to whom the said notice was addressed, fail or neglect to pay into the Consolidated Revenue Fund of British Columbia within the period named in such notice, the said sum of seven thousand five hundred dollars, the act or acts in respect of which such payment was required to be made shall, ipso facto, become null and void.

9. Upon the certificate of the Minister of Finance that the required payment has been made in respect of any act or acts, a lawful petition for the submission of which to the electors has been presented to the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council, and upon the ex-



piration of three calendar months from the last day upon which any act which could, under the provisions of this Act, be made the subject of a lawful petition, received the Royal assent, or upon the expiration of the time limited by Section 8 of this Act for the making of the said payment, whichever shall be the later date, a notice in the form of Schedule B of this Act shall be published in the "British Columbia Gazette," and in at least one of the newspapers published in any riding in the Province.

10. The day fixed for taking the vote of the electors shall not be less than fourteen days from the day of the first publication of such notice in the "British Columbia Gazette."

11. Upon the day named in the notice published in accordance with the provisions of Section 9 of this Act, the vote of the electors shall be taken on the question whether or not the act, or each of the acts named in the notice aforesaid, shall come into force, and in case more than one act is submitted to the vote of the electors, there shall be a separate ballot paper for each act.

12. Whenever it is provided in the "Provincial Elections Act" that anything may or shall be done in the presence of or by the candidates or their agents, or any of them, such provision shall, as applied to proceedings under this Act, be taken to refer to agents appointed in the manner aforesaid.

13. So soon as returns have been received from the ridings, the Deputy Provincial Secretary shall prepare therefrom a statement showing the total number of votes given for and against each act submitted respectively, which statement shall be filed, and he shall also publish in the next ordinary issue of the "British Columbia Gazette" a notice in respect of each act submitted.

14. When the majority of votes is in favor of any act submitted, a proclamation bringing the said act into force shall be published forthwith.

15. When the majority of votes is against any act submitted, the said act shall be, ipso facto, null and void.

16. All costs and charges incurred in submitting any act or acts to the vote of the electors, shall be defrayed out of the security moneys deposited in accordance with the provisions of this Act, and any surplus of such security moneys remaining in the hands of the Minister of Finance after all the said costs and charges have been fully discharged and satisfied, shall be returned, pro rata, to the person or persons, corporation or corporations, by whom the said moneys were deposited.

#### VOTING MACHINES ACT.

The following are the more important sections of Bill No. 48, introduced by Mr. Helmcken, being an Act to permit the use of Voting Machines in British Columbia:

1. Notwithstanding anything contained in the "Municipal Elections Act," or any amendments thereto, the council of any municipality may by by-law passed by a two-thirds majority of the members of the council present at the time such by-law is passed, provide that thereafter the use of ballot boxes and ballot papers at municipal elections shall be discontinued, and may adopt for use at elections any kind of voting machine that complies with the requirements of this Act, and thereupon and thereafter such voting machines so adopted may be used for voting, registering and counting votes cast at all municipal elections held in such municipality.

2. Any voting machine so adopted must be constructed so as to provide facilities for secret voting for any candidate for whom or on any question or by-law on which the voter is lawfully entitled to vote, and must also be so constructed as correctly to register every vote of every description that may be cast. It must be so constructed as to enable the voter to vote for as many candidates for each office as he is entitled by law to vote for and no more, and also to prevent him from voting for more candidates for each office than he is entitled to vote for, or for the same candidate more than once, unless authorized by

law so to do, or upon the same question or by-law more than once; and it shall also be so constructed as to automatically adjust itself after a voter has voted, so as to be ready for the next voter without any interference on the part of any person whatsoever; and all such voting machines must be of such construction as will permit the exercise by each voter of the full rights and privileges as a voter that he would have had under the provisions of the "Municipal Elections Act" and amending Acts had this Act not been passed.

3. Whenever any municipality has passed a by-law adopting any such voting machine, where a poll is required, the clerk of the municipality shall procure, or cause to be procured, for each polling place in the municipality one such voting machine (or more if required) in complete working order, and shall properly adapt all such machines for use at such elections or voting by placing, or causing to be placed, within or upon the ballot frames of all such machines, cardboard, paper or other material containing the names of the candidates for office or offices and a statement of any proposed by-law or question with the words "for" and "against" or "yes" and "no." He shall thereafter preserve and keep the said machines in repair, and shall have the custody of the same when not in use at an election or voting.

4. It shall be the duty of the clerk of each municipality in which any voting machine has been adopted, two days at least before the day fixed for holding a poll at any municipal election or voting, to deliver to the Deputy Returning Officer for each polling subdivision one voting machine (or more if required) of the kind adopted by the municipality, in complete working order and properly adapted for use as aforesaid.

5. It shall be the duty of the Deputy Returning Officer in every ward or polling subdivision, as the case may be, who has not been supplied with such voting machine within the time prescribed, forthwith to procure one in complete working order and adapted as aforesaid, and he may issue his order for the cost of the same upon the treasurer of the municipality in which such ward or polling subdivision is situate, and the treasurer shall pay to the Deputy Returning Officer the amount of the order.

6. If the said clerk fails to furnish a voting machine or voting machines in the matter hereinbefore provided, he shall incur a penalty of one hundred dollars in respect of every voting machine which he has failed to furnish in the manner prescribed.

7. Every polling place shall be furnished with a compartment so arranged or screened that the use and operation of the voting machine by the voter when voting cannot be seen, observed or known by any other person, unless such person be inside the compartment at the same time; and the voting machine shall be placed at a sufficient distance from every wall or partition of the polling room and from any guard rail or table at which any of the election officers or agents may be engaged or seated to prevent any interference with the voter; and it shall be the duty of the clerk of the municipality and of the Deputy Returning Officers respectively to see that a proper compartment for that purpose is provided at each polling place.

8. The Deputy Returning Officer shall have at the polling booth before the opening of the poll and shall open and expose to view in presence of any candidate or agent who may be present, the dials upon the register and other parts of the mechanism of the said machine, and he shall then lock the same and place his seal upon the lock, and the keys thereof shall remain in his possession during the polling, and he said registers shall not be reopened until the close of the voting.

9. Instead of the ballot papers being delivered to the voter to be marked by him he shall proceed to the voting compartment and shall there record his vote by means of such machine and according to the instructions pro-

vided for its use; and immediately after having recorded his vote or votes shall retire therefrom and shall not be permitted to re-enter therein on any pretext whatever; only one voter at a time shall be permitted to enter the compartment to vote or to be in any position in which he can observe for whom or how any other votes.

10. Wherever any such voting machine is used at any election, in lieu of the directions to voters provided by the "Municipal Elections Act" the Deputy Returning Officer shall be provided with directions to voters set out in the schedule A to this Act, and all the provisions of the "Municipal Elections Act" respecting the use of the said directions to voters shall apply to the directions prepared under this Act.

11. All voting machines shall remain locked and sealed for a period of six months next succeeding the date of any election, or until it is necessary to prepare the voting machines for another election, and shall not be opened nor their contents examined during that time except by order of a Court or Judge of competent jurisdiction.

12. It shall be lawful for the Lieutenant-Governor in Council to provide that said voting machines shall be used at any election for a member of the British Columbia Legislature; provided said voting machines comply with all the requirements of Section 2 of this Act, and also that said voting machine will permit the exercise by each voter of the full rights and privileges as a voter that he would have had under the provisions of the Provincial Elections Act and amending acts had this Act not been passed.



**PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT**

**Bill Relating to Works Under Franchises Granted By Private Acts Read Second Time. — Prolonged Debate.**

**Discussion Re Government and Municipal Ownership of Railways and Other Concerns. — Redistribution Notice of Motion.**

From Our Own Correspondent.

**TWENTY-SECOND DAY.**

Victoria, August 21.

The business of the House made rapid progress to-day, assisted by an evident disposition on both sides to hurry the close of the session. The possibility of prorogation on Saturday has already been suggested by some of the younger members, but the old-timers hold to the opinion that it will be well into the middle of next week before the close.

The only appreciable debate during the day occurred upon the second reading of the Bill in relation to Works under Franchises granted by Private Acts. This Bill contains provisions looking to the exclusion of Mongolian labor, and has been adopted by the Administration as a Government measure, although introduced by a private member, Mr. Helmcken.

The House met at 2 o'clock p. m.

Mr. A. W. Smith presented a petition from S. Gibbs and others re assessment work on mineral claims.

**THE KETTLE RIVER RAILWAY.**

Mr. Pooley reported from the Railway Committee, as follows: It has considered Bill No. 50 intitled "An Act to incorporate the Grand Forks & Kettle River Railway Company," and has amended the preamble by eliminating that portion of the railway between Cascade City and the City of Grand Forks, at the request of the promoters; subject to which, it reports the preamble proved, and submits the said Bill herewith with amendments.

The report was received.

**SECOND READINGS.**

The following bills were read a second time and ordered to be committed to-morrow:

Bill (No. 42) intitled "An Act relating to employment on Works carried on under Franchises granted by Private Acts."

Bill (No. 54) intitled "An Act to amend the Licences Act, 1899."

Bill (No. 57) intitled "An Act to amend the Railway Assessment Act."

Bill (No. 58) intitled "An Act to amend the Provincial Elections Act."

Bill (No. 59) intitled "An Act to amend the Tramways Incorporation Act."

Bill (No. 60) intitled "An Act to amend the Mineral Act."

**BURNABY SMALL HOLDINGS.**

MR. KIDD moved that an order of the House be granted for a return showing the last official report in the connection of the Burnaby Small Holdings. He said he did this in the belief that it would be a good thing to have an official report on these holdings to show the progress they were making and draw public attention to the same, as an inducement to such holders to keep up with their undertaking. He ventured to hope that the Government would see fit to open other portions of the district contiguous to the City of Vancouver, so that workmen and others might be encouraged to establish themselves in homes of their own.

HON. MR. TATLOW promised that such a report would be forthcoming.

MR. TATLOW said that the matter of encouraging people to take up small holdings in the Vancouver District had been already considered by the Council of that City, and he hoped the Government would take the matter into consideration with a view of furthering such an object.

MR. BROWN pointed out that owing to the fault of the Department, under what government he did not know, some of the conditions upon which these small holdings are held, had not been observed. He hoped that the attention of this Government would be directed to the matter in such a way as to bring improvement all around. The motion passed.

**BILLS ADVANCED.**

The Bill to amend the Tramway Act was read a second time, and the Railway Assessment Act was also advanced a stage.

Hon. Mr. Eberts moved the second reading of the Bill to amend the Elections Act. He explained that under the Act of 1899 a man was entitled to become a voter after being on the probationary list for two weeks and the present Bill was to make the right of appeal of any person desiring to dispute such parties' right to vote to do so within two weeks.

The Bill to amend the Licence Act was read a second time.

**MINERAL ACT AMENDMENT.**

HON. MR. McBRIDE moved the second reading of the Bill to amend the Mineral Act. He explained that Section 2 provided for the issuing of Crown grants to the administrator of a deceased owner of a claim. Those who had had experience with the issuance of Crown grants where there had been a death, would agree with him that it had been a matter of difficulty in the past to find out to whom this Crown grant should be issued. Section 3 proposed to amend Section 3 of the General Act, providing a penalty not exceeding \$25, for mining without a free miner's certificate; Section 4, provided for the forfeiture of interest in a mining claim by a co-owner who failed to contribute. A similar provision, he explained, was in force in the United States and worked satisfactorily there. Under Section 7, the schedule of fees was amended making the fee for a Crown grant \$25, instead of \$10 as under the old Act.

MR. CURTIS objected to the increase in the fee for a Crown grant, which he said would operate unfairly to the poor prospector and make his burden too heavy.

MR. MARTIN also argued that the fee should be left as it was. He twitted the Government upon having shown a disposition to deal leniently with the saloon-keeper in making it more easy for him to conduct the business of whiskey selling, and charged that it was seeking to make good loss of revenue antedated from that source, by increasing the tax on the poor prospector, who was certainly more deserving of consideration. The Government had deliberately increased the price of a Crown grant from \$10 to \$25, two and a-half times as much, while it had deliberately decreased the fee of the whiskey seller from \$200 to \$75. While he deplored the fact that the Government had chosen to lose revenue on the whiskey business, he felt if that loss had to be made good at the expense of some other branch of business, that the Government might have selected some other than the poor prospector to impose the additional tax upon.

HON. MR. EBERTS contended that the Bill gave a relief to the poor miner in the provision which absolved him from the payment of the cost of survey. The law as it stood said that a man should each year pay \$100 assessment work, if the work was not done. It was now provided instead of that that a miner who had his claim surveyed himself, should have the cost of such survey up to \$100, counted as assessment work.

The motion passed and the Bill was read a second time.

**PROTECTION OF WHITE LABOR.**

MR. HELMCKEN moved the second reading of the Bill respecting work under franchises granted by certain acts. He said the object of the Bill was to deal in a general way with the labor question, as affecting British Columbia. They undoubtedly had the power, un-

der the British North America Act to pass legislation dealing with property and civil rights, and he thought the present Bill was quite within the powers of the Legislature, and he understood it was in conformity with the policy of the Government.

MR. McINNES said that in the Railway Committee he had introduced a section based on the same principle as contained in the present Bill. In one case he succeeded in having the clause adopted, and in another case he failed, on account of the policy of the Government. He was glad that the matter had been introduced in a general Bill. The scope of the Act was not so broad as he would like, and he hoped the hon. member for Victoria would agree to an amendment in Committee to remedy it in that respect. As at present drawn, it was only applicable to work under private acts. There was no reason why it should not also be made applicable to works carried on by companies incorporated under already existing acts of this Legislature, such as the Companies' Act. For instance, there were several bills before them authorizing certain individuals to carry on pulp works, saw-mills, etc., and if this Act came into force they would not be allowed to employ Chinese or Japanese on the works. But if these same people applied under the Company's Act they would escape this restriction. Consequently he thought it desirable that the scope of the Bill should be widened to include work carried on under the Companies' Act. While he was in favor of the Bill he desired that the general public should not be misled in regard to it. It went but very little toward settling the labor question in this Province. It only applied to future work, or undertakings, and did not apply to a single industry in this country at the present time. He was prepared to support this Bill, and he hoped when the Bill which he himself had introduced came up for consideration, drafted on the same principle, it would receive the same support that he was willing to accord this measure.

HON. MR. McBRIDE remarked that the present Bill did conform to the Government's policy, as intimated by Mr. Helmcken. It was the intention of the Government to do everything possible to conserve the interests of white labor in the Province, although it did not intend to be driven into revolutionary methods in that regard.

MR. CURTIS: "May I ask what the policy of the Government is with regard to this question?"

HON. MR. McBRIDE was very glad to answer that question. In the Queen's Speech it was stated that the Government intended to make direct representation to the Dominion and Imperial authorities in regard to this question. Perhaps the hon. gentleman might claim that this did not "cut any figure." The Government claimed that it did. At the same time, the Government did not propose to be driven in this direction by any hon. gentlemen opposite, no matter how anxious they might be to popularize a question of this kind. He (Hon. Mr. McBride) learned with considerable regret that some hon. gentlemen in this House were trying to make political capital out of every utterance and every move of the Government supporters. In fact it had come to his knowledge that certain resolutions had been typewritten and distributed broadcast over the country. He thought this a dastardly method of publishing the Parliamentary proceedings.

MR. MARTIN: "Was there any misrepresentation? You must be ashamed of the actual facts."

MR. CURTIS: "Again I ask if the hon. gentleman will tell us what the policy of the Government is in this connection?"

HON. MR. McBRIDE said he had outlined the Government's policy and it seemed to be accepted by every hon. gentleman opposite except the hon. member for Roseland. He could not supply the hon. gentleman with facts.

MR. MARTIN: "You have none to spare."

HON. MR. McBRIDE said he was not in the same fix as the Hon. Leader of the Opposition. He said he was glad to see that he washed his hands



of the typewriting episode.

MR. MARTIN: "The only objection which the hon. gentleman can take to those resolutions is because he is ashamed of his own acts in the House."

HON. MR. McBRIDE: "I am ashamed of this back-handed work."

MR. CURTIS was beginning to base a speech on the question whether the word "dastardly" was in order, when

HON. MR. McBRIDE withdrew the expression.

MR. CURTIS then adverted to the "back-handed" expression as being also questionable, and

HON. MR. McBRIDE laughingly agreed to withdraw that also.

MR. CURTIS expressed dissatisfaction with the information given in reply to his questions as to the Government's policy. He thought in view of the discussion which had occurred in the House and country concerning this Asiatic question that the Government should be prepared to announce a definite policy by this time. He saw nothing satisfactory in the proposal to approach the Imperial and Dominion authorities. It was this House that should act, and it was encouraged to do so by the recommendations already made by the Imperial and Dominion authorities, that it should follow the lines of the Natal Act. Measures and motions along those lines had been introduced this session, and the Government had shown remarkable elasticity in voting them down. The Bill introduced by Mr. Helmcken to-day was on the lines of the Natal Act, and he considered that some positive assurance was due from the Government as to whether it would support the Bill or not. He heartily supported the Bill, but agreed with Mr. McInnes that it did not go far enough. As to the discrimination it would make with regard to companies to be incorporated under the Companies' Act, he intended to offer an amendment which he hoped would meet the approval of the House. He would like to see the Bill made applicable to every company which had heretofore been granted any franchises by the Legislature. Provision should be made in such cases that it should not take effect until three or four years from the present time, which would give them ample time to meet the changed conditions.

MR. McPHILLIPS said that so far as he was concerned, he was supporting the Government, and would support this Bill; but at the same time he had misgivings whether it would be effective. It might be that the Dominion or Imperial authorities would object to the Bill, and if they did, its effect would be destroyed.

MR. MARTIN was puzzled to know whether the last speaker was in favor of the Bill or not.

MR. BROWN said the hon. gentleman (Mr. McPhillips) had taken the ground that this House had not the power to pass such an act, and yet he was prepared to support it. For himself, he would support the Bill, and only found fault that it did not go far enough. The present Bill dealt with civil rights and matters entirely within the jurisdiction of this House. The bills which had been disallowed, dealing with the Chinese-Japanese question were also entirely within the jurisdiction of this House, and it seemed to him that there should have been some protest against their disallowance. The House should very carefully guard against the admission that it had no right to pass such legislation, and he hoped to see the Government taking the position that no infringement of its rights would be allowed to pass without protest.

MR. R. SMITH considered the Bill as an expression of the policy of the Government on this question. As to the demand for action in this connection, it was well understood through the country that members on both sides of the House were agreed as to the necessity of placing restrictions upon certain conditions of labor in the Province. However, he was convinced by what had taken place in the House recently that some members were not as strong in their principles on this matter, in the Legislature, as they professed to be on the hustings. The junior member for Victoria, never missed an opportunity of informing the House that strictly speaking he did not believe in this principle of legislation at all. He actually went so far as to say that while the House had the power to pass the present

Bill, it might fall on the ground of its constitutionality. If the argument of that hon. gentleman was to guide the Legislature, it would do nothing at all. He (Mr. Smith) disagreed with that style of reasoning entirely. He considered that this House should assert its authority right up to the highest point, and be prepared even to take a certain amount of risk, if it was impossible to act in complete assurance. He urged the importance of having the present measure supported unanimously that the moral force of the Legislature's action might be in no way impaired.

MR. McPHILLIPS wished to state that he did not think it could be fairly said that he was not in favor of legislation on this subject. He had merely stated that he had some doubt about the tenor of the statute. He reminded the House that he was one of the movers in having petitions, circulated through the Province for presentation to the Dominion Government on this subject.

MR. TATLOW said that he and his colleague, Mr. Garden, had been invited the other day with not having observed their election pledges on this question. The present Bill contained the principles, as they considered, as enunciated by the Conservative Leader, Mr. Wilson, and he and his colleague would therefore support the measure.

The motion passed, and the Bill was read a second time.

**BILLS SENT DOWN.**

His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, transmitted the following bills, which were introduced and read a first time:

An Act to Accelerate the Incorporation of the City of Phoenix; an Act to levy a tax on Coal and Coke; an Act to amend the Assessment Act; an Act to amend the Land Act.

These bills stand for their second reading to-morrow.

**ELECTION RETURNS.**

The Hon. the Provincial Secretary presented a return showing the number of ballot papers actually issued to voters in each riding of the Province at the General Election held on June 9th, 1902.

**"FATHERING" THE BILL.**

An understanding was announced between Mr. Helmcken and the Minister of Mines that the Government would take Mr. Helmcken's Bill respecting the exclusion of Oriental labor on certain works introduced to-day, and that Hon. Mr. McBride's name would be substituted for that of Mr. Helmcken as the promoter thereof.

In this connection, Mr. McInnes observed that it looked as if the Government had permitted a private member to introduce the measure to test the feeling of the House. Now that it was quite sure how matters stood the Government was assuming responsibility for the Bill.

**VANCOUVER CITY BILL REPORT-ED.**

The Vancouver City Charter was taken up again in Committee of the Whole and reported up complete, with amendments.

**ROYAL ASSENT.**

His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor entered the Chamber and gave assent to

An Act to make special provision with regard to the qualifications of the members of the Council of the City of Sandon, and

An Act to provide for the Settlement of Disputes as to Mining Claims in the Porcupine District of the Bennett Lake Mining Division.

The House adjourned until 8 o'clock this evening.

**EVENING SESSION.**

The House met at 8 o'clock p.m., in night session.

The Rock Bay & Salmon River Railway Bill was taken up in Committee of the Whole. Mr. Curtis offered his amendment, already defeated in connection with another railway charter, providing that the Company should be obliged to enter into a contract with the Government as to the terms upon which the charter should be granted, looking to the exclusion of Oriental labor. This amendment was, after some discussion, voted down. An amendment offered by Mr. Garden, providing that where the provisions of this Act were overridden by the

General Railway Act, the provisions of this Act should prevail, was adopted. The Bill was reported up with amendments.

**MUNICIPAL OWNERSHIP.**

The Bill to incorporate the Western Telephone & Telegraph Company was taken up in Committee of the Whole, read clause by clause and passed.

MR. BROWN moved that the following be added as a new section:

"23. Any duly incorporated municipality shall at any time, upon giving one year's notice to the company, have the right to purchase, and the company shall be compelled to sell, any of the works and property of the company situate, lying and being within the corporate limits of the said municipality, on such terms as may be agreed upon by arbitration or otherwise, together with such rights, privileges, and franchises in connection with such works as the company may have acquired under the powers of this Act; and upon the completion of such purchase the municipality shall have power to maintain and operate such works, and to hold, exercise and enjoy all the rights, privileges, and franchises which the company held, exercised, or enjoyed in connection therewith."

The introduction of this, he explained, was not to hamper the company. It was simply to provide that where the corporation desired to acquire the property, it would be enabled to do so upon reasonable terms.

MR. McPHILLIPS approved the amendment, but

MR. ELLISON thought the point covered by Section 3, Sub-section (a), which provided that a company should not have the right to operate a telephone exchange within a municipality in which a system was operated by the corporation, and also providing that the company should operate only with the consent of the council by-law or resolution, which should contain such conditions and terms respecting the exercise of such powers as the council should think proper.

MR. HUNTER thought the amendment a harmless one, although of no use, and he would not oppose it.

HON. MR. PRENTICE held that the amendment was not harmless. For instance, a municipality might compel a company to sell a certain part of its line, which ran through such municipality, and thus render useless that part of the line which might extend beyond it.

MR. BROWN argued against this, that the municipality would not want to purchase such part of a system, as it would be of no use to it in such a case as that.

HON. MR. PRENTICE thought that such a clause would shut out capital altogether from such enterprises.

MR. GARDEN, speaking for Vancouver, said he was satisfied that no company could get a franchise there without conceding all the rights as asked for in the amendment by the hon. member for New Westminster. There was a tendency now-a-days that schemes of public utility should be controlled by the people. It was about time that street railways, telephone lines and other works which occupied the public lands, should be controlled, at least to a certain extent. He therefore thought the amendment a move in the right direction. He afterwards said he thought Sub-section (b) of Section 3 would enable the municipality to exercise all the powers he had suggested.

MR. McPHILLIPS thought this question should be regarded as a matter of public utility, and not from a sectional standpoint.

MR. HOUSTON thought a company should not be compelled to sell its enterprise, but the corporation should be permitted to construct its own plant if it saw fit.

MR. E. C. SMITH thought the application of the amendment might tend to keep capital out, and he was therefore inclined to think it should be carefully considered.

The amendment was lost.

The Committee rose and reported the Bill complete, with amendments.

**ORIENTAL EXCLUSION.**

The Vancouver, Northern & Yukon Railway Bill was then dealt with in Committee of the Whole. This was the Bill which in the Railway Committee was amended on motion of Mr. McInnes by the addition of a clause excluding Chinese and Japanese from employment in connection with the work.

Mr. McPhillips moved that this clause be struck out, on the ground

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PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT

Vancouver Charter Bill Read

Third Time.—Placer Mining Bill Introduced.—Debate on Crow's Nest Light-ing Bill.

Much Discussion on Various Private Bills.—Partisan Recriminations.—No Railroad for Grand Forks.—Inter-esting Queries.

From Our Own Correspondent. TWENTY-THIRD DAY.

Victoria, August 22.

A fair amount of business was transacted to-day, many bills being advanced a stage and others amended after much discussion.

The Vancouver City Charter Amendment Bill and the Anglican Diocese of New Westminster Subdivision Bill were each read a third time.

The House met at 2 o'clock p. m. Mr. Oliver presented a petition from Surrey and other municipalities with reference to the necessity of a railway from the Coast to Kootenay. A similar and numerously signed petition from Chilliwack, as well as another of like effect from Langley, were presented by Hon. Mr. Wells.

PLACER ACT AMENDMENT.

A Bill to amend the Placer Mines Act was then introduced by Mr. Stables and read a first time. In this the junior member from Cassiar would do away with all distinctions between creek, bar, bench or hill claims, and give them all a uniform size of 250x250 feet. Two discovery claims of 500x250 feet each would be allowed. Side-line stakes not less than 100 feet apart would be required. The Mining Recorder should furnish printed notices for posting up, and in cases of re-recording or the abandonment of claims these would be required to be posted on the claims, as well as at the office. Instead of 72 hours a prospector should have 15 days in which to record, and each record should be accompanied by an affidavit which practically excludes all work by an attorney. No leases should be granted, for three years, of any ground within 1,000 feet of a creek after gold has been discovered there.

A DEFERRED THIRD READING.

Upon the third reading of the Western Telegraph & Telephone Company's Bill being reached, the discussion upon the point of order as above raised by Mr. Speaker was again resumed.

MR. McPHILLIPS pointed out that the bills did not grant Crown lands, but only contained a provision for such granting.

HON. MR. TUREN suggested that the rule be suspended and the matter thus cured; but

MR. MARTIN, who had assumed the duty of upholding the rule, absolutely refused to make any concession. The Opposition had, he claimed, time and again suffered through the strict enforcement of the rules of order, its discussions having been repeatedly shut off by points of order against it by the members across the floor, and he proposed now to see the rule strictly adhered to.

HON. MR. EBERTS pointed out that this was simply obstruction.

MR. MARTIN was obdurate, and after some further discussion

MR. ELLISON, who had charge of the Bill, suggested that the matter be held over a little longer. This was agreed.

THIRD READINGS.

The reports on the Vancouver City Bill and the Anglican Diocese of New Westminster Amendment Bill were then received and the bills read a third time.

CROW'S NEST ELECTRIC LIGHT BILL.

Mr. Neill then took the chair in Committee, and proceeded with the reading of the sections of the Crow's Nest Pass Electric Light & Power Company's Bill.

Mr. E. C. Smith opposed the section imposing a special penalty for the cutting of lines or other such molestations, and contended that the Company's interests were fully covered by the general law of the country.

Mr. Tatlow pointed out that such a section had been included in various other similar acts, and was commonly found in the charters of these companies.

Messrs. Martin, Curtis and Brown all in turn urged that the general law should be taken as sufficient for this purpose. On a party division the amendment was voted down.

Mr. E. C. Smith was not satisfied, and sent up another amendment, striking out the words forbidding the posting of advertisements and bills on telephone companies' poles.

Mr. Hayward, too, thought that the poles were quite as good places to stick bills on as were farmers' barns and buildings. Finally a division was reached, and the original section was sustained.

The Bill was then reported complete without amendment.

Its third reading was then proceeded with.

MR. CURTIS moved that the following section should be added: "Provided also that the mortgage or bonds issued by the Company shall not bear a higher rate of interest than 7 per cent. per annum, and the face value of such mortgages and bonds shall not in the aggregate exceed the fair cost price of the whole of the Company's corporate property when its undertaking is completed ready for operation."

This, he claimed, would have a beneficial effect in keeping down the rates and also conserve them the better for future purchase by the Government or by a municipality.

MR. HUNTER considered that such a section would greatly deter any people from putting their money into such an enterprise; it would also prove an obstacle to possible extensions of its works.

MR. McPHILLIPS urged that the House had already passed upon this clause, and that it would be quite as reasonable for the member from Rossland to bring in a bill prohibiting farmers from raising more by mortgage than their farms were worth.

MR. McINNIS showed that the Railway Committee at Ottawa had often insisted on a like clause.

MR. McPHILLIPS, however, stated that in England such a provision was not thought necessary.

MR. BROWN urged that the trend of the times was that the Government should eventually take over these enterprises; and a clause such as this would facilitate such a proceeding.

MR. TATLOW contended that as this clause had already been voted down, it was not fair that this Company should meet with different treatment. In case it did, the enterprise might be tied up, or at any rate, seriously handicapped. On a division the motion was lost.

MR. CURTIS essayed to bring up another of his Opposition amendments. This had been voted down by the House on a previous occasion, but on a point of order was now ruled out, and the Bill was given its third reading.

WESTERN TELEGRAPH COMPANY'S BILL.

The Western Telegraph & Telephone Company's Bill was again taken up on the request of Mr. Price Ellison, who explained that its promoters had now been here some five weeks, and that it was the fault of the House, and not of the promoters, that the oversight had been made. Upon various motions the work of staging this Bill was then gone over again, on the proper consent having been obtained at the proper stage.

has since been affirmed in the General Act passed to-day.

Mr. McInnes opposed the amendment. He thought the House would place itself in a ridiculous position by striking out this clause, after having affirmed the principle contained therein by a unanimous vote.

Mr. Curtis held that the issue on the Chinese-Japanese question was placed squarely before the House by the motion to strike out the exclusion clause. Here was an Act which promised to be effective, and which the assurance of the Minister of Justice showed was beyond the possibility of disallowance.

Mr. Green could not see why they should go back and destroy legislation, already passed, which was declared to be constitutional, and which promised to effect a specific remedy.

The amendment to strike out the clause was lost on a close vote, as follows:

For the amendment: Messrs. Prentice, Pooley, Hunter, Hayward, Clifford, A. W. Smith, McPhillips and Hall.

Against the amendment: Messrs. McInnes, Gilmour, Stables, E. C. Smith, Oliver, Kidd, Neill, Brown, Curtis, Green, R. Smith, Garden and Turner.

The Bill was reported up without amendment.

Upon request of Mr. Helmcken, the Vancouver & Westminster Railway Bill was again committed, and Mr. Helmcken moved that Clause 2, providing for the exclusion of Oriental labor be struck out. He did so on the ground that the Government's promise had been given to the support of the Bill covering that question introduced during the afternoon, and that therefore there was no necessity for such a clause, and on the further ground that the presence of the clause might endanger the constitutionality of the Act.

After some objection by Mr. Curtis and Mr. McInnes, the clause was struck out.

The Committee rose and reported the Bill complete with amendments.

CROW'S NEST BILL.

The Bill to incorporate the Crow's Nest Pass Light & Power Company was read a second time.

GOVERNMENT OWNERSHIP.

The Bill relating to the Vancouver & Lulu Island Railway was read a second time.

MR. BROWN took occasion to remind the House that members of the Government and many members of the House were pledged to the principle of Government ownership of railways. Some had declared for this principle absolutely; others with certain restrictions, in the way of looking for a favorable opportunity for the practice of such a policy. He thought this Bill gave such an opportunity. He was prevented at this time from making the motion he would like to at this time. He would like to move that the Company should be compensated by the Government for any proper outlay it had made, and that the road should be taken up as a Government work. The rules of this House would not allow him to put his motion in that way, and he was confined to moving the six months' hold. The road was one which promised a good opportunity for an exercise of any inclination hon. gentlemen had toward Government ownership. It was a distinct road. It did not depend upon any other branch for its success. It was a short road, and would not cost very much, and was therefore quite within the financial abilities of the Government to acquire and operate.

CAPTAIN TATLOW thought it would be a breach of faith on the part of the Legislature to entertain any proposal to interfere with the Company's rights.

MR. GILMOUR said that he could not support the six months' hold unless the Government would give its undertaking to go on with the work. The road was needed, and while he approved of the principle of Government ownership, he could not throw any thing in the way of the opening up of that line.

MR. KIDD also spoke in the same strain.

MR. BROWN explained that he had not made his motion with a view of defeating the construction of the road, but merely to bring the question of Government ownership to a test.

The motion was lost over-whelmingly.

The House adjourned until 2 o'clock to-morrow.

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regarding the... again began to forge ahead, and had reached the stage of Committee of the Whole when Mr. Speaker saw 5 o'clock.

**EVENING SESSION.**

On the House resuming its labors, MR. MURPHY took the chair in Committee of the Whole, and the sections of the Western Telegraph & Telephone Company's Bill were taken as read and passed. The report was then considered.

MR. CURTIS moved that sections be added, giving the Province the right to buy out the Company in five years' time, at a fair market valuation plus not more than 10 per cent. bonus; also that the Company's bonds or mortgages issued should not bear more than six per cent., and should not exceed the cost of the Company's property ready for operation.

MR. PRICE ELLISON opposed this, upon the grounds that it was against the best interests of the country to so hamper and restrict such a bona fide enterprise. The Company already had 40 tons of wire on hand to use in this work, and it had spent large sums of money over its already existing lines, and had one of the best telephone systems in the world. It was no tin-pot machine to talk into, but was the clearest and best that could be had, and was far ahead of the systems of the Coast towns, so far as he had experience of them. The amendment was, without further debate, negatived on a division of 16 to 12, and the report having been adopted, the Bill was given its third reading and passed.

**REPORT STAGES.**

The report upon the Rock Bay and Salmon River Railway Bill was then reached.

MR. CURTIS moved his amendments as in the last Bill, regarding issuing of bonds or right of the Province to purchase the property; also that the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council should determine as to running powers and traffic arrangements with other roads; also that the Company shall not have the right to purchase, lease or use any lands belonging to the Province until it has entered into a contract with the Provincial Government with respect to such right, and upon such terms, and in such manner as the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council may prescribe. They were voted down.

**VANCOUVER & NEW WESTMINSTER RAILWAY BILL.**

Upon the receiving of the report on the Vancouver & Westminister Railway Bill.

MR. CURTIS introduced severally the first three of his former amendments, and on the last one spoke at some length.

MR. TATLOW said that nothing gave him greater pleasure than to see the gentleman opposite studying the platform of the Conservative Party.

MR. A. W. SMITH said that he had heard much about Mr. Charles Wilson and his platform, but although he was a Conservative himself, Mr. Wilson played no part in the recent election in his constituency, and whatever the gentlemen opposite might say, he wished they would remember that he had not been elected on party lines.

MR. McPHILLIPS here enquired about wasting the time of the House. These resolutions had all been up before and while he admitted their mover's zeal, yet he thought that the member from Roseland might well show a little discretion.

MR. GILMOUR thought that Mr. McPhillips should apply his own remarks to himself, as if his speeches were only copied they would be found to have wasted more time of the House than anything else.

HON. MR. FRENTICE thought that the fourth member from Vancouver should put a stopper on that sort of talk, as few members were more zealous and painstaking than was Mr. McPhillips, who was also beyond doubt one of the most useful members of the Legislature.

MR. ROGERS hoped that they would not waste time in talking over what Mr. Charles Wilson had advocated. That gentleman was not in the House, and so was outside the question.

MR. MARTIN reminded the

House that there had been a Conservative Party in the field during the election, although little of it was now left. Its members, however, had been pledged to certain views, and the House might most reasonably now expect to see those views receive their support.

MR. TATLOW reminded the Leader of the Opposition that if there had been a Conservative Party, there was a day, too, when he was turned down by the Liberal Party in Vancouver, and so he was not authorised in introducing Liberal and Conservative questions into the present discussion.

MR. MARTIN continued by stating that this platform, upon which two of his colleagues from Vancouver were elected, directly bore upon that question. Some of the members of the House were elected because they had given their adherence to that very principle, and now how could they avoid supporting it, when a resolution in that direction was offered from the other side of the House?

MR. GARDEN at last arose and stated as one of the gentlemen who followed the leadership of Mr. Charles Wilson, that he wished to express his resentment at Mr. Martin's remarks. He believed in Government ownership, but with regard to this particular line it would be quite impossible to carry it out, as it was but a part of the Canadian Pacific Railway and the Government could not buy out the whole of that.

The point of order was insisted upon by MR. SPEAKER, and the amendment was then voted down on the following division:

Ayes—Messrs. Ralph Smith, Green, Munro, Curtis, Martin, Brown, McInnes, Stables, Smith, Oliver, Kidd, Neill.—12.

Nays—Messrs. McPhillips, Helmcken, Garden, Tatlow, Hayward, Fulton, Clifford, Ellison, Smith, Eberts, Mounce, Dickie, Taylor, Hunter, Rogers, Murphy, Pooley, McBride, Wetts, Hall, Houston, Prentice.—22.

MR. McINNES moved to amend the report by adding the following resolution, which was seconded by the fourth member from Vancouver: "No person shall be empowered in the construction or operation of the undertakings hereby authorized who is unable to read this Act in an European language, under a penalty of five dollars per day for each day every such person is employed in contravention to this section, to be recovered on complaint of any person under the provisions of the Summary Convictions Act. This section shall not apply to any person on the register of voters for the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia, or to any Indian or person of Caucasian blood."

This amendment, too, was then negatived on a similar division to the preceding one, and the Bill was read a third time.

**BILLS REPORTED AND GIVEN SECOND READING.**

MR. RALPH SMITH was called to the chair for the committing of the Vancouver & Lulu Island Railway Bill, which was soon reported complete and read a third time. So, too, was the Vancouver, Northern & Omnesca, while the Kamlaat-Caledonia and the Kamloops-Archie Bills were each given their second reading.

**GRAND FORKS & KETTLE RIVER RAILWAY BILL DEFEATED.**

The Grand Forks & Kettle River Railway Bill was then reached, and its second reading was negatived by a vote of 14 to 5.

The House adjourned at 11:40 o'clock.

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**PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT**

**Mr. Brown's Redistribution Motion Defeated.—Deceived Workmen's Bill Defeated on Second Reading.—Mr. Oliver and the "Plum-Rot".**

**The Supplementary Estimates.—The Items of Expenditure.—Some Grumbings in Debate.—Passage of Same.**

From Our Own Correspondent.

**TWENTY-FOURTH DAY.**

Victoria, August 23.

This was a busy day in the House, and one which augured an early prorogation. Business was confined to hum-drum routine and very little discussion or obstruction occurred to interfere with the progress of the proceedings. The Supplementary Estimates were brought down and disposed of without any appreciable opposition. The House met at 2 o'clock p. m.

Mr. Helmcken, Chairman of the Municipal Committee, reported as follows: Your Select Standing Committee on Municipal matters begs leave to report as follows:

Your Committee submits that the "Municipal Clauses Act" should be amended so as to exempt municipal debentures and securities from assessment, and suggests the following clause for consideration:

"109A. No debenture or other instrument in the nature of a security or obligation for the payment of money issued by a municipality under this or any amending Act shall be the subject of taxation, and no person by reason of his holding or owning any such debenture or other instrument shall be liable in respect of the same to taxation under the 'Assessment Act,' or any Act which may be hereafter passed imposing taxes upon personal property."

The report was received.

Mr. Hall introduced a Bill relating to Trading Stamps which was advanced a stage.

Mr. Oliver asked the Hon. Minister of Agriculture the following questions: 1. Is the Government aware that the "brown rot in plums" has spread to an alarming extent in the orchards of this Province?

2. Has any information been circulated amongst the fruit-growers of the Province as to the best methods of eradicating the pest?

The Hon. Mr. Turner replied as follows:

1. The Government is aware that plum rot exists in the Province.

2. Mr. Thomas Cunningham has been instructed to look into this question, and he is at present engaged in the work. The Board of Horticulture has also taken up and discussed the question of plum rot, as shown as follows:

"At the meeting of the Board of Horticulture, 21st October, 1898, after the reading of Mr. Hutcheson's letters of August 15th and September 15th:

On the question of plum rot being taken up, Messrs. Farmer and Anderson said that Mr. Hutcheson had stated to them that, in his belief, much of the rot which showed itself on plums when taken out of the cars at Winnipeg was contracted in the cars on the way.

The whole question was referred to a Committee of Messrs. Cunningham and Palmer to report on."

**A REDISTRIBUTION RESOLUTION.**

MR. BROWN moved the following resolution:

"Whereas the Constitution presupposes a fairly equal representation of the people of the Province in the Legislative Assembly; and

Whereas the present representation is exceedingly unequal; and

Whereas unforeseen circumstances may at any time bring about a general election;

Therefore, be it resolved, that due consideration for the rights and interests of the Province makes it incumbent upon this House to forthwith take such steps as will, in the event of a general election, secure to the people a more just and equal representation in this House."

In supporting the motion, he said that for ten years he had been identified with the agitation on this matter, and felt naturally bound to do what he could to secure a remedy for the present very unsatisfactory manner in which the franchise was exercised, owing to the inequalities of population in the various constituencies in the Province. Some gentlemen in the House, for instance, represented ten voters, where others represented only one, in proportion. He thought there was need for a measure which would give fair representation to the people in Parliament, and especially in view of the possibility of an election at almost any time.

MR. TURNER thought there was no necessity for bringing in a Redistribution Bill this session. A Dominion census was to be taken in the near future, and he considered it would be well to defer any such measure until the facts which would be gathered by that census were available for guidance.

MR. MCINNES thought if this was to be an excuse for not bringing in a Redistribution Bill this session, it would apply equally as well next session, as the census returns would not be available until after the next meeting of the House.

MR. CURTIS argued that the present Government was a very weak combination and the necessity of appealing to the people might arise at any time. He instanced the late of the Semlin Government, which had been considered a strong Government, and yet had gone suddenly to pieces, as a justification for his opinion in this regard. In view, therefore, of the possibility of an election at almost any time, he urged the importance of the fact that the people should have proper representation in the affairs of the country. As an additional argument for redistribution, he held that those sections which at present were disproportionately represented were at a disadvantage in influencing the Government to give them that measure of attention which was their due. He agreed that it would be very proper to have the voters' lists revised after the next Dominion census, but he held as well that there was necessity for immediate action, to provide for the eventuality of an election in the meantime.

MR. McPHILLIPS failed to see any necessity for such a resolution. The census would soon be taken and it seemed to him reasonable that the country could wait with advantage until that time, before a Redistribution bill was introduced. What the Province wanted at the present time was that Parliament should go on with the business belonging to the session, and not that any extraneous subjects should be allowed to take up the time of the House, which could be just as well disposed of at another time.

MR. HUNTER argued that such irregularities as existed in the representation in this Parliament were common to every part of the Dominion, and quoted the returns from parts of Manitoba and other places, to show that such was the case. He saw no necessity for immediate action toward a Redistribution measure, but thought the matter might well be allowed to stand until circumstances favored such a bill.

MR. BROWN argued that the lines of our local lists, and therefore there was no reason why a Redistribution measure should wait upon that work. However, he did not wish to embarrass the Government, and if the Government would give assurance that during the next session such a bill would be brought down, he would be willing to withdraw his resolution. Otherwise he would press it to a vote in the House.

The motion was then put and lost, on division; the yeas being called for, there appeared:

For the motion: Messrs. McInnes, Gilmour, Stables, E. C. Smith, Oliver, Kidd, Brown, Martin, Curtis, Green and Houston.—11.

Against the motion: Messrs. Nell, R. Smith, Hall, McPhillips, Turner, Dunsmuir, Eberts, A. W. Smith, Ellison, Clifford, Fulton, Hayward, Garden, Tallow, Prentice, McBride, Pooley, Murphy, Rogers, Hunter, Taylor and Mounce.—23.

**MECHANICS' LIEN BILL.**

Consideration of the Mechanics' Lien Bill was continued in Committee of the Whole, and after a long discussion upon certain amendments which were rejected, the Committee rose and reported progress.

**MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE REPORTS.**

Mr. Helmcken presented the report of the Municipal Committee, which was adopted.

**DECEIVED WORKMEN'S BILL.**

Mr. Curtis moved the second reading of the Deceived Workmen's Bill. He explained that the purpose of the Bill was to enable workmen who had been deceived through any bogus advertisement or otherwise, to move from one section to another, or through false representation had been induced to do so, to recover compensation for any damage they may have suffered in that regard. Where managers of mines and others induced laborers to offer for certain employment on representations which were unfounded on fact the Bill provided a means by which such laborers could recover damages to indemnify against any journey and expenses they may have undertaken to reach such employment.

The motion for the second reading of the Bill was defeated, the House dividing as follows:

For: Messrs. McInnes, Gilmour, Stables, Oliver, Nell, Brown, Curtis, Munro, R. Smith, and Houston.—16.

Against: Messrs. Kidd, McPhillips, Turner, Dunsmuir, Eberts, A. W. Smith, Ellison, Clifford, Hayward, Prentice, Wells, McBride, Pooley, Murphy, Rogers, Hunter, Taylor and Mounce.—14.

The House adjourned until 8 o'clock this evening.

**EVENING SESSION.**

The House resumed at 8 o'clock p.m.

**PRIVATE ENTERPRISES BILL.**

MR. BROWN moved the second reading of a Bill to make certain provisions respecting private enterprises, which was ruled out of order on a point raised by

MR. McPHILLIPS that the Bill could not be introduced by a private member, as it proposed to interfere with the administration of Crown lands, and to put restrictions and limitations on the powers of the Government in dealing with the interests of the Crown in aiding private enterprises. The Bill was accordingly thrown out.

**ATLIN TITLE BILL.**

His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor transmitted a Bill to vest the title to the "Discovery" placer claim, Atlin Lake Mining Division of the Cassiar Electoral District, in the discoverers of placer claims in the said district. The Bill was introduced and read a first time.

**SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES.**

The House went into Committee of Supply on the Supplementary Estimates, which were put through without any appreciable opposition.

Mr. Hunter, who spoke first, expressed disappointment that no provision had been made for a bridge across the Fraser River at Chilcooten which he had been led to believe would be included. He also thought the Lieutenant-Governor should receive a larger salary and considered that the Dominion Government should maintain the Governmental residence.

Hon. Mr. Turner said he was glad to hear that the bridge at Chilcooten was important. He had heard nothing about it or its importance until the previous day. The fact that nothing appeared for Cariboo and a large sum was provided for New Westminster, was simple reply to the charge that the



...the previous Government... Mr. Hunter disputed the Finance Minister's statement that nothing had been heard about the Chilcote bridge. A month ago he had submitted a petition for this bridge.

Mr. Oliver considered that his constituency had been badly treated. He had before complained that the promise of the previous Government to advance a sum to build a road from Ladners Landing to Westminster had not been carried out. Much had been said about there being no repudiation, and he thought that this Government should observe those assurances.

Mr. Stables was surprised that no appropriation had been made for a pack trail from Atlin to Bennett for the carrying of mails.

Hon. Mr. McBride assured the member for Delta that before another session the Government would take up the building of the road he had mentioned and which it regarded as necessary.

Mr. Helmcken, on the other hand, complimented the Government upon the appropriation made for rebuilding Government House, and the large sum set apart for charities and hospitals. He hoped to see the day when there would be a hospital in every district.

Hon. Mr. Turner explained in connection with the vote of \$1,800 for the salary of a Surveyor of Taxes and Inspector of Revenue, that it would be the duty of that official to travel through the Province and inspect the assessment rolls, supervise the work of the officers and see that their duties were properly carried out.

Mr. Martin heartily supported the proposed appointment. Such an official was needed, and he had no doubt that the results would prove that the new office was a beneficial one.

Mr. Curtis also endorsed the appointment.

On the vote of \$500 in aid of a resident physician at Atlin.

Mr. Stables thanked the Government for this appropriation. He thought it would eventually lead to a saving, because had the Government been compelled to pay for the indigent patients treated in the hospitals, it would have cost very much more.

In connection with hospital grants, Mr. Martin objected to the exclusion of so-called denominational hospitals. As long as a hospital was open to all classes it should receive the same consideration as given to those institutions generally.

Mr. Oliver objected to the proposed expenditure of \$20,000 on the rebuilding of Government House which he thought a very excessive amount for such an unproductive work.

Mr. Hunter suggested that the Dominion Government should build and maintain the residence.

Upon the vote of \$10,000 for a Reformatory School in Vancouver.

Hon. Mr. Turner, in reply to a question by Mr. Melnes, said that it was proposed to abolish the Reformatory at Victoria.

The additional vote of \$4,000, supplementing a like amount already granted, for advertising, evoked a strong protest from

Mr. Martin, who inferred that monies were being spent in subsidizing newspapers, as he said, was the case under the former Turner Government, when the "Colonist" was paid for leading articles, and other papers bought in like manner. He thought the people's money should be more judiciously expended.

Hon. Mr. Turner said that the expenditure was due to expenses entailed by the elections, but

Mr. Martin could not see eye to eye with him in that explanation.

Hon. Minister of Mines, in explaining the appropriation of \$1,500 for a Mining and Water Commissioner, reiterated the statement made in the House, that there was no intention to interfere with or inquire into the Eight-Hour Law.

Mr. Houston objected to the expenditure, which he thought a useless one. The money he thought would be spent to much better advantage in putting the Assay Office at Victoria in good shape.

Mr. Martin concurred in thinking that the expenditure was a useless one. He could not see what such a commission was wanted for.

The Committee rose.

MR. HELMCKEN'S FRANCHISES BILL. The House went into Committee of the Whole, when Mr. Helmcken's Bill re Works under Franchises under Private Acts was taken up for consideration. Progress was not far advanced, however, when the Committee rose and reported progress, and the House adjourned until 2 o'clock to-morrow.

PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT

Measure for the Protection of Absent Soldier-Miners.—Trading Stamp Suppression.—Queen's Counsel, Learned in the Law.

RELIEF ACT.

The following is the text of Bill No. 56, introduced by the Hon. Minister of Mines, being an Act to relieve the Members of the Canadian Troops serving in South Africa from the operation of certain provisions of the "Placer Mining Act," the "Mineral Act," and Amending Acts:

Whereas certain members of the Canadian troops now serving or having served, in South Africa, were, at the time of leaving this Province, the owners of or interested in certain mining claims, and there is danger that the title to such claims may lapse through the absence of the owners in South Africa:

And whereas it is just and expedient that the interests of such troops in the said claims should be protected during their absence:

Therefore, Her Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of British Columbia, enacts as follows:

1. This Act may be cited as the "Canadian Contingent Exemption Act, 1900."

2. All free miners' certificates held by members of the Canadian Forces or Strathcona Horse who are now serving, or who have served, in South Africa, and in force at the time said members left Canada, shall, without any further payment, be extended to the time of the passage of this Act and for a period of one year from the passage of this Act, all matters and things in the Mineral Act and amending acts, and the Placer Mining Act and amending acts, to the contrary notwithstanding.

3. The assessment work on all mineral claims so held under the provisions of the Mineral Act and amending acts by any member of Her Majesty's Canadian Forces, or the Strathcona Horse, now serving, or having served, in South Africa, shall be deemed to have been done from the time of the holder leaving British Columbia, and one month before, and therefrom continuously to the time of the passage of this Act, and one year thereafter.

4. All mineral claims that may be held under the Placer Mining Act and amending acts by any of the members of said Forces and said Strathcona Horse shall be considered as laid over continuously from a day one calendar month before the holder thereof left British Columbia to the date of the passing of this Act, and for one year thereafter.

5. All gold commissioners and mining recorders shall record, or cause to be recorded, in proper form, all such matters and things as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act.

6. If any mineral claim or placer claim has lapsed, or the owner so serving, or having served, has become dispossessed thereof by reason of his being a member of such force, his interest in said claims shall be revived on the passage of this Act and he shall hold said claims for a period of one year therefrom, any statute to the contrary notwithstanding.

TRADING STAMPS BILL.

The Act Relating to Trading Stamps, introduced by Mr. Hall, contains the following provisions:

- 2. In the construction of this Act the expression "trading stamps" shall extend to and include all stamps, tickets, coupons, cards, or other devices of any kind or description whatsoever, whereby, or in exchange wherefor, any person shall be entitled to receive, or shall receive, any property of any kind by way of bonus, gift, discount or premium on any goods or chattels bought or sold, or in excess of or addition to the goods or chattels actually so bought or sold.

5. From a force of this himself or shall give, whatsoever stamps to a company or wise acquire in his or possession agent any shall any give, sell any trading of any of by or with chaser shall receive, either ing stamp al ing stamps t persons othe exchange the chattels, or p 4. Every clerk, servan or otherwise has in posse in violation Act shall, or liable to a fifty dollars not less than the second of the defendment of any this Act, the goods and damnt by distri fendant may mon gaol for two months.

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3. From and after the coming into force of this Act, no person, either by himself or his clerk, servant, or agent, shall give, sell, or in any other way whatsoever dispose of any trading stamps to any person, co-partnership, company or corporation, buy or otherwise acquire, accept, receive, or have in his or their possession, or in the possession of any clerk, servant, or agent any such trading stamps, nor shall any vendor of any goods or chattels give, sell, or otherwise dispose of any trading stamps to any purchaser of any such goods or chattels where-by or with the intent that such purchaser shall receive, or be entitled to receive, either by virtue of such trading stamp alone or together with trading stamps given by any person or persons other than such vendor, or in exchange therefor, any money, goods, chattels, or property of any kind.

4. Every one who by himself, his clerk, servant, or agent, gives, sells, or otherwise disposes of or buys or has in possession any trading stamps in violation of the provision of this Act shall, on summary conviction, be liable to a penalty of not less than fifty dollars for the first offence, and not less than one hundred dollars for the second or any subsequent offence. If the defendant make default in payment of any penalty imposed under this Act, the same shall be levied upon the goods and chattels of such defendant by distress and sale thereof, and in default of sufficient distress the defendant may be imprisoned in the common gaol for a period not exceeding two months.

QUEEN'S COUNSEL BILL.

The following is a summary of the provisions of Bill No. 65, introduced by Mr. McPhillips, to wit., an Act to amend the "Queen's Counsel Act, 1899."

1. Section 5 of the "Queen's Counsel Act, 1899," being Chapter 80 of the Statutes of 1899, is hereby repealed, and the following section is substituted therefor:

"5. It was and is lawful for the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council, by letters patent under the Great Seal of the Province of British Columbia, to appoint from among the members of the Bar of British Columbia such persons as may be deemed right to be, during pleasure, Provincial officers under the names of Her Majesty's Council learned in the law for the Province of British Columbia."

3. The said Act is hereby amended by adding thereto the following sections:

(a.) That of any person who may have been or who may be appointed Attorney-General or Solicitor-General of Canada:

(b.) That of any person who may have been or who may be the Attorney-General of any Province in Canada:

(c.) That of any person who may have been or who may be appointed one of Her Majesty's Council learned in the law by the Governor-General-in-Council for the Federal Courts, and who has not therefore been appointed as such Counsel by the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council.

8. Except in the cases mentioned in clauses (a), (b) and (c), of the preceding section, no person shall be so appointed who is not of at least ten years' standing at the Bar, of which at least five years of such standing shall be at the Bar of this Province.

9. The said ten appointments may all be made at one time, or partly at one time and partly at other times during any four years as the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council may determine.

10. The following members of the Bar of this Province shall have precedence in the Courts of this Province in the following order:

(1.) The Attorney-General of Canada for the time being:

(2.) The Attorney-General of British Columbia for the time being:

(3.) The members of the said Bar who have filled the offices of Attorney-General of the Dominion of Canada, or Attorney-General of this Province, according to seniority of appointment as such Attorney-General:

(4.) The members of the Bar who were before the twenty-seventh of February, 1899, appointed Her Majesty's Council learned in the law by the Governor-General-in-Council for the Fed-

eral Courts, and who may hereafter be appointed such Counsel by the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council according to their seniority at the Bar.

11. The Lieutenant-Governor, by Letters Patent under the Great Seal of British Columbia, may grant to any member of the Bar a patent of precedence in the said Courts.

12. Members of the Bar appointed after the 27th of February, 1899, to be Her Majesty's Counsel for the Province and members of the Bar to whom, from time to time, patents of precedence are granted, shall severally have such precedence in the said Courts, having regard to the afore-mentioned precedence in the said enumerated cases as are assigned to them by letters patent issued by the Lieutenant-Governor under the Great Seal.

13. The remaining members of the Bar shall, as between themselves, have precedence in the said Courts in the order of their call to the Bar.

14. Nothing in this Act contained shall in any wise affect or alter any rights of precedence which may appertain to any member of the Bar when acting as Counsel for Her Majesty, or for any Attorney-General of Her Majesty, in any matter defending in the name of Her Majesty or of the Attorney-General before the said Courts, but such right and precedence shall remain as if this Act had not been passed."

THE NEWS-ADVERTISER

WEDNESDAY.....August 23, 1900

PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT

Prorogation on Thursday.—Model Railway Bill Adopted By House.—Petition Against Doubling of Tax on Output of Mines.

Opposition's Obstruction to Supreme Court Amendment Bill.—Mining on Indian Reserves.—Steveston Inquiry Report.

From Our Own Correspondent.

TWENTY-SIXTH DAY.

Victoria, August 23.

It has now been finally decided that prorogation will take place on Thursday. Practically, however, the business of the session will be finished tomorrow night, it having been mutually agreed to extend the sitting as long as necessary to enable this to be done. The interim between the close of tomorrow's sitting and Thursday will be devoted to pleasure, for as already reported, the Premier has arranged to give members a trip over the Esquimalt & Nanaimo Railway. It is expected that many of the members, especially those from distant parts of the Province, will leave for home tomorrow so that the chances are that the benches will be pretty empty when members line up for the formal closing on Thursday.

A great deal of business was despatched to-day, and the Order Paper was fairly well disposed of when adjournment took place at 6 o'clock. In order to suit the convenience of some hon. members who had evening engagements, a recess was taken until 10 o'clock to-night.

The House met at 2 o'clock p. m.

UNPOPULAR MINING COMMISSION.

Mr. Green presented a number of numerously signed petitions from residents of Elocan City, Whitewater, New Denver, Ymir, and Silverton, protesting against the proposed Mining Commission.

Mr. Houston presented a petition from residents of Nelson on the same subject.

E. & N. RAILWAY BELT.

Mr. Ralph Smith presented the following report from the Select Committee to inquire into the claims of certain settlers within the Esquimalt & Nanaimo Railway Belt:

"Your Committee respectfully recommends that, as it is necessary to go thoroughly into this matter, and the time at the disposal of your Committee during the present session of the House is entirely inadequate to go into the question as completely as it desires, and thus finally settle the matter, your present Select Committee, Messrs. Helmcken, Oliver, Neill, McInnes, McBride and R. Smith, be appointed a Commission to sit during the recess, with authority to call and examine witnesses and report at the next session of the House."

The report was received, but a motion for the suspension of the Rules to allow it to be adopted forthwith, was objected to and withdrawn.

OWNERSHIP OF INDIAN RESERVES.

MR. NEILL moved the following resolution:



"That this House urge upon the Government the necessity of negotiating with the Dominion authorities, with a view to the settlement of the dispute now pending between the Dominion and Provincial Governments, as to the actual and ultimate ownership of the Indian Reserves in this Province, and that, pending such settlement, mutually arranged regulations may be issued, under which free miners may locate and work mineral claims on Indian Reserves, and obtain rights of way through such reserves, when necessary for the working of any mineral claims."

He explained that a great many good mining propositions were rendered useless because of the inability of miners to work on reserved land under present arrangements; and pointed out that in many cases miners had located claims and opened up properties without knowing that they were on the reserves at all. There was, therefore, great necessity for having the ownership of the reserves unmistakably determined and that in the meantime miners should have the right to locate and work claims on the reserves.

MR. TATLOW and MR. A. W. SMITH recognised the importance of the proposal contained in the resolution and hoped that steps would be taken along the lines suggested therein.

HON. MR. McBRIDE said that negotiations were already under way between the Provincial and Dominion authorities looking to a settlement of this matter. The Government fully recognised the importance of having these lands available for mining operations. The resolution was adopted.

**THE NATAL ACT.**

The following motion was put on record by Mr. Garden, who said that it would afford the House an opportunity if it so desired, to discuss the matter fully.

"That the House resolve itself into Committee of the Whole and a resolution be adopted, respectfully calling on the Dominion Government to pass the Natal Act respecting immigrants, and that the same be signed by any member of this House desiring to do so."

In Committee, Mr. Garden offered the following resolution:

"That whereas the wave of Mongolian immigration is increasing in volume at such an alarming rate that it threatens to overwhelm all the industries connected with the development of the natural resources of this Province, whether the fisheries, lumber, mineral or agricultural:

That during the first six months of the present year over 7,000 Japanese alone have landed on our shores; a number of whom, however, are said to have crossed to the United States;

And that out of a total population of say 250,000, or about 40,000 working white men, we have a probable Mongolian working population of 20,000;

That the above proportion is continually being changed by a constant influx of these undesirable people, and white immigration is deterred by dread of competition with them;

And that the well known low conditions of life under which the Mongolians live render it impossible for white men, with their higher standard of living, to compete successfully;

And that, while being loyal to the Throne and Constitution of our country, we consider the highest form of loyalty is fidelity to our own race;

And that British Columbia, being an integral portion of the British Empire, we consider that hand in hand with the development of its enormous natural wealth, the efforts of legislators should be to gain a population who will understand the principles of self government and enhance the prestige of our country, besides affording an opportunity for the working people of our own race to make a respectable living for themselves and families;

And because, also, on the broader and more general ground that civilisation and Christianity are said to be particularly safeguarded and advanced under the British Constitution, it is therefore unwise to permit the extension of heathenism outside of the countries in which it now exists;

Therefore, be it resolved, that a copy of this resolution, signed by the members of this House as may desire to do so, be forwarded to the Governor-General-in-Council, praying that the Natal Immigration Act, or such modification of it as will suit our urgent needs, be passed and enforced, and that other legislation, which falls within the powers of the Dominion House of Commons, be passed, which may tend to remedy the evil with which this Province is at present struggling."

Mr. Martin thought it useless to call upon the Dominion Government to act in the matter, when this House itself refused to do its duty in that regard. The Government side, assisted by the mover of the resolution, had joined in voting against the efforts of the Opposition to exercise the powers of the Province so far as they would go. For instance, there was a labor Bill before the House, which the Opposition wanted to apply to the operation of railway companies generally, but which the Government proposed to limit to the work of construction only. Again, the hon. mover of the resolution proposed now to call upon the Dominion Government to pass the Natal Act, and to blame that House for not doing its duty, when he himself deliberately thwarted the efforts of the Opposition to do in this House all its powers permitted. The resolution appeared to him to be of a bogus character, and he could, therefore, have no part or parcel in it. He did not hesitate to condemn his political friends at Ottawa where he thought they deserved it in this connection, but he thought it came with very bad grace from the hon. gentlemen who with others on the Government side of the House, had failed to do his duty in regard to this important matter.

Mr. Tatlow took it that the hon. Leader of the Opposition had made an attack upon himself and colleague, because they had voted against certain added clauses proposed to the railway acts. When they had taken that stand, it was with the assurance that a clause would be embodied in the General Bill before the House, which would prevent the employment of Chinese and Japanese in the operation as well as construction of any railways in this Province. The idea of embodying such a clause in the private bills was objectionable also because of the tendency it might have to retard railway development in the Province.

Mr. Garden corroborated Mr. Tatlow's statement as to the understanding upon which they had acted in taking a position with reference to the exclusion of Oriental labor.

Mr. Martin rose to ask for information. It was stated that the Government had given assurance to embody a clause in the General Act applying to work of operation. He observed that the General Bill was on the Orders for its third reading, so he presumed it was the intention to have it recommitted for amendment. More than that, an amendment offered by Mr. McInnes the other day, covering this point, was voted down so enthusiastically that it was an agreeable surprise now to find that there was yet time for repentance, and that some suggestions of the Opposition could be found worthy of adoption.

After discussion of a rambling character, it was ordered that the full text of the resolution, including preamble, should be printed.

The Committee rose and reported progress.

**JUDGES' SALARIES.**

The House unanimously adopted a resolution moved by the Attorney-General, declaring that an address should be presented to His Excellency the Governor-General of Canada, asking that the Supreme Court Judges in British Columbia should be placed in the same position as regards salary, as the Judges holding corresponding positions in the Province of Ontario and Quebec.

In this connection, MR. McPHILLIPS pointed out that in Ontario they had four Supreme Court Judges at a salary of \$8,000, and eleven at \$5,000. In Quebec there were two Judges at \$6,000, eighteen at \$5,000, and sixteen at \$4,000.

A motion of MR. HELMCKEN asking similar attention for the County Court Judges was also adopted in connection with the above resolution. It asked that their salaries be fixed at \$3,000, and that the whole cost should be borne by the Dominion Government.

**A MINT.**

The House also decided unanimously that His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor should be asked to communicate with the Ottawa authorities with a view

of having a mint established in British Columbia.

**QUESTIONS.**

Mr. McInnes asked the Government the following questions:

1. Have any special constables been appointed to enforce the provisions of the "Game Protection Act, 1898"? If so, who are they and when were they appointed?

2. Have any complaints been made by any such "specials" against any person? If so, whom?

The Hon. Mr. Eberts replied as follows:

"1. On the 16th of August, 1900, Robert Henry Pooley and John H. Gillespie were appointed special constables, without salary, to enforce the provisions of the 'Game Protection Act, 1898.'"

2. The said special constables made no complaints against any person."

Mr. Helmcken asked the Hon. Attorney-General the following questions:

1. Is it a fact that instructions have been given to the Registrar of the Supreme Court at Victoria to allow and permit the mercantile agencies to search the records of the office for writs issued against defendants?

2. Is the Government aware that this right is denied by the Registrar to the legal profession, unless the name of some plaintiff is given?

The Hon. Mr. Eberts replied as follows:

1. "Yes. About six months ago instructions were given to the District Registrar of the Supreme Court at Victoria, and to the other District Registrars throughout the country, to permit the representatives of the mercantile agencies to search the records of their offices for writs issued against defendants, upon payment of the prescribed fees."

2. No."

**A MODEL RAILWAY BILL.**

The expediency of having a model railway Bill, to assist the work of the Committee and expedite the transaction of public business, has been recognised by the Railway Committee for some time. In this connection

MR. MARTIN offered a form of a Bill for use in this Province, drafted upon the lines followed by the Dominion House, and moved, seconded by MR. CURTIS, that it be adopted.

MR. POOLEY mentioned that the Railway Committee fully appreciated the saving of time which such a bill would accomplish. In fact that Committee had passed a resolution recommending that a model Bill should be adopted. He was therefore, prepared to give the proposition his hearty support.

HON. MR. EBERTS saw some difficulty in the fact that the Dominion Railway Act was not altogether the same as that of this Province. He noted that the Dominion Act had been to some extent changed during the last few years. He thought the Leader of the Opposition deserved praise for taking the matter in hand, but he suggested that the matter might be placed in the hands of a Committee for study during recess, when it could be more intelligently dealt with next session.

MR. MARTIN said the Dominion Act was somewhat different from our own. That Act expressly applied to all companies. The Provincial one did not apply unless the local Act said so. It was necessary in the Dominion Act to expressly vary the Railway Act if it was desired, so that practically this bill and the Dominion bill would be the same on that point. He suggested that instead of letting the matter lie over the rule be passed, and then if any sections proved to be unreasonable, they could be taken up by the Railway Committee, and any necessary alterations made.

The resolution was adopted.

**WINTER TRAVEL.**

Hon. Mr. Wells presented a return of copies of all correspondence and tenders in connection with the contract for keeping open for travel that portion of the Cariboo Trunk Road between Cottonwood and Barkerville during the Winter season of 1899 and 1900.

**BILLS ADVANCED.**

The Judgments Bill was read a third time and finally passed, as also were the Bill to amend the Elections Act, the Bill to amend the Land Act and the Pine Creek Discovery Bill.

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Upon motion for the reception of the Committee's report on the Bill to amend the Tramway Act.

MR. MARTIN offered the provision proposed by him a couple of days ago, to allow a tramway to be built to the boundary line.

This was opposed by MR. McPHILLIPS, who held that it was not advisable to give such power.

The motion was defeated, the two parties dividing as usual.

#### NEW MEASURES.

A Bill to amend the Municipal Clauses Act was transmitted by the Lieutenant-Governor, and in conformity with usual procedure, was introduced and read a first time, then upon motion of the Attorney-General, it was advanced another stage.

Upon suspension of the rules, MR. HELMCKEN introduced a Bill to amend the Municipal Election Act, which was read a first and second time.

A Bill to amend the Public Dyking Act, was transmitted by the Lieutenant-Governor, introduced and passed through its several stages without discussion. Upon motion of HON. MR. TURNER the Bill was read a third time and finally passed.

This Bill, Hon. Mr. Turner explained, was to enable the Government to divert the sum of \$94,000, the balance of monies borrowed for certain specific works, to other and more necessary improvements at Coquitlam, Maple Ridge, Pitt Meadows, Matsqui and Chilliwack, or such of them as might be found necessary.

#### PRINTING COMMITTEE.

The Printing Committee reported recommending that the recently submitted returns showing the number of votes polled during the last election should be printed for the information of the House.

#### THIRD READINGS.

The Bill to amend the Mineral Act was read a third time and finally passed.

The Bill to amend the Railway Assessment Act was taken up in Committee of the Whole, where it was subject to an amendment giving municipalities the right to tax certain railway lands not used exclusively for the purposes of the railway, the tax to apply during the present year, 1906. The Committee reported the Bill up as amended, when it was read a third time and finally passed.

#### AMENDMENT TO COAL AND COKE BILL.

The Bill to tax coal and coke was committed, when Hon. Mr. Turner moved that the following be substituted for Section 5 of the Bill:

"5. The taxes imposed by this Act shall be in addition to all royalties imposed by any other act, or in any way reserved to the use of Her Majesty, but shall be in substitution for all taxes upon the land from which said coal is mined, so long as said land is not used for the purpose of operating said coke ovens; and shall also be in substitution for all taxes upon the personal property used in the working of the said coal lands and coke ovens."

The amendment carried. The Bill was reported up as amended, read a third time and finally passed.

#### ASSESSMENT BILL.

In Committee of the Whole, upon consideration of the Bill to amend the Assessment Act.

Mr. Curtis moved that the following provision be added to the Bill, in order to make the penalty for misrepresentation of taxable property apply to any such misrepresentation, whether that of a mine owner or not:

"In the event of any return mentioned in this section containing any wilfully false or deceptive statement, the person or body corporate assessed shall pay to the Assessor the ascertained adjusted amount of the tax for the year covered by said return, with 100 per cent. thereof added thereto, which said added percentage shall be deemed a portion of the tax for said year, and all the provisions of this Act with regard to the said tax, as far as applicable, apply to the said percentage."

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Curtis had sought previously to have this penalty section abolished altogether, but in any case held that it was unfair that the miner should be singled out specially for its application. Hence his amendment.

Mr. Curtis also protested against the section increasing the tax on mining property, arguing that such an imposition would seriously interfere with the development of the mining industry. In support of his contention, he read a petition signed by W. Peilew-Harvey, Chairman Mining Committee, Board of Trade, Vancouver, and many other representative mining concerns and individuals. He claimed that the tax should be based upon the net profits of the mines and that there should be a discrimination between the little and big mines as to how much tax should be imposed. The mining industry was paying too heavy a tax already, and to increase the burden was unjust and unfair.

Hon. Mr. Turner held that the proposed tax was very reasonable. Compared with the taxation in the State of Washington it was small. There they paid a tax upon all mining property which had to be valued at the price which the mine, including all its mineral, would sell at. Under that system, the Le Roi mine would have to pay some \$30,000 in taxation, whereas at present it paid less than \$10,000.

Mr. Curtis argued that the cases were altogether different. Looking at it in that direct way the taxation here would fall short, but there were other taxes here which gave a revenue, which did not operate in the State referred to. They did not have to pay for a free miner's licence in the United States, and if everything was considered, it would be shown that the taxation was much higher in this Province. The amendment was voted down.

The Committee rose and reported the Bill complete without amendment.

#### VANCOUVER CROWN LANDS.

His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor transmitted a Bill to authorize a grant of certain Crown lands to the City of Vancouver. The Bill was introduced and read a first and second time.

The House adjourned at 5 o'clock p. m., till 10 o'clock this evening.

#### EVENING SESSION.

Victoria, Aug. 26.—2 a. m.—The House resumed at 10 o'clock p. m.

#### THE STEVESTON COMMISSION.

MR. TATLOW, Chairman of the Committee of Inquiry into the circumstances connected with the calling out of the Militia, submitted the following report:

"Your Committee held sittings on the 23rd, 24th, 25th, and 27th days of August, and examined the following witnesses: W. B. Wilkinson, Reeve of Richmond; Edward Hunt, J.P.; Robert Whitehead, J.P.; Lieutenant-Colonel Wrenop; Captain Henderson, W. A. Munro, cannery manager; C. S. Windro, cannery owner; G. W. Shay, Chief of Police, Richmond; Richard Lister, Chief of Provincial Constables at New Westminster; Colin S. Campbell, Provincial constable; Herbert Brooke, Assistant Collector of Taxes; Frank R. Murray, Provincial constable; Musquean Jim, Indian fisherman; Hugh Campbell, Union fisherman; Frank A. Rogers, Secretary Fishermen's Union.

The evidence of these witnesses has been taken down in shorthand, but is not yet typewritten. Your Committee recommends that this evidence be printed and included in the sessional papers.

In addition to the bona-fide fishermen in Steveston, there was a tough element from across the border, which, aided by certain agitators, caused a state of excitement and unrest; that an organized effort was made to prevent any person from fishing until such time as the Union fishermen should succeed in arriving at a price for fish satisfactory to them; that the justices of the peace were of opinion that had the Militia been called out there would have been serious disturbances of the peace in the event of the Japanese commencing to fish, with which disturbances, had they occurred, the Provincial police admit, they would have been unable to cope. On the other hand, there is conflict of evidence, some witnesses swearing that there was no reason to apprehend danger, while others swore that they believed there would be trouble in the event of the Japanese commencing to fish.

There is no evidence to show that the Provincial Government were in any way connected with the calling out of the Militia."

MR. GILMOUR said that there was a complaint in Vancouver that

the fishermen were not properly presented, although some of the men had telegraphed that they were ready to appear before the Committee.

MR. TATLOW said the telegram had arrived after the Committee rose. Witnesses had been called, representing the Fishermen's Union, although only one union fisherman had been examined.

MR. BROWN corroborated this statement. He explained that it was felt by the Committee that if its report was deferred, it might not have an opportunity to submit it before prorogation, and all its work would have gone for naught, as the Committee would be dissolved by prorogation.

MR. KIDD gave a similar explanation of the matter.

#### ESQUIMALT & NANAIMO RAILWAY LANDS.

MR. R. SMITH, Chairman of the Special Committee appointed to inquire into the grievances of certain settlers on the lands of the Esquimalt & Nanaimo Railway Belt, moved that the Standing Orders be suspended, and that the Committee be permitted to continue its labors during the recess.

MR. A. W. SMITH opposed the suggestion.

MR. McINNES could not understand what objection could be offered to this suggestion. It was a matter for congratulation that hon. members could be found who were willing to prolong their labors beyond the session. If these petty objections were to be constantly put forward, they would find that the Opposition could obstruct, too.

MR. ROGERS: "Go ahead. We can stay as long as you can."

MR. McINNES: "Well, all right. I hope you enjoy it as well as I do."

At this point, MR. SPEAKER interrupted, ruling that the motion, inasmuch as it practically offered two motions, was out of order. The matter was thereupon allowed to drop.

#### IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE.

The House went into Committee of the Whole on the Phoenix Incorporation Bill, which was reported up without amendment, read a third time and finally passed.

#### ASSESSMENT ACT PASSED.

Upon the motion for the third reading of the Bill to amend the Assessment Act.

MR. CURTIS moved to have the Bill recommitted to consider an amendment to strike out Section 5, increasing the tax on mining property.

The motion for the recommitment of the Bill was defeated, and the Bill was read a third time, and finally passed.

#### FULL COURT SITTINGS.

The Bill to amend the Supreme Court Act was read a second time. Among its provisions, as explained by the Attorney-General, it was proposed to confine the sittings of the Full Court, between Vancouver and Victoria, to three sittings in each place, instead of five as at present.

Upon a motion to "railroad" the Bill through its remaining stages.

MR. McINNES objected, appealing to the rule providing that such a course should only be followed in cases of urgency and great importance.

The objection was overruled, and the Bill was thereupon taken up in Committee of the Whole.

Mr. Houston had an idea that there was no necessity for sittings of the Full Court outside of Victoria, and offered an amendment to that effect, limiting the sittings to four times at Victoria. This was opposed by

Mr. Garden and Mr. Curtis, who emphasized the importance of continuing the sittings at the Mainland Capital.

The amendment carried.

Mr. Brown offered an amendment to permit applications in Chambers before the Chief Justice at New Westminster, who resides in that place, but does not hold Chambers there. The amendment was accepted, and the Committee rose and reported the Bill as amended.

Upon motion that the report of the Committee be adopted, Mr. Garden moved that provision be made for sittings of the Full Court in Vancouver, as originally intended.

The amendment was defeated, the House adjourning as follows:



For the amendment: Messrs. Garden, Ellison, Tallow, Kidd, Green, Oliver, R. Smith, E. C. Smith, Stables, Gilmour, Brown, McInnes, Curtis—13.  
Against the amendment: Messrs. Turner, Dunsmaur, Eberts, A. W. Smith, Clifford, Fulton, Hayward, Mounce, Dickie, Hunter, Rogers, Pooley, Murphy, McBride—16.

The report of the Committee was adopted.

HON. MR. EBERTS moved that the Bill be read a third time, upon which MR. GILMOUR moved to have it re-committed to consider an amendment to provide for sittings of the Court in Vancouver. The motion was lost.

A protest rose here that the Government was acting unfairly, and "rail-roading" the Bill through, when there was no real urgency.

MR. MARTIN, who arrived in the House at this stage, having been absent when the votes were taken, joined in the protest, supported by MR. CURTIS and MR. McINNES.

MR. MARTIN argued that it was contrary to the Rules of the House to force a bill through in the way proposed, unless in a case of emergency, which did not apply here. He also appealed to Rule 49, providing that no bill amended in Committee, as this had been, could be put through several stages until the amendments were printed in the Orders, without the consent of the House. He also argued that the Rules of Parliament were designed for the protection of the minority, to afford every opportunity for full discussion. Yet here was a case where the minority were shut out from free discussion, upon amendments with which they had had no fair opportunity to make themselves familiar. It was a deliberate attempt to force the Bill down their throats, in violation of the Rules of the House, and in violation of all the unwritten laws of common courtesy and fair play. He (Mr. Martin) had up to the present, been willing to aid the Government in expediting public business, but he was not prepared to sacrifice the principles of independence which belonged to every member, and the allegiance he owed to the people, whose rights he, and they, were there to guard, in a matter of this kind; and if the Government persisted in its course and refused to allow this Bill to go back to Committee, he was prepared to continue his protests, if he had to detain the House until 3 o'clock next day.

MR. CURTIS quoted from May's "Parliamentary Procedure," to show that Mr. Martin's points were well taken, and the rules referred to were designed for the protection of the minority, and to afford full opportunity for discussion in such cases. For himself, he said, he was not fully acquainted with the scope of the amendments offered to the present Bill, and considered it but just and fair that they should be printed in the proceedings before the Bill was allowed to pass its final stage.

MR. McINNES also offered a vigorous protest to the attempt to force this legislation through.

HON. MR. EBERTS repelled the idea that the Government desired to rush the Bill through unduly, and proceeded to argue that when his side was in Opposition, it did not receive very much consideration in that regard. In fact, he said, there had been times when he had left the Chamber to get a drink of water, to find on returning that measures had jumped through several stages and been read a third time.

MR. CURTIS suggested that he must have taken a long drink.

HON. MR. EBERTS thought the Government was being unfairly criticised, and then, to show how magnanimous it was, agreed to allow the third reading of the Bill to be deferred until Thursday next.

The third reading was accordingly deferred.

MR. MARTIN disagreed with the intimation of the Attorney-General that his Government had ever attempted to force measures through Parliament in violation of the Rules. Certain bills had been advanced several stages in one day with the consent of the House, but those cases were not parallel with the present one, where the Bill had been amended in Committee, and a minority of the House strongly objected.

The Premier here rose (about 1 o'clock), and moved that the House adjourn until 3 o'clock a.m. on Thursday.



