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1905

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 LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

THE SCHOOL BILL.

Sir—A comparison of the provincial estimates of 1896 and 1905 reveals the fact that between those two periods the cost of education increased from \$250,000 in the former year to \$444,846 in the latter, and in like manner the expenditure on public works decreased from \$621,200 in the former year to \$365,250 in the present year. Surely these figures should cause the most heedless person to consider the import of this state of affairs.

It must be admitted by everyone that the development of the province is of the most vital importance; money laid out in roads, bridges and trails and the like is an investment at compound interest, opening up the latest resources of the country, creating markets, developing industries and leading up to fresh sources of revenue. Surely such works as these should take precedence of a system of so-called public education, a mere cramming of book-learning into unwilling heads that within twelve months are none the wiser, and none the better, and yield no return for this wasteful expenditure of public money.

The government very wisely says, in effect, to the municipalities: "If you must keep up these cramming institutions, get those who reap the benefits to shoulder their proportion of the burthen; our business is the development of the province."

Municipalities should certainly be governed on sound commercial principles. Does any commercial company, any benefit society, admit for a moment the right of any but "members in good standing" to vote in the management of its affairs or the election of its officers? Would they elect any person as director or trustee who had not a definite stake in the concern? Does not this principle apply to the school trustees and the voters by whose suffrage they are elected? Surely no person should be deemed eligible for so important an office as trustee who had not a substantial qualification, and no person should have the right to exercise the suffrage that is not identified with the place by reason of his stake in the municipality.

The second principle of school maintenance is from three sources, provincial aid to the teachers according to class and number of school, municipal or county aid by poll tax, and the balance by special rate levied on the real estate in the district or ward tributary to the particular school. This varies in amount in the different provinces, but the principle in all is the same. Schools are more or less in the nature of local improvements, and the burthen of taxation should be borne by those who may deem these improvements of special importance to the well being of their particular school district. They are better qualified to understand the urgency of their needs and to know just how much they can afford and are willing to pay for the local improvement they seek to effect.

I would therefore suggest the formation of school districts, as in other provinces, each district electing, say, three trustees, charged with the management of our affairs and levying its own special rates. And, to use the words of the New Brunswick School Act (section 74), "Any parent, master or guardian who pays district school rates in any school district shall be entitled to send any child under his care, custody or control to the school of such district." Or if he is assessed in more than one district, he shall have the right to send his children (or any of them) to the school in any district in which he may be assessed." This would greatly tend to equalize the burthen of taxation for educational purposes.

THOS. C. SORBY.

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some knowledge of the character of the farming population, believed that they would prove quite equal to do what was required of them by the bill. That the efficiency of the public schools had at-

and finally on the ground that if retrenchment was imperative it could and should be attained without passing class legislation.

Mr. Murphy contended that the point in question as to the standard being maintained was inconsistent with the responsibilities of government. It was the responsibility of government to maintain the standard of education. This was the government's duty.

As for the solicitude of the government for the roads, in this connection there was room for the solicitude in the fact that the highway commission had gone short in this respect last year.

Mr. Murphy moved the second reading of the bill to amend the Bridges Act, that it was designed to make the act more workable, passed and the bill was passed in the chair.

Mr. Murphy moved the adjournment until 2 o'clock.

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No. 15.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Legislative Assembly of British Columbia.

Wednesday, 1st March, 1905.

Two o'clock, P.M.

Prayers by the Rev. Dr. J. Campbell, Ph.D.

Mr. Oliver presented a petition from A. Ohlson, Secretary of the B. C. Association of Nurserymen, asking for amendments to the Horticultural Board Act. Laid on the table.

The following Bills were introduced, read a first time and Ordered to be read a second time to-morrow :-

By Mr. Tanner—Bill (No. 22) intituled "An Act to regulate the Manufacture, Inspection and Storage of Explosives."

By the Hon. Mr. Tallow—Bill (No. 23) intituled "An Act to aid the Municipality of the City of Nelson."

By the Hon. Mr. McBride—Bill (No. 24) intituled "An Act to carry out an agreement respecting the Incorporation of the City of Fernie."

The Standing Rules and Orders were suspended, and then on the motion of Mr. Oliver, seconded by Mr. King, it was Resolved,—

That the Votes and Proceedings of February 24th, 1905, be amended by striking out the following :-

"On the motion of the Hon. Mr. McBride, seconded by Mr. J. A. Macdonald, it was Resolved,—

"Whereas the Government of British Columbia has, from time to time, made representations to the Government of Canada urging upon the latter a re-adjustment of the financial Terms of Union ;

"And whereas such re-adjustment has not yet been granted by the Government of Canada ;

"And whereas the claims of the Province are based upon permanent conditions peculiar to British Columbia and entitle this Province, as distinguished from the other Provinces, to distinct and separate relief ;

"Be it therefore Resolved, That, in the opinion of this House, the Province is entitled to such distinct and separate relief from the Dominion of Canada, based upon an equitable consideration of conditions in the Province, the large contributions made by the Province to the Dominion by way of Customs duties and otherwise, and the exceptionally high cost of Government in the Province, and of the development of our natural resources."

And inserting in lieu thereof the following :-

"Moved by the Hon. Mr. McBride, seconded by the Hon. Mr. Tallow,—

"Whereas the Government of British Columbia has presented to this Legislative Assembly a Memorandum, submitted by them to the Dominion authorities at Ottawa, setting forth the grounds upon which the claims of this Province for increased and special recognition on the part of the Government of the Dominion of Canada are based ;

of the bill (Mr. Oliver) had requested the measure from a narrow point of view, namely from the standpoint of the constituency of Delta. The member for Delta argued that the measure was a blow at the school system, and that the municipalities would not respond to the obligations imposed upon them. He disagreed with this, and having

he considered disputable. Should the bill pass the brand of cowardice would be placed upon the House, as by it they sought to do indirectly what directly they dare not do, in the matter of taxation. He opposed the second reading of the bill for the following reasons. That it was contrary to sound principles of political economy; that it was a discrimination against the poorer school districts; it would drive the best teachers out of the profession; it imposed absurd and ridiculous duties upon the trustees; it would remove one of the greatest incentives to the most desirable class of emigrants crossing into the country.

men of this province to become large distributors for the rest of the Dominion.

Mr. Macdonald suggested that if other provinces followed the example sought to be set by this bill, travelers coming from the Old Country would be up against a tax of \$700 or \$800 before

LETTERS TO THE

THE SCHOOL B

Sir—A comparison of the estimates of 1896 and 1905 reveals that between those two periods education increased from \$2,444,846 in the former year to \$444,846 in the latter year. The expenditure works decreased from \$621,200 per year to \$365,250 in the latter year. Surely these figures should be a headless person to consider this state of affairs.

It must be admitted by the development of the province most vital importance; money, roads, bridges and trails as an investment at compound interest, creating markets, demand and leading up to free revenue. Surely such work should take precedence of a school-keeping into unwill within twelve months are a and none the better, and yet this wasteful expenditure of the government very wise, to the municipalities; keep up these expenses to those who reap the benefit their proportion of the burden is the development of the municipalities should be concerned on sound commerce. Does any commercial company, admit for a moment any but "members in good vote in the management of the election of its officers? elect any person as director who had not a definite estate? Does not this principle school trustees and the vote suffrage they are elected? person should be deemed eligible to an office as trustee, substantial qualification, as should have the right to exercise that is not identified by reason of his stake in the

The broad principle of justice is from three sources to the teachers according to status of school, municipal by poll tax, and the ballot rate based on the real estate or ward tributary to school. This varies in different provinces, but the principle is the same. Schools are most nature of local improvement burthen of taxation should those who may deem this of special importance to their particular school district better qualified to understand their needs and to know they can afford and are in the local improvement the I would therefore suggest of school districts, as in each district electing, say charged with the management and levying its own And, to use the words of the School Act (section 1) master or guardian: who school rates in any school entitled to send any child custody or control to the district? Or if he is a than one district? he should send his children to the school in any district he assessed. This would equalize the burthen of taxation purposes.

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"And whereas, in the opinion of this House, the said Memorandum represents the conditions actually existing in British Columbia, and the claims therein made deserve the earnest support of its Members;

"Be it therefore Resolved, That this House fully endorses the claims made by the Government on behalf of the Province, and that His Honour be respectfully requested to forward a copy of this Resolution to His Excellency the Governor-General, and to strongly urge that the proposals made in the said Memorandum be carried into effect.

"By leave of the House the motion was withdrawn, and on the motion of the Hon. Mr. McBride, seconded by Mr. J. A. Macdonald, it was Resolved,—

"Whereas the Government of British Columbia has, from time to time, made representations to the Government of Canada urging upon the latter a re-adjustment of the financial Terms of Union;

"And whereas such re-adjustment has not yet been granted by the Government of Canada;

"And whereas the claims of the Province are based upon permanent conditions peculiar to British Columbia and entitle this Province, as distinguished from the other Provinces, to distinct and separate relief;

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On the motion of Mr. Oliver, seconded by Mr. Henderson, it was Resolved,—

That an Order of the House be granted for a Return of copies of all correspondence between the Government, or any member thereof, and the Municipality of Coquitlam, or any officer thereof, in respect of taxes upon lands acquired by the Government in connection with the establishment of a farm in connection with the Insane Asylum at New Westminster.

Mr. Oliver asked the Hon. the Attorney-General the following question:—

What authority had the Government to convey lands in Burnaby to E. Pohlman in exchange for lands in Coquitlam?

The Hon. Mr. Wilson replied as follows:—

"By authority of section 3, chapter 160, of the Revised Statutes, 1897, being the Public Works Act, and by an Order in Council, approved on the 11th of May, 1904."

Mr. Evans asked the Hon. the Premier the following question:—

Is it the intention of the Government during the present Session to introduce a Bill dealing with the Superannuation List, according to promise made last Session.

The Hon. Mr. McBride replied as follows:—

"The Government is considering the question of introducing legislation with respect to the Provincial Civil Service. This would include the matter of superannuation."

Bill (No. 8) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Land Registry Act and amending Acts,'" was again committed.

Progress reported.

Committee to sit again to-morrow.

The Hon. Mr. Fulton presented a copy of the Report submitted to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor by the Hon. Fred. J. Fulton on his mission to Ottawa with John P. Babcock, Fishery Commissioner, as a delegation from the Government of British Columbia.

The adjourned debate on the Second Reading on Bill (No. 15) intituled "An Act to amend and consolidate the 'Public Schools Act,'" was resumed.

The debate was further adjourned.

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Bill (No. 20) intituled "An Act to amend the Bridges Act," was read a second time and committed.

Reported complete without amendment.

Report to be considered to-morrow.

Resolved, That the House, at its rising, do stand adjourned until two o'clock to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

C. E. POOLEY, *Speaker*.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

The Hon. Mr. *Wilson* to move, on consideration of the Report on Bill (No 6) intituled "An Act to consolidate and amend the Law for preventing Frauds upon Creditors by secret Bills of Sale of Personal Chattels," the following amendments:—

Section 7, sub-section (2), line 26, strike out "For the Vernon and Osoyoos Mining Divisions—The Office of the Registrar of the County Court at Vernon," and insert :—

“For the Vernon Mining Division—The office of the Registrar of the County Court at Vernon.

"For the Osage Mining Division—The office of the Registrar of the County Court at Fairview."

Section 11, line 1, strike out "three months" and insert "one month."

Section 13, line 4, strike out "F" and insert "E."

The Hon. Mr. *Wilson* to move, on consideration of the Report on Bill (No. 17) intituled "An Act to provide for the Registration of Companies' Mortgages," the following amendments :—

Amend title by striking out the words "to provide," and inserting the words "amending the Companies Act by providing."

Section 2, line 15, after the word "liquidator," insert the words "bonâ fide purchasers and mortgagees for valuable consideration."

The Hon. Mr. Wilson to move, on consideration of the Report on Bill (No. 8) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Land Registry Act and amending Acts,'" the following amendments :—

In section 31 to strike out the word "General" wherever it follows the word "Registrar" throughout the section and sub-sections.

In section 44 to insert after the word "titles" in the sixth line, the words "as evidence or proof of the title."

VICTORIA, B. C.

Printed by RICHARD WOLFENDEN, I.S.O., V.D., Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty.
1905.

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be considered disputable. Should the bill pass the brand of "powerless" would be placed upon the House, as by it they sought to do indirectly what directly they dare not do, in the matter of taxation. He opposed the second reading of the bill for the following reasons: That it was contrary to sound principles of political economy; that it was a discrimination against the poorer class of artists; it would drive the best talent out of the profession; it was a cruel and ridiculous duty upon the Government to remove one of the best of its instruments to the detriment of the cause of temperance, and to the injury of the country.

men of this province to become large distributors for the rest of the Dominion.

Mr. Machin suggested that if other provinces followed the example sought to be set by this bill, travelers coming from the Old Country would be up against a tax of \$700 or \$800 before

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Sir—A comparison of the rates of 1899 and 1903 that between those two years education increased from \$444,846 in the former year to \$444,846 in the latter year. In like manner the expenditure decreased from \$444,846 per year to \$365,250 in 1903. Surely these figures should be a warning to the heedless person to consider this state of affairs.

It must be admitted that the development of the province is of the most vital importance; roads, bridges and trails are an investment at comparing up the latest resource, creating markets, and leading up to revenue. Surely such should take precedence of public education, of book-learning into any within twelve months and none the better, and this wasteful expenditure.

The government very effect, to the municipalities keep up these cramming those who reap the benefit their proportion of the business is the development.

Municipalities should be sound commercial society, admit for a moment any but "members in the vote in the management the election of its officers elect any person as director who had not a definite concern? Does not this preclude school trustees and the suffrage they are elected to should be deemed of important an office as trust substantial qualification, should have the right to franchise that is not identical by reason of his stake in the school.

The second principle of finance is from three sources to the teachers according to the school, municipal by poll tax, and the rate based on the real estate or ward tributary school. This varies in different provinces, but the same. Schools are a burden of local improvement of those who may deem it of special importance to their particular school better qualified to understand of their needs and to know they can afford and are the local improvement.

I would therefore suggest of school districts, each district electing, charged with the maintenance and levying the rate. And, to use the words of the School Act (section 1) "the master or guardian of the school rates in any school entitled to send any child to school or control to the district." Or if he has more than one district, he has to send his children to the school in any district he chooses. This would equalize the burden of local purposes.

The Colonist

THURSDAY, MARCH 11, 1904

Provincial Legislature

Debate on the Second Reading of the School Act Continued

By Premier For Government and Opposition

Commercial Travellers' Work by Executive Committee

Wednesday, March 10th, 1904.
The House assembled at 10 o'clock and after prayers Rev. Dr. Campbell, was the order of business.

Mr. Oliver presented a petition of the Association of Nurserymen, asking amendments to the Horticulture Act.

Mr. Tanner introduced a bill to amend the manufacture, storage of explosives.

The Finance Minister introduced a bill to aid the city of Nelson.

The Premier introduced an agreement respecting the corporation of the city of Penticton.

Mr. Oliver moved that the House be granted copies of all correspondence of the government, or any member and the municipality of any officer thereof, in relation to lands acquired by the government in connection with the establishment of a farm in connection with the asylum at New Westminister.

Hon. Mr. Green presented down the information concerning the motion carried.

Questions.

Mr. Oliver asked: Would the government to compensate Burnaby to E. Pohlman for lands in Coquitlam?

Hon. Mr. Wilson replied: The Statutes, 1897, relating to the Works Act, and by an order approved on the 11th of February.

Mr. Evans asked: Is it the policy of the government during the session to introduce a bill to amend the superannuation list, promise made last session?

Hon. Mr. McBride replied: The government is considering the introduction of legislation with reference to the provincial civil service, including the matter of superannuation.

The Land Registry Act, introduced by Mr. Murphy in the last session, was reported.

Hon. Mr. Fulton presented the report submitted to the Lieutenant-Governor by the Fulton on his mission to the United States, as a delegation from the British Columbia.

Education Bill

Hon. Mr. McBride continued the debate on the second reading of the bill. He pointed out the merits of the measure from the point of view of the constituency of Delta, for Delta argued that the bill would be a blow at the school system of the municipalities would to the obligations imposed. He disagreed with this.

The Colonist.

THURSDAY, MARCH 2, 1905.

Provincial Legislature

Debate on the Second Reading of the School Bill Continued

By Premier For Government and Munro and Murphy For Opposition.

Commercial Travelers Heard by Executive-Committee Work.

Wednesday, March 1.

THE House assembled at 2 o'clock and after prayers were read by Rev. Dr. Campbell, the following was the order of business:

Petitions.

Mr. Oliver presented a petition from A. Ohlson, secretary of the B. C. Association of Nurserymen, asking for amendments to the Horticultural Board Act.

Mr. Tanner introduced a bill to regulate the manufacture, inspection and storage of explosives.

The Finance Minister introduced a bill to aid the city of Nelson.

The Premier introduced a bill to carry out an agreement respecting the incorporation of the city of Fernie.

Mr. Oliver moved that an order of the House be granted for a return of copies of all correspondence between the government, or any member thereof, and the municipality of Coquitlam, or any officer thereof, in respect of taxes upon lands acquired by the government in connection with the establishment of a farm in connection with the insane asylum at New Westminster.

Hon. Mr. Green promised to bring down the information called for.

The motion carried.

Questions.

Mr. Oliver asked: What authority had the government to convey lands in Burnaby to E. Pohlman in exchange for lands in Coquitlam?

Hon. Mr. Wilson replied: By authority of section 3, chapter 100, of the Revised Statutes, 1897, being the Public Works Act, and by an order in council, approved on the 11th of May, 1904.

Mr. Evans asked: Is it the intention of the government during the present session to introduce a bill dealing with the superannuation list, according to promise made last session?

Hon. Mr. McBride replied: The government is considering the question of introducing legislation with respect to the provincial civil service. This would include the matter of superannuation.

The Land Registry Act was committed. Mr. Murphy in the chair. Progress was reported.

Hon. Mr. Fulton presented a copy of the report submitted to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor by the Hon. Fred J. Fulton on his mission to Ottawa with John P. Babcock, federal commissioner, as a delegation from the government of British Columbia.

Education Bill.

Hon. Mr. McBride continued the debate on the second reading of the education bill. He pointed out that the first critic of the bill (Mr. Oliver) had regarded the measure from a narrow point of view, namely from the standpoint of the constituency of Delta. The member for Delta argued that the measure was a blow at the school system, and that rural municipalities would not respond to the obligations imposed upon them. He disagreed with this, and having

some knowledge of the character of the farming population, believed that they would prove quite equal to do what was required of them by the bill. That the efficiency of the public schools had attained such a high state, under the system adopted in 1893, was an argument against the criticism that deterioration would result from the present measure, which was only an extension of the principle then adopted. He believed that as a result of the bill they might expect to see better school management, inasmuch as the people would feel more directly their responsibilities in connection with the system. Many inequalities now existing would be removed by the bill. It was manifestly unfair that some districts should receive more assistance for education alone than they were contributing to the provincial treasury. This would be corrected. The explanation offered by Mr. Oliver for the failure of certain constituencies to make good the educational grant, that lands within the Dominion railway grant to the C. P. R. were not subject to taxation, was not applicable, as there were no railway lands within the Delta riding. Generally speaking, the riding of Dewdney was affected by this measure, but the burden was fairly distributed, and he had no fear as to the ability of the people there to meet it. All measures involving an increase of taxation in any respect naturally provoked some opposition. It was impossible to draft such a bill which would meet the views of all. The necessity for the changes proposed was apparent. The demands of other departments of the administration were constantly growing, and must continue to increase with the development of the province. The financial burdens must be met, and a consideration of the educational system had to be undertaken from a financial point of view. In framing the bill, the government had derived a great deal of inspiration from the New Brunswick law, the details of which were copied in many respects. He invited to the measure the careful study of the House, believing that much of the disfavor in regard to it would disappear with real knowledge of its provisions.

Mr. Munro (Chilliwack) congratulated the Minister of Education upon his presentation of the case. It was only reasonable that the member for Delta should regard the bill from the standpoint of his constituency, and he (Mr. Munro) believed that, if all other members of the House would get a better representation of the whole subject than if members indulged in abstract speculations. He concurred with the idea that this question should be regarded from the standpoint of economy and efficiency, but it was not claimed on behalf of the measure that either of these objects would be thereby conserved. In a word the government said it was up to the people to seek efficiency or economy as they chose. This was an indefensible principle. The government should keep in view the greatest good of the commonwealth. In the case for better terms, special treatment was asked of the Dominion because of the peculiar conditions obtaining in this province. Yet in relation to the school system now proposed, the government took no cognizance of this fact, and in this way unfair discrepancies in the treatment meted out to the school districts would occur. The bill discriminated against the poorer districts. It was a sort of legislation which inspired Socialistic views. The measure was not attributable to any constructive ability of the government. It was rather attributable to a negative quality, which on a previous occasion had panicked to the bankers of the province as the question of finance. In the administration of the present system, the government had been guilty of extravagance, as instanced in over provisions made in his district for school accommodation, and these were all the more blamable in view of the fact that the country was on the verge of such a measure as that before the House, which struck at the very root of the school system. The bill was wrong in principle. Its details were also ill considered, in proof of which he referred to a number of sections which he considered disputable. Should the bill pass the brand of cowardice would be placed upon the House, as by it they sought to do indirectly what directly they dare not do, in the matter of taxation. He opposed the second reading of the bill for the following reasons: That it was contrary to sound principles of political economy; that it was a discrimination against the poorer school districts; it would drive the best teachers out of the profession; it imposed absurd and ridiculous duties upon the trustees; it would remove one of the greatest inducements to the most desirable class of immigrants coming into the country.

and finally on the ground that if retrenchment was imperative it could and should be attained without passing class legislation.

Mr. Murphy contended that the point taken by the Minister of Education that under the bill the question as to the standard of education being maintained was up to the people was inconsistent with the duties and responsibilities of government. In the poorer districts it was apparent that the people would not maintain the standard of education. This duty devolved upon the government. They should see to it that the standard was maintained. As for the solicitude expressed by the government for the maintenance of roads, in this connection he pointed out that there was room for the greater part of their solicitude in his district, and that owing to the by-election in Lillooet, Cariboo had gone short of its allowance in this respect last year.

Mr. Bowser moved the adjournment of the debate.

Hon. Mr. Green moved the second reading of the bill to amend the Bridges Act, explaining that it was designed simply to make the act more workable.

The motion passed and the bill was committed. Mr. Macgowan in the chair. It was reported complete without amendments.

The House adjourned until 2 o'clock tomorrow.

Gallery Notes.

The municipal committee met yesterday morning. Mr. Macgowan in the chair. Representations were heard on behalf of the city of Victoria from Mayor Barnard and the city clerk with reference to a large number of suggested amendments to the Municipal Clauses Act. One amendment asked was that the city of Victoria might be given power to vote a sum of money to the Tourist Association, and another provided that the voters' lists should be printed a week earlier than the date now fixed for the greater convenience of the ratepayers.

Another suggested amendment had reference to the settlement of claims arising from damage to private property by the city or from the expropriation of property. In effect it was that one arbitrator should be appointed (a Supreme court judge) for this purpose instead of three arbitrators as at present.

The committee took the various suggestions into consideration.

The executive received a deputation from New Westminster yesterday morning consisting of Thos. Gifford, M. P. P., and Mr. W. J. Trapp, president of the Exhibition Association. A request was made for a provincial grant in aid of the Dominion exhibition to be held in New Westminster this year. The sum suggested was \$20,000. The government promised to give the matter their fairest consideration.

A deputation representing the resident commission merchants of Vancouver and Victoria waited on the government with reference to the proposed taxation affecting their interests. They took exception to clause 10 of the report of the assessment commission, contending that this should not be embodied in any legislative enactment. About thirty gentlemen attended, and the spokesman of the deputation was Mr. Martin of the firm of Martin & Robertson of Vancouver. Aside from any particulars of the suggested legislation, Mr. Martin took the broad ground that no measure of class distinction should be adopted. He said that resident commission men were quite willing to bear their fair share of taxation required to meet the necessities of the government. He thought that the taxation of commercial men would work out eventually to the disadvantage of the province. The commercial men were not only selling agents, but they were educators, as it were, the purveyors of inter-provincial sentiment, and if they were discriminated against in this way it might lead to retaliatory measures being adopted by other provinces against British Columbia salesmen, and in this connection Mr. George Carter of Victoria interpolated the information that his firm was today sending travelers as far as Montreal and that it was not beyond the ambitions of the commercial men of this province to become large distributors for the rest of the Dominion.

Mr. Machin suggested that if other provinces followed the example sought to be set by this bill, travelers coming from the Old Country would be up against a tax of \$700 or \$800 before

they reached the Pacific coast. He also pointed out that in many cases these travelers came not only to sell but to buy here. Aside altogether from the practical aspects of the question, Mr. Martin pointed out that ethically the proposal would be disadvantageous. The very best of feeling now existed between members of the commercial fraternity, and he instanced that a large sum of money had been contributed by the commercial travelers of Winnipeg to furnish a ward in the Vancouver general hospital. He said that in collecting such a tax, as proven by the experience of other places where such legislation had been experimented with, insurmountable obstacles would be encountered. The travelers would not only seek to evade the payment of the tax, but those who traded with them would sympathize and assist them in this evasion. It was safe to say that not over 50 per cent. would be collected, and that a considerable portion of this would be consumed by the expense of collecting it. The government promised serious consideration to the suggestions that had been made.

The bill respecting the city of Nelson, introduced yesterday, is designed to authorize the substitution of new debentures for those unsold in connection with the loan of \$150,000 for installing an electric light plant in 1902.

THE PROGRESS OF AGRICULTURE

Hon. R. G. Tatlow, Minister of Agriculture, gave some interesting facts about the development of several important branches of agriculture in British Columbia during the past few years, while addressing the Central Farmers' Institute on Tuesday. If the progress made had not been reduced to an actual statistical basis, few persons would be inclined to accept it as real. Since 1901, when the last decennial census was taken, 6000 acres of land had been set out in fruit, making a total area of 13,500 acres of orchards in the Province. So that in three years the whole previous record of development had been about equalled. Taking \$150 per acre as the average output of a well kept orchard in British Columbia, being one-half of what some commercial orchards are now actually producing, the capabilities of our present orchards are over \$2,000,000 per annum—an important industry, as yet only in its infancy. At the present rate of increase we shall have, in ten years, an output of \$6,000,000 worth of fruit. Some are sanguine enough to say it will be \$10,000,000.

In dairying, an even greater rate of development has taken place. The output of our creameries in 1904 was 1,210,000 lbs., representing a value to the producer of \$302,500. Seven years ago the output of creameries was practically nil. In ten years from now, the value of the output will, at the annual rate of increase, represent \$1,000,000. With prospective developments, as the result of railway construction, it may reasonably be expected to reach \$2,000,000.

We are told, and we believe the statement is founded on authentic returns, that the agricultural products, of all kinds, marketed in 1904 aggregated a value of \$10,000,000. Considering the results in mining, timber and fishery industries, agriculture, insignificant as it may be considered to be, takes a place of importance not to be despised. Whatever our anticipations may be respecting the other great resources we possess, it will be found that the total of our farming products before many years will represent at least half of all other products put together; and it will represent profits and benefits to the community in a far greater degree. When the element of speculation shall have been wholly eliminated and the Province has steered down to actual production for financial results, we shall have learned not to despise the day of small things and to trust more to the steady accretions of our cultivated acres than to all other sources of wealth.

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Mr. Bowser replied that he would even be willing to meet the hon. gentleman at Delta, with the hope that his truths would prove more effective than on a previous occasion. The lower Fraser received \$3 for every \$1 contributed in taxes. They paid in last year

than they paid back. On the other hand there were districts, notably that of Newcastle, which contributed three times as much to the treasury as they received for all purposes. The distinguishing feature of the bill was that the whole outlying country should contribute

No. 16.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Legislative Assembly of British Columbia.

Thursday, 2nd March, 1905.

Two o'clock, P.M.

Prayers by the Rev. Dr. Campbell, Ph.D.

The petition from A. Ohlson, Secretary of the B. C. Association of Nurserymen, asking for amendments to the Horticultural Board Act, was received and referred to the Committee on Agriculture.

The Order for the Second Reading of Bill (No. 22) intituled "An Act to regulate the Manufacture, Inspection and Storage of Explosives," was discharged and the Bill withdrawn.

The report on Bill (No. 20) intituled "An Act to amend the Bridges Act," was adopted. Bill read a third time and passed.

The adjourned debate on the Second Reading of Bill (No. 15) intituled "An Act to amend and consolidate the 'Public Schools Act,'" was resumed. The debate was again adjourned until to-morrow.

On the Second Reading of Bill (No. 16) intituled "An Act respecting the Songhees Indian Reserve," a debate arose, which was adjourned until to-morrow.

Bill (No. 24) intituled "An Act to carry out an Agreement respecting the Incorporation of the City of Fernie," was read a second time. Ordered to be committed to-morrow.

Bill (No. 51) intituled "An Act to incorporate the British Canadian Fire Insurance Company," was read a second time. Ordered to be committed to-morrow.

Resolved, That the House, at its rising, do stand adjourned until two o'clock to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned at 5:40 P.M.

C. E. POOLEY, *Speaker*.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

On Monday next—

The Hon. Mr. Wilson to ask leave to introduce a Bill intituled "An Act to amend the 'Benevolent Societies Act.'"

should come from Vancouver, yet there was such a manifest fairness in the readjustment that he would be willing to meet the member for Delta in Vancouver and discuss the question. Mr. Oliver said if the battle ground were changed to south of the Fraser river, he would be happy to attend.

cities, and absolutely tantamount to the rural districts. The rural residents were already struggling under the burden imposed upon them by the Assessment Act of last session. If an additional burden were added discontent would ensue and conditions would be occasioned which would militate against the settlement of the country. He saw no argument in the point that there were districts which received more from the provincial treasury for education alone

must be raised or saved in some way, and it was noticeable that members of the Liberal party were not lacking in clamor for appropriations for roads, bridges and other public works. No charges of extravagance against the government were then heard. What then was the government to do? He thought that possibly the expenditure for the administration of justice might be somewhat curtailed, but could he expect support in this from the Liberals? He

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Mr. Oliver to move, on consideration of the motion "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair," for the purpose of going into Committee of Supply, to amend the Resolution by adding after the word "Chair" the following words:—"But the House is of the opinion that the Assessment Act should be amended so as to make it more just and equitable before passing the Estimates."

By Mr. Brown—On Monday next—Questions of the Hon. the Provincial Secretary—

1. Did the Government receive a request during the summer of 1904 to appoint fence viewers, under the "Line Fences and Water-courses Act," for any locality in Greenwood Riding?

2. Were fence-viewers appointed in pursuance of the said request?

3. If so, who were appointed?

4. If not, why not?

By Mr. Brown—On Monday next—Question of the Hon. the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works—

1. Did the Columbia and Western Railway Company comply with the provisions of section 5, chapter 8, Statutes of 1896, in respect to the survey of lands granted to them under the provisions of said chapter 8?

By Mr. Murphy—On Monday next—Question of the Hon. the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works—

Is it the intention of the Government to provide in the Estimates for a ferry across the Fraser River at Quesnel?

By Mr. J. A. Macdonald—On Monday next—Questions of the Hon. the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works—

1. Have Geo. T. Kane, David P. Kane, E. S. Willington, John Willington and W. J. Sanders been refused land on Kai-en Island in satisfaction of South African War Scrip?

2. If so, why?

By Mr. J. A. Macdonald—On Monday next—

That an Order of the House be granted for a Return of copies of all papers and correspondence relating to an application by Mr. John Elliott, as counsel, for a fiat for a petition of right to try certain questions relating to the mineral claim "Pack Train."

VICTORIA, B. C.

Printed by RICHARD WOLFENDE, L.S.O., V.D., Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty.
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FRIDAY, MARCH 3, 1905.

Provincial Legislature

Wisdom of the School Bill is Picturing Out in the Debate.

Opposition Finds Little But the General Statements to Offer.

Bowser, McInnes and Williams Elucidate Subject and Other Matters.

Thursday, March 2.

THE House assembled at 2 o'clock and after prayers were read, following was the order of business:

Mr. Tanner rose to move the second reading of the bill respecting the manufacture, inspection and storage of explosives.

The Premier pointed out that in the nature of things it was not within the competency of a private member to bring in such a measure, at the same time signifying his willingness to go into the matter with the hon. gentleman and give fair consideration to his proposals.

Mr. Tanner thereupon withdrew the bill.

The School Act.

Mr. Bowser continued the debate on the second reading of the bill to amend the School Act. He thought the government and the province was to be congratulated upon the fact that they had men, such as the Minister of Education, who were not afraid to grapple with such an important question. While some ill considered criticism had come from the opposition side, it was noticeable that their leader had been silent. The point taken that the municipalities were to be subject to the burden of the new arrangement was not well founded, as the cities, such as Vancouver and Victoria, were affected in a much larger degree. The blue ruin croakers of the opposition benches had accused the government of cowardice in connection with this measure, whilst as a matter of fact they demonstrated a very opposite quality in bringing down a bill which they knew must be unpopular. The three rural municipalities including Delta and Chilliwack received last year for education about \$23,000 to the provincial treasury. How inconsistent, in the light of these facts, that representatives of these districts should pose as the chief critics and accusers of the government. He quoted from a speech delivered by Mr. Oliver on the school bill of 1901, in which he dilated upon the magnitude of the school system of the province, and predicted its expansion in consequence of that measure.

Mr. Bowser then that he took now. Mr. Bowser replied that the matter would work out just the same, too, in this case as it had in the other. He contended that Vancouver suffered more than any other city under the bill, pointing out that the new arrangement would impose upon them \$11,400 in additional taxation. If opposition were justified, it should come from Vancouver, yet there was such a manifest fairness in the readjustment that he would be willing to meet the member for Delta in Vancouver and discuss the question.

Mr. Oliver said the battle ground were changed to south of the Fraser river, he would be happy to attend.

Mr. Bowser replied that he would even be willing to meet the hon. gentleman at Delta, with the hope that his truths would prove more effective than on a previous occasion. The lower Fraser received \$3 for every \$1 contributed in taxes. They paid in last year \$23,000 and drew upon the treasury to the extent of \$69,000, without counting the expenditure on school buildings and maintenance. Yet Mr. Oliver said the cities were able to pay than Slokan, Sandou and some other places. As for the operation of the bill in the country districts it was like this: A district supporting one school, say, with a salary of \$900 a year, would receive from the government \$525. The district would have to make good the difference, namely \$375. An additional \$25 would pay for incidental expenses, so that the increased burden imposed under the bill would amount only to about \$100 a year, to make up which provision was made for an income tax, which would compel contribution from a class that had hitherto escaped taxation, and that was in many cases just as well able to pay as the owners of real estate. The New Brunswick system, on which the new measure was based, was among the best in the world. It had been adopted by the commission appointed to select a system for South Africa as the most fit for inauguration in that country. As for the point raised by Mr. Munro as to the ability of rural municipalities to meet the financial responsibilities occasioned by the measure, he contended that the per capita wealth of the people in these districts was greater here than in any other province in Canada.

Mr. Munro explained that his point was not that they could not meet their responsibilities, but that they would not do so, and that the standard of education would be impaired.

Mr. Bowser proceeded to an analysis of statistics in further proof of the statement that Vancouver contributed the lion's share in the matter of taxation. In this connection he became involved in a friendly buffet with Mr. Hall, who apparently wanted it to be known that Victoria was in the ring as a payer of taxes. Mr. Bowser also recalled some irritating recollections to the opposition party, mentioning that Mr. McInnes thought at one time that he was dis-appointed, and that judging from the attitude of some members in the House, there was room for speculation still as to where the leadership actually belonged. It was well, he thought, that this matter should be removed from doubt, so that the House might know from whom they might expect criticism from a party standpoint of government measures.

Mr. McInnes was sure it was a matter of pleasure to everybody that the member for Vancouver had at last found opportunity to address the House. He suggested that Mr. Bowser's depreciation of Victoria as a taxpayer were occasioned by a repugnant recollection of an occasion when he was howled down at a political meeting in this city. As to the bill he (Mr. McInnes) characterized it as an outrageous measure, which would lead to the undoing of the educational system. Whilst members of the opposition might have maintained silence with respect to it, this was not due to cowardice. There was a very general silence also noticeable on the government side of the House. He represented the mention made of his name in connection with the leadership of the Liberal party. It was not necessary to go outside the text to find matter to speak about. There was plenty of material in the bill itself. As for the leadership question, he professed himself loyal to the gentleman chosen for that position. He wanted to know if Mr. Bowser was satisfied with his attorney-general. In the case of Roseland, he found an instance in support of the principle that the responsibility of providing education was a duty devolving upon the state. At a time when the schools of that city were laboring under financial difficulty, the provincial government had provided the means to maintain their efficiency. The present measure, he claimed, was disadvantageous to the cities, and absolutely calamitous to the rural districts. The rural residents were already struggling under the burden imposed upon them by the Assessment Act of last session. If an additional burden were added discontent would ensue and conditions would be occasioned which would militate against the settlement of the country. He saw no argument in the point that there were districts which received more from the provincial treasury for education than

than they paid back. On the other hand there were districts, notably that of Newcastle, which contributed three times as much to the treasury as they received for all purposes. The distinguishing feature of the bill was that the whole outlying country should contribute directly for educational purposes. But in doing this, the government proposed to deal with existing school districts, and this was absurd, as these districts were not formed for the purpose of deriving revenue within their limits. The measure would place a premium on celibacy. He thought if there was to be such a change it should apply only to rural municipalities because they already had machinery for assessing and collecting the revenues required. This was not the case in the rural districts.

The rural municipalities were embraced only in a very small portion of the province. Thus there was a general absence of such machinery. There was more argument for local contribution in the case of public works than in the matter of education. The former possessed features peculiarly local. The latter belonged generally to the province as a whole. The only excuse for the bill was the desire of the government to save \$100,000 a year. Following Mr. Bowser's references to blue ruin, he characterized the present administration as a blue ruin government. They were continually raising the plea that they were broke. Why should this be necessary in a treasure house of nature like British Columbia. As a possible means of raising revenue he suggested that the lands of the B. & N. railway belt might be subject to taxation. He coupled with a humorous reference to the Attorney-General's London trip a suggestion that he might have found out from the Privy Council whether the province had the right to tax these lands or not, instead of confining his mission to obtaining permission to go there again on another matter. He further suggested that the timber resources of the country could be administered to better financial advantage to the province. He instanced a couple of cases where large acreages of timber had allegedly been disposed of for insignificant sums, which should have returned more than sufficient to meet the \$100,000 without resorting to revenue bills such as that before the House. Instead of handing the lands over to speculators and grafters, the government should take the place of a middle man, and absorb the financial benefits to itself. The country would refuse to sustain any government which passed such a measure.

Mr. Evans read some correspondence from trustees in his district unfavorable to the bill. He contended that the duties imposed upon trustees would prove unworkable. He thought the government might save money by reforming the civil service. The revenue tax was also capable of more efficient administration. In proof of this, he quoted figures showing that full returns were not by any means realized from this tax. The bill threatened to cripple the efficiency of the schools in the rural districts. He deplored this as it was from the rural districts that was produced the brightest men in this and every other country. (Mr. Murphy-Hear, hear.) He hoped the government would withdraw the bill.

Mr. Tanner showed that the Saanich district had for the past two years consecutively contributed something over \$12,000 to the provincial revenue in excess of the grant received for education. If the bill passed it would be impossible to get anybody to accept the position of trustee. There was not sufficient compensation provided for trustees for the work imposed upon them. It was not to be argued altogether with reference to the treatment merited as between mining and agricultural constituencies, that the former were more entitled to consideration because they paid more into the provincial treasury. A mine was from the standpoint of revenue an evanescent institution, whereas the farm was a perpetual source of wealth, and subject to taxation for all time.

Mr. Williams (Newcastle) argued that it was simply a question of taxation that they had to consider. The money must be raised or saved in some way, and it was noticeable that members of the Liberal party were not lacking in clamor for appropriations for roads, bridges and other public works. No charges of extravagance against the government were then heard. What then was the government to do? He thought that possibly the expenditure for the administration of justice might be somewhat curtailed, but could he expect support in this from the Liberals? He

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to the King's Most Excellent Majesty.

thought not. There were too many disciples of Blackstone in the ranks. How then were they to meet the financial necessities of the case? What would the Liberals be likely to do were they in power? It was plain that they would have to let the province go behind financially or follow the course pursued by the government. As to suggestions of reform in the civil service, reform in this particular, from the Liberal standpoint, would mean simply a sacrifice of political opponents for the benefit of the party. It would not be a question of efficient service. So much for this plank of the Liberal platform. Perhaps that party might find an alternative for the present measure. They might resort to borrowing. He for one discountenanced that policy. There must be a limit in this regard. They could not go on forever discounting the future to meet present necessities. It was necessary to get down to a business basis, no matter how painful the operation might be. He resented the intrusion of Mr. McInnes upon the affairs of his district. There was no occasion for his butting in like a billy goat. Whatever his abilities might be, he assured the member for Nanaimo that he (Mr. Williams) was prepared to do his best to look after the interests of his constituency. While there were some features of the bill which he considered susceptible to revision, the government had agreed to give fair consideration to any suggestions offered in committee. He was therefore prepared to support the second reading of the bill. (Applause.)

Mr. Davidson (Slocan) moved the adjournment of the debate.

Hon. Mr. Green moved the second reading of the bill respecting the Songhees reserve. He remarked that this reserve had not been placed in the same position as other reserves in the province. There was no question about the right of the province in the land, as the Indians were holding it under treaty. For economic and moral reasons the desire had arisen for the removal of the Indians, but negotiations for the accomplishment of this object had been thus far unsuccessful. This was not due to any fault of the provincial government, either at present or in the past. The present government was willing to deal with the question, and to deal with it fairly toward the city of Victoria and all parties concerned. The bill was simply to invest power in the government to proceed in the matter.

Mr. McNiven remarked that he had some time ago asked for a return of papers respecting the proposed acquisition of a new reserve for the Indians. In order that these papers might be in possession of the House before the bill passed its second stage he moved the adjournment of the debate.

Hon. Mr. Green said that the failure to bring down the papers was an omission which would be attended to without delay.

Hon. Mr. McBride moved the second reading of the bill to carry out an agreement respecting the incorporation of the city of Fernie. He remarked that Fernie was located amidst lands conveyed by the government to certain corporations, on condition that when they came to be platted, the government was entitled to a fourth interest. Owing to growth of population it had become desirable that Fernie should become incorporated, but in order to do this, it was necessary to effect an agreement with the Crow's Nest Coal Co., which controlled large areas of land within its limits. The proposed measure simply gave effect to this agreement, which was acceptable to both parties.

The motion passed.

The bill to incorporate the British Canadian Fire Insurance Co. passed second reading.

The House adjourned.

Notes.

A deputation from Chilliwack is expected on Saturday to interview the government with respect to the subject of dyking reclamation. The deputation will be introduced by Mr. Munro.

Mr. C. W. Clifford, member for Skeena, occupied the Speaker's chair for a hour during yesterday's proceedings in the House. Hon. Mr. Pooley being absent to attend the funeral of the late Sir Henry Irving Fellow Cresset. Hon. Mr. Tatlow and some other members of the House also attended.

It was noticeable that the pressure of lobbying reached an almost surprising stage yesterday afternoon. The inner lobbies were largely invaded.

Notices of Motion.

Hon. Mr. Wilson gives notice of a bill to amend the Benevolent Societies Act.

Mr. Oliver to move, on consideration of the motion "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the chair," for the purpose of going into committee of supply, to amend the resolution by adding after the word "chair" the following words: "But the House is of the opinion that the Assessment Act should be amended so as to make it more just and equitable before passing the estimates."

Mr. Brown will ask: 1. Did the government receive a request during the summer of 1904 to appoint fence viewers, under the Line Fences and Water-courses Act for any locality in Greenwood riding? 2. Were fence viewers appointed in pursuance of the said request? 3. If so, who were appointed? 4. If not, why not?

Mr. Brown will ask: Did the Columbia & Western Railway Company comply with the provisions of section 3, chapter 3, statutes of 1904, in respect to the survey of lands granted to them under the provisions of said chapter 3?

Mr. Murphy will ask: Is it the intention of the government to provide in the estimates for a ferry across the Fraser river at Quenest?

Mr. J. A. Macdonald will ask: 1. Have Geo. T. Kane, David P. Kane, S. S. Willington, John Willington, and W. J. Sanders been refused land on Kai-en Island in satisfaction of South African war scrip? 2. If so, why?

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No. 17.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Legislative Assembly of British Columbia.

Friday, 3rd March, 1905.

Prayers by the Rev. Dr. Campbell, Ph.D.

TWO O'CLOCK, P.M.

Mr. Ross presented the Ninth Report from the Private Bills Committee, as follows:—

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,
March 3rd, 1905.

MR. SPEAKER:

Your Select Standing Committee on Private Bills and Standing Orders beg leave to report as follows:—

That the preamble of Bill (No. 56) intituled "An Act respecting the Brunette Saw-Mill Company, Limited Liability," has been proved, and the Bill ordered to be reported.

W. R. Ross,
Chairman.

The report was received.

The Report on Bill (No. 6) intituled "An Act to consolidate and amend the Law for preventing Frauds upon Creditors by secret Bills of Sale of Personal Chattels," was further considered.

The Hon. Mr. Wilson moved the following amendments:—

Section 7, sub-section (2), line 26, strike out "For the Vernon and Osoyoos Mining Divisions—The Office of the Registrar of the County Court at Vernon," and insert:—

"For the Vernon Mining Division—The office of the Registrar of the County Court at Vernon.

"For the Osoyoos Mining Division—The office of the Registrar of the County Court at Fairview."

Carried.

The Hon. Mr. Wilson moved to amend section 11, line 1, by striking out "three months" and inserting "one month."

Carried.

The Hon. Mr. Wilson moved to amend section 13, line 4, by striking out "F" and inserting "E."

Carried.

The further consideration of the Report was adjourned.

The Report on Bill (No. 14) intituled "An Act respecting Assignments and Preferences by Insolvent Persons," was adopted.

Third reading on Monday next.

the taxation of income. Many of these men were constantly on the move, and yet earned a sufficient amount to warrant contribution. He introduced an observation upon the subject of school books, suggesting that the matter of providing free text books, merited the attention of the government. He commented upon the mission from the bill of the statutory condition that members

of the revenue should have expanded in much greater proportion than expenditure, and the government should get enough out of the natural resources of the country to pay almost the total cost of administration. That these resources, the timber and salaried for instance, had contributed as much as they had last year, was due, not to the local government, but to the action of the federal authorities in grant-

the occasion for deliberation in connection with the measure and in order to satisfy any anxiety which might be felt respecting it, he consented that the bill should stand over for a few days, so that there might be no suggestion that there was any desire to rush the bill through. The committee accordingly rose and reported progress.

The House adjourned until Monday.

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tions by Mr. Williams additions of incorpora- the Crow's Nest Pass people of Fernie, the that the company had a party to the appli- cation on an under- ad been come to with terms of the agree- ment to all parties.

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thought not. There were too many disciples of Blackstone in the ranks. How then were they to meet the financial necessities of the case? What a Liberals be likely to do were power? It was plain that they have to let the province go behind ally or follow the course put the government. As to suggest reform in the civil service, re this particular, from the Liberal point, would mean simply a as political opponents for the bene party. It would not be a efficient service. So much plank of the Liberal platform, that party might find an alter the present measure. They sort to borrowing. He for on tenanted that policy. There limit in this regard. They on forever discounting the meet present necessities. It sary to get down to a business matter how painful the oper he. He resented the intru McInnes upon the affairs of. There was no occasion for him like a billy goat. Whatever might be, he assured the m Nanaimo that he (Mr. Wil prepared to do his best to loc interests of his constituents there were some features which he considered suscep vision, the government had give fair consideration to any offered in committee. He fore prepared to support the ing of the bill. (Applause.)

Mr. Davidson (Slocan) mo Journalment of the debate.

Hon. Mr. Green moved reading of the bill respecting hees reserve. He remarked reserve had not been placed position as other reserves vince. There was no questio right of the province in the Indians were holding it un For economic and moral desire had arisen for the reu Indians, but negotiations for plishment of this object had far unsuccessful. This was any fault of the provincial either at present or in the present government was wil with the question, and to fairly toward the city of Vic parties concerned. The bill to invest power in the gov proceed in the matter.

Mr. McNiven remarked some time ago asked for a r pers respecting the proposed of a new reserve for the I order that these papers migl session of the House before ed its second stage he mo Journalment of the debate.

Hon. Mr. Green said that to bring down the papers n sion which would be attende delay.

Hon. Mr. McBride moved reading of the bill to carry ment respecting the incorpor city of Fernie. He remark nie was located amidst lan by the government to cert tions, on condition that whe to be platted, the governm titled to a fourth interest, growth of population it has arable that Fernie should b perated, but in order to do necessary to effect an agr the Crow's Nest Coal Co, trolled large areas of land limits. The proposed me gave effect to this agreem acceptable to both parties.

The motion passed.
The bill to incorporate Canadian Fire Insurance Co and reading.

The House adjourned.

Notes.

A deputation from Chilliw on Saturday to interview ment with respect to the sub assessments. The deputation introduced by Mr. Munro.

Mr. C. W. Clifford, member for Skeena, occupied the Speaker's chair for a time during yesterday's proceedings in the House. Hon. Mr. Pooley being absent to attend the funeral of the late Sir Henry Fering Fallow Crease. Hon. Mr. Tatlow and some other members of the House also attended.

It was noticeable that the pressure of job- blem reached an almost suffocating stage yesterday afternoon. The inner lobbies were largely invaded.

Notices of Motion.

Hon. Mr. Wilson gives notice of a bill to

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3RD MARCH.

1905

The Report on Bill (No. 17) intituled "An Act to provide for the Registration of Companies' Mortgages," was considered.

The Hon. Mr. Wilson moved to amend section 2, line 15, after the word "liquidator," by inserting the words "bonâ fide purchasers and mortgagees for valuable consideration."

Carried.

The Hon. Mr. Wilson moved to amend the title by striking out the words "to provide," and inserting the words "amending the Companies Act by providing."

Carried.

The further consideration of the Report was adjourned.

Bill (No. 7) intituled "An Act respecting the Jurisdiction and Procedure of County Courts," was again committed.

Reported complete with amendments.

Report to be considered on Monday next.

Bill (No. 8) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Land Registry Act and amending Acts,'" was again committed.

Reported complete with amendments.

Report to be considered on Monday next.

Bill (No. 24) intituled "An Act to carry out an Agreement respecting the Incorporation of the City of Fernie," was committed.

Progress reported.

Committee to sit again on Monday next.

The adjourned debate on the Second Reading of Bill (No. 15) intituled "An Act to amend and consolidate the 'Public Schools Act,'" was resumed.

The debate was again adjourned until Monday next.

Bill (No. 23) intituled "An Act to aid the Municipality of the City of Nelson," was read a second time.

To be committed on Monday next.

The adjourned debate on the Second Reading of Bill (No. 18) intituled "An Act to Secure to their Dependents the Wages of Deceased Workmen," was resumed.

Bill read a second time.

Ordered to be committed on Monday next.

Resolved, That the House, at its rising, do stand adjourned until two o'clock on Monday next.

And then the House adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

C. E. POOLEY, Speaker.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

By Mr. Murphy—On Monday next—Questions of the Hon. the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works—

1. Has the \$10,000 voted last Session for roads and trails in Cariboo District been expended?

2. On which roads and trails was this amount expended, and how much of it was expended on each of them?

3. Into how many sections is the Cariboo Main Trunk Road divided for the purposes of the annual expenditure thereon?

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(No. 18) intituled "An Act to
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C. E. POOLEY, *Speaker*.

OTION.

Hon. the Chief Commissioner of

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4. What are the limits of these sections by mile posts?
5. How much of the \$20,000 voted last Session for this road has been expended on each section?
6. How much of the \$10,000 voted for road machinery last Session was devoted for machinery for the roads in Cariboo District?
7. Has any of this road machinery yet reached Cariboo District?
8. Is it the intention of the Government to provide for the building of a sleigh road from Quesnel Forks to Keithley Creek?

By Mr. Munro—On Monday next—Questions of the Hon. the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works—

What amount of coal was supplied to Matsqui pumps during the years 1903, 1904, respectively, and what was the cost per ton each year delivered at the pumps?

The Hon. Mr. Wilson to move, on consideration of the Report on Bill (No. 6) intituled "An Act to consolidate and amend the Law for preventing Frauds upon Creditors by secret Bills of Sale of Personal Chattels," to add to section 7, sub-section (11), the following:—

"This sub-section shall not apply to the bills of sale mentioned in section 5."

Mr. Bowser to move, in Committee of the Whole on Bill (No. 51) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the British Canadian Fire Insurance Company, Limited," that section 8 be struck out and the following substituted therefor:—

"8. As soon as one hundred thousand (100,000) dollars of the capital stock of the company shall have been subscribed, and (10) ten per cent. of that amount paid into some chartered bank in Canada, the first directors shall call a general meeting of the shareholders of the company at some place to be named in the City of Victoria, at which meeting the shareholders present, or represented by proxy, who have paid not less than ten (10) per cent. on the amount of shares subscribed for by them shall elect a board of not less than three (3) nor more than six (6) directors, of whom a majority shall be a quorum:

(a.) No person shall be a director unless he holds in his own name at least (10) ten shares in the company, and has paid all calls due thereon and all liabilities incurred by him to the company."

The Hon. Mr. Wilson to move, on consideration of the Report on Bill (No. 8) intituled "An Act to amend the Land Registry Act and amending Acts," the following amendments:—

In section 2, line 1, strike out "32."

To insert as section 22—

"22. Every instrument capable of registration, and every certificate of title, indefeasible or otherwise, shall, when signed by the Registrar, be deemed to be registered and issued and take effect as of the date, hour and minute when the application for the registration of the said instrument was received by the Registrar in form required by this Act."

Change numbers of following sections.

To strike out all of section 23 except the first two lines, and insert:—

"75. Every certificate of indefeasible title hereafter issued under this Act shall, so long as the same remains in force and uncanceled, be conclusive evidence in all Courts of Justice that the person therein named is seized of an estate in fee simple in the hereditaments therein described against the whole world (the Crown only excepted), subject to—

- (a.) The reservations contained in the original grant from the Crown:
- (b.) Any Provincial taxes, rates or assessments due or accruing due:
- (c.) Any municipal charges, rates or assessments due or accruing due:
- (d.) Any lease, or agreement for lease, for a period not exceeding three years where there is actual occupation under the same:
- (e.) Any public highway or right of way, water-course or right of water, or other public easement:
- (f.) Any right of expropriation by Statute:
- (g.) Any lis pendens, mechanic's lien, judgment, caveat, issue, charge or assignment for the benefit of creditors registered since the date of the certificate:

ways earners would escape the provision for the taxation of income. Many of these men were constantly on the move, and yet earned a sufficient amount to warrant contribution. He introduced an amendment upon the subject of school books, suggesting that the matter of providing free text books, merited the attention of the government. He concluded upon the motion from the bill of the statutory condition that members

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Mr. Davidson (Stocan) moved adjournment of the debate.

Hon. Mr. Green moved the reading of the bill respecting the reserve. He remarked that the reserve had not been placed in position as other reserves in the province. There was no question of the province in the hands of the Indians were holding it up. For economic and moral reasons, the desire had arisen for the removal of the Indians, but negotiations for the purchase of this object had far unsuccessful. This was any fault of the provincial government either at present or in the past. The present government was willing with the question, and to do fairly toward the city of Victoria parties concerned. The bill to invest power in the government proceeded in the matter.

Mr. McNiven remarked that some time ago asked for a report respecting the proposed of a new reserve for the Indians. He remarked that these papers might be presented to the House before the second stage he moved adjournment of the debate.

Hon. Mr. Green said that he intended to bring down the papers which would be attended to.

Hon. Mr. McBride moved the reading of the bill to carry out the intent respecting the incorporation of Fernie. He remarked that the city of Fernie was located amidst land by the government to certain conditions, on condition that when the land was platted, the government would be entitled to a fourth interest. The growth of population it has made it desirable that Fernie should be incorporated, but in order to do so it was necessary to effect an agreement with the Crow's Nest Coal Company. The proposed measure gave effect to this agreement and was acceptable to both parties.

The motion passed.
The bill to incorporate the Canadian Fire Insurance Company was read a second time.

The House adjourned.

Notes.

A deputation from Chilliwack arrived on Saturday to interview the members with respect to the submission of the deputation introduced by Mr. Munro.

Mr. C. W. Clifford, member for Skeena, occupied the Speaker's chair for a time during yesterday's proceedings in the House, Hon. Mr. Pooley being absent to attend the funeral of the late Sir Henry Fering Pelletier. Hon. Mr. Tatlow and some other members of the House also attended.

It was noticeable that the pressure of business reached an almost suffocating stage yesterday afternoon. The inner lobbies were largely invaded.

Notice of Motion.

3RD MARCH.

1905

- "(h.) Any condition, exception or reservation endorsed thereon:
- "(i.) The right of any person to show that any portion of the land is by wrong description of boundaries or parcels improperly included in such certificate:
- "(j.) The right of any person to show fraud wherein the registered owner has participated in any degree.

"(1.) Any certificate of indefeasible fee issued under the provisions of this Act shall be void as against the title of any person adversely in actual possession of and rightly entitled to the hereditaments included in such certificate at the time the application upon which such certificate was granted under this Act:

"(2.) After the issuance of a certificate of indefeasible fee no title adverse or in derogation to the title of the registered owner shall be acquired by any length of possession merely."

Strike out marginal note to section 42 and insert: "S. 70 of principal Act amended."

Strike out marginal note to section 43 and insert: "No instrument to pass any estate until registered."

Strike out marginal note to section 44 and insert: "Ditto."

To add marginal note to section 45: "S. 10 of c. 15, 1900, c. 31, 1901, c. 15, 1900, and c. 29, 1904, amended."

To add marginal note to section 46: "Claims against the fund."

To insert as section 52—

"52. Nothing in this Act shall affect pending litigation."

Mr. Henderson to move, on consideration of the Report on Bill (No. 8) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Land Registry Act and amending Acts,'" the following amendments—

In section 23, line 7, *et sequetur*, to strike out the words, "the Crown only excepted."

In section 50 add at the end thereof: "but shall be registered in the Register of Absolute Fees if hereto it could be registered at all. And the charges therefor shall be the same as heretofore, excepting that there shall be no charge made on account of Assurance Fund."

VICTORIA, B. C.

Printed by RICHARD WOLFENDEN, L.S.O., V.D., Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty.
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SATURDAY, MARCH 4, 1905

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The Colonist.

SATURDAY, MARCH 4, 1905.

Provincial Legislature

The Debate on the School Bill Drags Slowly But Surely Along.

Criticisms of Opposition Grow Weaker With Continued Scrutiny.

Routine Business—Bills Advan- ced—Notices of Questions For Monday.

Friday, March 3.

THE House assembled at 2 o'clock, and after prayers were read by Rev. Dr. Campbell, the following was the order of business:

Reports.

Mr. Ross, chairman of the private bills committee, reported a bill respecting the Brunette Sawmill Co.

Upon consideration of the report upon the bill to amend the law for preventing frauds upon creditors by secret bills of sale of personal chattels, a number of technical amendments were incorporated upon motion of the Attorney-General. The bill was left at this stage for further consideration.

The report on the bill respecting assignments and preferences by insolvent persons was adopted.

Upon the report on the bill to provide for the registration of companies' mortgages a number of amendments were made by the Attorney-General, and further consideration of the report was adjourned.

School Act.

Mr. Davidson continued the debate on the school bill. The question to be considered, in deciding upon this measure, was, to his mind, whether it would improve or impair the system. He did not think if the principle of localization of school responsibility were to be extended at all that it should go further than the rural municipalities, which already possessed machinery for collecting the necessary revenue. Friction was occasioned under the present system through the obligation which was enforced upon some schools to take care of non-resident pupils, and there was nothing to remedy this fault in the new bill. He argued that the constitution of a school district as provided for could not always be fairly justified by the presence of a certain number of pupils. There might be cases for instance where the existence of one sawmill would create a community of residents sufficient to demand organization, under the act, and yet there might be no assessable property to warrant it in the district. He complained that the machinery provided by the act was altogether too complicated; also that the \$500 exemption of personal property provided by existing legislation would be taxed under the bill. He thought a direct assessment per head would be preferable to the method of taxation proposed. Many wage earners would escape the provision for the taxation of income. Many of these men were constantly on the move, and yet earned a sufficient amount to warrant contribution. He introduced an observation upon the subject of providing free text books, merited the attention of the government. He commented upon the mission from the bill of the statutory condition that members

of the clergy shall not be eligible for positions on the school boards, and suggested that it would be wise that it should be inserted. He proposed to support the second reading of the bill, believing that any objections which existed thereto could be removed in committee.

Mr. Cameron objected to the bill. It was similar to the assessment act of last session. He thought the present measure would prove just as objectionable as, he claimed, the other had turned out to be. The measure should be considered from a provincial and not a local viewpoint. British Columbia, wanted population and the present measure was calculated to discourage immigration. The government took the position that they could not look after the education of children in the rural districts. Intimation had already come from various organizations of trustees that they would resign if the proposed measure were adopted. This meant that some of the rural schools would be closed, which would be a disgrace to the province. The personal property tax provided for was unsatisfactory. It worked out unfairly; even under present conditions. As for income, it would be difficult to find enough of this to levy upon in rural districts to support the schools. The people were willing to pay their share of the cost of maintaining education, but they were not willing to do it under the terms proposed by the bill. He thought funds should be available from the natural resources of the province without resorting to special taxation. He questioned the propriety of the extent of power conferred upon trustees in the matter of calling upon a city council in the matter of school finance. He thought there was cause for grievance in the number of books required by the school system. He admitted there was necessity for change in the educational system, but disagreed with the government's method of dealing with it.

Mr. Macgowan said it would have contented him to defer any observations he had to make until the bill reached its committee stage, and judging from the criticisms elicited from opposition members, there was nothing in the bill which might not be made to adjust itself to the general satisfaction of the House. While this bill might not be popular in some of its features, it was called for by the necessities of the case, and the same was applicable to the Assessment Act of last year. He recalled early days in the school history of Vancouver, when the people there had to come, hat in hand, to Victoria to present their financial needs. He was one of those responsible for the change which threw responsibility upon the city, and had no occasion to regret it. Vancouver today had a school system which was a credit to the province. He regarded the high school as the most important link in the educational system. It was one of the means which enabled the poor to obtain the same privileges as the rich in the matter of education. He approved of the idea that municipalities should collect and administer school moneys. He believed in the localization of such responsibilities. He agreed that school books should be provided at the minimum price and thought this object could be subserved by government intervention.

Mr. Paterson moved the adjournment of the debate, but in view of the lengths to which the discussion had been dragged the Premier could not acquiesce. Mr. Paterson therefore proceeded to make a few reflections anent the bill. Instead of levying an additional assessment in the way proposed, trustees, whose views had been entrusted to him, contended that it would be better to increase the poll tax from three to five dollars, or that some portion of the resources of the province should be set aside for school purposes. These ideas he commended to the consideration of the government. He thought the financial troubles of the province were due to faulty administration. The revenue should have expanded in much greater proportion than expenditure, and the government should get enough out of the natural resources of the country to pay almost the total cost of administration. That these resources, the timber and mines for instance, had contributed as much as they had last year, was due, not to the local government, but to the action of the federal authorities in grant-

ing the land bounty in one case and by the immigration into the Northwest in the other. He predicted that the House would be faced with a proposition similar to that before them now when the House met next year. The government feared to tackle the financial problem on its own account, and shouldered it off in this case upon the school trustees of the province. He was opposed to the principle of the bill.

Mr. Brown said that the time of the Premier had been so taken up in finding apologies for the bill that his speeches had been lacking in their references to the election in Lillooet, which had become customary. In response to an enquiry as to where the leadership of the Liberal party rested, he protested that all were well satisfied with the member for Rossland. On the other hand, they were waiting for some pronouncement from the Premier as to contemplated changes in his cabinet. As for the bill, he considered it vicious in principle. It was extending the system unfortunately, as he thought, introduced into the House in 1901. Before that a national school system existed. Then the government shirked some of its responsibility, and now they proposed to go further. If the principle of 1901 were to be extended at all it should not apply to rural districts outside of the municipalities. It would be impossible for the trustees in such districts to get all the information necessary to levy the required assessment. The bill discriminated against the people who lived in the poorer sections of the province. The government derived revenue from timber, mineral, etc., in rural districts, why not then maintain the schools? As to the query of the member for Newcastle as to what the Liberals would do, he maintained that his party had had alternatives to propose for all similar legislation passed, notably the assessment act of last year.

Hon. Mr. Cotton said the alternative was not practicable.

Mr. Brown replied that that was a matter for argument. After some further observations, he moved the adjournment of the debate.

The Speaker ruled that the motion, after the hon. gentleman had spoken, was out of order.

Mr. Oliver disputed the decision, claiming that there was nothing to show that the hon. gentleman had completed his speech.

The Speaker said the hon. gentleman was present to pronounce for himself on this point.

Mr. Brown said he had finished.

Mr. Oliver apparently wanted an admission that his point was well taken, and engaged in a disputation with the Speaker on the subject, which provoked some show of warmth on both sides, the Speaker finally saying that he would leave the matter to the decision of the House.

The House was not called upon to settle the question, however, Mr. Hall intervening with a motion to adjourn the debate, which carried.

Miscellaneous Business.

The bill to aid the municipality of the city of Nelson passed its second reading upon motion of the Minister of Finance, who explained that it was to authorize a substituted issue of debentures in place of some others which had been authorized but not disposed of. He read despatches from the municipal authorities of Nelson, showing that the measure was approved of.

The bill respecting the incorporation of the city of Fernie was committed, Dr. Young in the chair.

In reply to questions by Mr. Williams respecting the conditions of incorporation as between the Crow's Nest Pass Coal Co. and the people of Fernie, the Premier explained that the company had agreed to become a party to the application for incorporation on an understanding which had been come to with the people that the terms of the agreement were satisfactory to all parties.

Mr. Oliver seemed to think that there was occasion for deliberation in connection with the measure and in order to satisfy any anxiety which might be felt respecting it, he consented that the bill should stand over for a few days, so that there might be no suggestion that there was any desire to rush the bill through. The committee accordingly rose and reported progress.

The House adjourned until Monday.

1905

endorsed thereon:
portion of the land is by wrong descrip-
included in such certificate:
wherein the registered owner has partici-

d under the provisions of this Act shall be
actual possession of and rightly entitled to
the time the application upon which such

defeasible fee no title adverse or in derog-
quired by any length of possession merely.
rt: "S. 70 of principal Act amended."

rt: "No instrument to pass any estate

rt: "Ditto."

f c. 15, 1900, c. 31, 1901, c. 15, 1900, and

against the fund."

tigation."

Report on Bill (No. 8) intituled "An
Acts," the following amendments—
words, "the Crown only excepted."
be registered in the Register of Absolute
charges therefor shall be the same as
ade on account of Assurance Fund."

the King's Most Excellent Majesty.

Notices of Motion.

Mr. Murphy on Monday will ask: 1. Has the \$10,000 voted last session for roads and trails in Cariboo district been expended? 2. On which roads and trails was this amount expended, and how much of it was expended on each of them? 3. Into how many sections is the Cariboo main trunk road divided for the purposes of the annual expenditure thereon? 4. What are the limits of these sections by mile posts? 5. How much of the \$20,000 voted last session for this road has been expended on each section? 6. How much of the \$10,000 voted for road machinery last session was devoted for machinery for the roads in Cariboo district? 7. Has any of this road machinery yet reached Cariboo district? 8. Is it the intention of the government to provide for the building of a sleigh road from Quesnel Forks to Keithley creek?

Mr. Munro on Monday will ask: What amount of coal was supplied to Matsuqui pumps during the years 1903 and 1904 respectively, and what was the cost per ton each year delivered at the pumps?

POLITICAL SENSATIONALISM.

The Canadian Capital used to be infested with an individual known as the "Ottawa liar." Business with him was quiet if he could not furnish a real, live political sensation at least once every second day. His efforts were so successful that they finally began to pall upon the tastes of the over-stimulated reader and he was ultimately voted to be a nuisance and suppressed. The type of journalist to which he belonged, and of which he was the greatest living example, is not yet extinct. We have occasionally recrudescences, more especially in the West. The political unrest in British Columbia for the past few years has been a favorable field for his development. He has infested the British Columbia Capital for some time and is just now peculiarly active. It is quite unusual to pick up an outside Provincial newspaper of sufficient importance to secure his services that does not contain a sensational despatch dated Victoria, illuminated with scare heads. One day the Government is going to give immense grants of land to the Grand Trunk Pacific, another it is tied up hand and foot to the C. P. R., another that a deal has been made with the Great Northern by which the New Westminster bridge is to be handed over bodily to that corporation, another that the Socialists are in rebellion and intend to defeat the Government, another that Premier McBride is in the hands of the Dunsmuir faction, another that the Government supporters threaten to stampede to the Opposition, another that there is a conspiracy by which Mr. McBride is to be thrown overboard and a new leader called in, and so on from day to day. Circumstantial details are given in each case, and if it were not that advices from the Capital obtained through the regular channels that the Legislature is going quietly on and that the Government is doing business as usual, the poor, benighted reader throughout the Province would be in a sorry plight indeed to know what to believe. The operations of this rarely gifted and versatile journalist is not confined to the outside press. We find evidences of his genius reflected in the local paper, so much so, indeed, that one is tempted to believe that there is a mysterious relation existing between the sources of information in both instances.

Those opposed to the Government, who take comfort out of the imaginative creations of this individual, or the allied species of which this individual is a commanding type, are welcome to the satisfaction so afforded. The Gov-

ernment goes on passing useful and necessary legislation. It is not even seriously afflicted by attacks of the Opposition, which, under such discouraging circumstances as are alleged to exist, should be harassing and dangerous in the extreme. They may wonder how it is that an administration so weak, incompetent and discredited as it is represented to be, can worry along under such a load of worry and care. A Government so beset with difficulties has really no business to last a single day. If it should continue throughout the present session it should really be a miracle. The very fact that Premier McBride, in the circumstances, retains a substantial majority and still wears a sunny smile, is, to us, the best evidence in the world that the days of miracles are not yet past. Judging from the proceedings of the House, we are forced to believe that what of all this trouble is not in the "mind" of the Opposition is merely on "paper."

A MYSTERIOUS DELEGATION.

The Provincial Government has sent several delegations to Ottawa about which full particulars have been printed, and concerning which there has been no attempt at mystery or concealment. There is alleged to have been another. We have scanned carefully the papers that have been presented to the Local Legislature and gone through the Public Accounts, item by item, and can discover nothing that would create even a suspicion that there ever was such a delegation. Nevertheless we are told that "the first Conservative Government British Columbia ever had did not realize the trouble it was creating for itself when it permitted a delegation to go to Ottawa and intimate that the Province would, upon certain conditions, be pleased to bestow a land grant of substantial proportions upon the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway Company."

It is not within the limits of probability that two or three able-bodied men could have gone to Ottawa in an accredited governmental capacity without some traces of their going being existent. It is not at all likely that if they so went they paid their own expenses, or that the members of the government paid the expenses out of their own pocket. The latter is not one of the things that the Opposition would charge to the occupants of the Treasury benches. Neither is it reasonable to suppose that these mysterious emissaries were paid by the Grand Trunk Pacific, because we are given to understand that that corporation did not want to build into British Columbia and that it was forced to agree to do so by the pertinacity and irresistible demands of our Liberal members, and we are not fain to believe, therefore, that the G. T. P. would pay a delegation to go from the British Columbia Government to tempt it to do something it did not want to do. All of these are irreconcilable suppositions. On several occasions we have, after the fashion of staid parliamentarians, asked for names and dates; but though such information would be highly edifying and of real interest to the public, it has not been forthcoming. Who these gentlemen were and when they went, and how they got there are items of supreme importance. It is high time that the mystery should be solved. Such vague and shadowy delegations of influential personages on winged missions of official import should not be permitted to float about the country without the country's knowledge. Up to date during the present session Mr. John Oliver has not moved for a commission of enquiry, and we suggest this as a most favorable opportunity to exercise his talents of investigation.

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VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Legislative Assembly of British Columbia.

Monday, March 6th, 1905.

Two O'CLOCK, P.M.

Prayers by the Rev. J. P. Hicks.

Mr. Munro presented a petition from *Thos. Hall* and others, opposing Private Bill to incorporate the Sumas Development Company.
Laid on the table.

On the motion of Mr. Bowser, Bill (No. 27) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Benevolent Societies Act,'" was introduced, read a first time and *Ordered* to be read a second time tomorrow.

On the motion of Mr. J. A. Macdonald, seconded by Mr. Henderson, it was *Resolved*,—

That an Order of the House be granted for a Return of copies of all papers and correspondence relating to an application by Mr. John Elliott, as counsel, for a fiat for a petition of right to try certain questions relating to the mineral claim "Pack Train."

Mr. Brown asked the Hon. the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works the following question:—

1. Did the Columbia and Western Railway Company comply with the provisions of section 5, chapter 8, Statutes of 1896, in respect to the survey of lands granted to them under the provisions of said chapter 8?

The Hon. Mr. Green replied as follows:—

"The Company made surveys which enabled it to describe the blocks of land, which it had previously selected and designated by metes and bounds; but the position of these boundaries has not yet been marked upon the ground, excepting along the line of railway."

Mr. Murphy asked the Hon. the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works the following question:—

Is it the intention of the Government to provide in the Estimates for a ferry across the Fraser River at Quesnel?

The Hon. Mr. Green replied as follows:—

"The matter is under consideration."

Mr. J. A. Macdonald asked the Hon. the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works the following questions:—

1. Have Geo. T. Kane, David P. Kane, E. S. Willington, John Willington and W. J. Sanders been refused land on Kai-en Island in satisfaction of South African War Scrip?
2. If so, why?

ould have his support, he if it was based on sound principles. But he could dis- sisting strata of economy in the bill struck rather at the educational system. If it prune some of the superflu- he would be inclined to thought there was a ten- educate. Pupils emerged illic schools with a con- digested education, which xcite distracting ambitions to assist usefulness. Such as not calculated, as often serve particularly the inter- children of the poor. Such by the force of circum- withdraw from school before ent of the curriculum was and he believed they did so se without suffering any advantage. In the hetero- mixture of instruction meted unetimes were permitted to essential elements. For in- d had experience with boys ne from the schools unable air signature. If he were education he thought he an occasional visit to the self to see how they were As for the bill, it would location of the educational rural districts. He would government was cowardly in the bill, because the in- any measure which propos- of taxation required court- art of the government. He referred an increase in the suggested also the appor- part of the public resour- purposes. There were of iron on the Island, and a bonus were placed upon there would be a develop- would pay the government ment. He suggested that e addressed to the Domin- ent asking for an export res. He thought this would reation of a large smelting the Island. He intimated to move that the bill be onths' hoist. He appreci- al situation, and the neces- something to meet the ever- sin for education. Teach- the Normal school should y for the privilege. seconded the motion for the ist. moved the adjournment of members objected and fore- which resulted in the pas- sion on a straight party Messrs. Houston, Mac- t. Gifford and Taylor were at if need be the govern- might have been larger. n continued the debate on the second reading of the ve bill. He admitted that is complicated and that it more mixed up with con- son. He concluded from the position of affairs that government had given its proposed withdrawal of ad was only waiting for government to secure a for their accommodation. e rights of Victoria should n the final disposition of d in this connection be re- the assurance of the Min- and Works that the city's be protected. He disap- suggestion that such a val- property should be placed of the provincial executive of, and intimated that he me amendments to offer was taken up in commit-

did not see the necessity it was wrong in principle ature should delegate to the government powers which belonged to parliament as a whole. The reserve was the property of the province, but so long as it was occupied by the Indians could not be disposed of in any way. The city of Victoria had been put to expense and inconvenience in connection with the reserve. It was therefore entitled to consideration in this respect, and while they had the statement of the minister that the city's rights would not be disregarded, he thought the matter should be left for the legislature to deal with. He did not consider that the bill looked to a proposed settlement of the

had been expended. 7-4m shrdum The Bill respecting assignments and preferences by insolvent persons passed third reading. Upon consideration of the report on the bill to prevent frauds upon creditors, an amendment was made by the Attorney-General and further con- sideration of the report was adjourned. The report on the bill to provide for the registration of companies' mortgages was carried. The bill stands for third reading today.

the House. Mr. Macdonald said no. The motion passed and the bill was introduced and read a first time. The bill to aid the municipality of Nelson to permit a new issue of debentures to take the place of debentures unsold in connection with a certain loan, was committed, Mr. Munro in the chair. The bill was reported complete. Mr. Hall continued the debate on the School Act. He proposed to deal with the subject from a provincial and not a party point of view. Any meritable

Notices of Motion.

Mr. Murphy on Monday. 1. Has the \$10,000 voted for roads and trails in Cariboo District been expended? 2. On which roads was this amount expended? 3. How much of it was expended? 4. Into how many sections is the Cariboo main trunk road divided for the purposes of the annual expenditure thereon? 5. What are the limits of these sections by mile posts? 6. How much of the \$20,000 voted for this road has been expended on each section? 7. Has any of this road machinery yet reached Cariboo District? 8. Is it the intention of the Government to provide for the building of a sleigh road from Quesnel Forks to Keithley Creek?

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6TH MARCH.

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The Hon. Mr. Green replied as follows:—

- "1. Yes. The names *E. S.* and *John 'Willington'* should be '*Millington*'
"2. Because the lands were under reservation, established by Gazette notice, dated 12th October, 1891."

Mr. Murphy asked the Hon. the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works the following questions:—

1. Has the \$10,000 voted last Session for roads and trails in Cariboo District been expended?
2. On which roads and trails was this amount expended, and how much of it was expended on each of them?
3. Into how many sections is the Cariboo Main Trunk Road divided for the purposes of the annual expenditure thereon?
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7. Has any of this road machinery yet reached Cariboo District?
8. Is it the intention of the Government to provide for the building of a sleigh road from Quesnel Forks to Keithley Creek?

The Hon. Mr. Green replied as follows:—

- "1. No.
"2. Statement attached.
"3. Two.
"4. Ashcroft to southern boundary of Cariboo District (144-Mile House), 144-Mile House to Barkerville.
"5. \$8,529 and \$8,283, respectively.
"6. \$550; but other machinery purchased is for use over the whole road when required.
"7. Yes.
"8. The question will be considered."

"CARIBOO DISTRICT.

"Road, 158, Quesnel Forks	\$ 850 54
" Quesnel Forks, Quesnel Lake	72 00
" Beaver Lake Valley, Horsefly	7 50
" Williams Lake, Deep Creek	7 50
" Harrison, Beaver mouth	88 02
" Chilcotin, main	278 50
" 150, Chimney Creek	76 50
" Springfield	7 77
" Antler Creek	878 35
" Pleasant Valley	3 25
" Mud Lake	43 05
" 8-Mile Lake	66 62
" Quesnel Forks	451 50
" Quesnel River	138 99
" Hixon Creek	30 00
" Mosquito Creek, Willow River	4 25
" Richfield, Van Winkle	24 62
" Richfield, Stanley, old	16 25
" Mosquito, Hardscrabble, Willow River	39 00
" Willow River, Hardscrabble Creek	19 50
" Williams Lake	123 50
" Beaver Lake	59 50
" Hanceville, Deer Creek	54 00
" Horsefly	65 00
" Alexandria, Beaver Lake	13 00
" 150, Horsefly	22 50
" Keithley, Snowshoe Creek (sleigh)	100 00
" Chilcotin (branch)	18 00
" Chilcotin, Soda Creek	72 00

Carried forward \$3,631 12

men were and when they went, and how they got there are items of supreme importance. It is high time that the mystery should be solved. Such vague and shadowy delegations of influential personages on winged missions of official import should not be permitted to float about the country without the country's knowledge. Up to date during the present session Mr. John Oliver has not moved for a commission of enquiry, and we suggest this as a most favorable opportunity to exercise his talents of investigation.

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Road, Deacon		9 50
" Forks, Horsely		17 42
" Mission		41 44
" Williams Lake, Onward Ranch		96 00
" Kersley Creek		11 25
" Mud Lake, Alexandria		100 00
" Barkerville, Stanley, old		55 00
" Sunnyside, Middleton		93 50
" Kersley, Beaver mouth		12 00
" Cornish, Hardscrabble		7 00
" Antler, Cunningham Creek		5 25
Trail, Quesnel Forks, Keithley Creek		139 73
" Keithley Creek, Barkerville		126 74
" Spanish Creek River		22 75
" Hanchaw, Stanley Creek		19 50
" Bear Lake		97 50
" Barkerville, Keithley		22 00
" Lowhee		9 75
" Downie Gulch, Pine Creek		13 00
" Hardscrabble, Sugar Creek		16 00
" Dragon, Albrecht Creek		22 75
" Two Sisters Creek		29 25
" Antler, Keithley Creek		5 25
" Omineca		17 90
Roads and trails, Chilcotin (general)		22 55
" Stanley, "		8 25
Streets, Quesnel		25 50
Bridge, Chilcotin River		35 00
" Hanceville		603 35
" Mud River		167 00
Ferry, Chumney Creek		125 00
" Soda Creek		5 76
Road Superintendent		695 00
		\$6,399 10."

Bill (No. 14) intituled "An Act respecting Assignments and Preferences by Insolvent Persons," was read a third time and passed.

The Report on Bill (No. 6) intituled "An Act to consolidate and amend the Law for preventing Frauds upon Creditors by secret Bills of Sale of Personal Chattels," was further considered.

The Hon. Mr. Wilson moved to add to section 7 the following as sub-section (10):—
"(10.) This sub-section shall not apply to the bills of sale mentioned in section 5."

Carried.

The further consideration of the Report was adjourned.

The Report on Bill (No. 17) intituled "An Act to provide for the Registration of Companies' Mortgages," was further considered.

Report adopted.

Third reading to-morrow.

Bill (No. 11) intituled "An Act for Licensing Commercial Travellers," was again committed.

Reported complete with amendments.

Report to be considered to-morrow.

The Hon. Mr. Wilson presented to Mr. Speaker a Message from His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, which reads as follows:—

HENRI G. JOLY DE LOTBINIERE,
Lieutenant-Governor.

The Lieutenant-Governor transmits herewith a Bill intituled "An Act to amend the Unrepealed Provisions of the 'Assessment Act,'" and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

Government House,
6th March, 1905.

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The report on the bill to provide for
registration of companies' mortgages
was adopted. The bill stands for third
reading today.

Notices of Motion.

Mr. Murphy on Monday.
1. Has the \$16,000 voted for roads and trails in Cariboo been expended? 2. On which road was this amount expended? 3. Into how many sections was the Cariboo main trunk road divided for the purposes of the annual assessment? 4. What are these sections by mile? 5. How much of the \$20,000 voted for this road has been expended? 6. How much of the \$20,000 has been devoted for machinery for Cariboo district? 7. Has road machinery yet reached Cariboo district? 8. Is it the intention to provide for the sleigh road from Quest to Keithley creek?
Mr. Munro on Monday.
Amount of coal was supplied during the years 1904 and 1905 respectively, and what was the tonnage delivered each year delivered.

POLITICAL SENSATION.

The Canadian Capital is infested with an individual "Ottawa liar." Business is quiet if he could not live political sensation every second day. His successful that they fall upon the tastes of the reader and he was used to be a nuisance. The type of journalist longed, and of which the best living example, is We have occasionally more especially in the local unrest in British Columbia. The past few years has been a field for his development. He has infested the British Columbia some time and is just active. It is quite unnecessary to give an outside Provincial sufficient importance to the news that does not contain a sensational despatch dated and dated with scare headlines. Government is going to grant of land to the Pacific, another it is the foot to the C. P. R. deal has been made. Northern by which the star bridge is to be handed to that corporation. Socialists are in rebellion. The Government Premier McBride is in the Dunsmuir faction, and Government supports a stampede to the Opposition. That there is a conspiracy. McBride is to be thrown a new leader called in day to day. Circumstances given in each case, and that advice from the through the regular Legislature is going that the Government as usual, the poor, throughout the Province sorry plight indeed to believe. The operation gifted and versatile confined to the outside evidences of his genius reflected in the local paper, so much so, indeed, that one is tempted to believe that there is a mysterious relation existing between the sources of information in both instances.

Those opposed to the Government, who take comfort out of the imaginative creations of this individual, or the allied species of which this individual is a commanding type, are welcome to the satisfaction so afforded. The Government

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6TH MARCH.

1905

5 ED. 7

Ordered, That the said Message, and the Bill accompanying the same, be referred to a Committee of the Whole House forthwith.

(IN THE COMMITTEE.)

Resolved, That the Committee rise and report to the House a Bill (No. 25) intituled "An Act to amend the Unrepealed Provisions of the 'Assessment Act,'" and recommend the introduction of the same.

Report adopted.
Bill introduced and read a first time.
Second reading to-morrow.

Bill (No. 23) intituled "An Act to aid the Municipality of the City of Nelson," was committed.
Reported complete with amendments.
Report to be considered to-morrow.

The adjourned debate on the Second Reading of Bill (No. 15) intituled "An Act to amend and consolidate the 'Public Schools Act,'" was resumed.
Mr. Hall moved in amendment that the word "now" be struck out of the resolution, and the words "this day six months" inserted in lieu thereof.
A debate arose, which was adjourned until to-morrow.

The adjourned debate on the Second Reading of Bill (No. 16) intituled "An Act respecting the Songhees Indian Reserve," was resumed.
The debate was further adjourned until to-morrow.

Bill (No. 19) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Replevin Act, 1899,'" was read a second time.
To be committed to-morrow.

Bill (No. 51) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the British Canadian Fire Insurance Company, Limited," was committed.
Reported complete with amendments.
Report to be considered to-morrow.

Bill (No. 56) intituled "An Act respecting the Brunette Saw-Mill Company, Limited Liability," was read a second time and committed.
Reported complete without amendment.
Report to be considered to-morrow.

Bill (No. 18) intituled "An Act to Secure to their Dependents the Wages of Deceased Workmen," was committed.
Progress reported.
Committee to sit again to-morrow.

Bill (No. 21) intituled "An Act respecting the Manufacture and Sale of Explosives," was read a second time.
To be committed to-morrow.

The Standing Rules and Orders were suspended, and then, on the motion of Mr. Clifford, seconded by Mr. Garden, it was Resolved,—

That the quorum of the Railway Committee for the present Session shall consist of nine members, instead of twelve, as provided by Rule 85 of the Rules and Orders of the House.

Resolved, That the House, at its rising, do stand adjourned until two o'clock to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned at 5:40 P.M.

C. E. POOLEY, Speaker.

men were and when they went, and how they got there are items of supreme importance. It is high time that the mystery should be solved. Such vague and shadowy delegations of influential personages on winged missions of official import should not be permitted to float about the country without the country's knowledge. Up to date during the present session Mr. John Oliver has not moved for a commission of enquiry, and we suggest this as a most favorable opportunity to exercise his talents of investigation.

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6TH MARCH.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

The Hon. Mr. Wilson to move, on consideration of the Report on Bill (No. 6) intituled "An Act to consolidate and amend the Law for preventing Frauds upon Creditors by secret Bills of Sale of Personal Chattels," the following amendments:—

Section 7, sub-section (7), line 8, after the word "Supreme," insert the words "or County." Strike out sub-section (8) of section 7.

Section 8, line 5, before the word "copy," insert the words "original or."

By Mr. Murphy—On Wednesday next—Questions of the Hon. the Minister of Finance—

1. Was an Order in Council ever passed by the Provincial Executive fixing the assessment of certain lands in the Province at a fixed value?
2. If the answer be yes, is such Order in Council still in force, and what land does it affect?

By Mr. Murphy—On Wednesday next—Questions of the Hon. the Minister of Mines—

1. Is there a clause in all mining leases that no Chinese be employed in the working of same?
2. If not, since what date has such a clause been inserted, and has it been inserted in all leases issued since said date?
3. Does the employment of Chinese in the working of a lease containing such a clause work a forfeiture of the lease?
4. If the answer to No. 3 be yes, what proof and procedure is necessary to make such forfeiture effective?
5. How many (a) Hydraulic, (b) Creek, (c) Dredging Leases, have been cancelled in Cariboo District during the year 1904?
6. How many of each class of leases mentioned in question 5 hereof are still in existence in Cariboo District?
7. Is it the intention of the Government to lessen mining lease rentals and water rates?
8. What reason had the Government for asking G. E. Stephenson, Clerk in the Mining Recorder's Office at Quesnel Forks, for his resignation?
9. What became of this reason, later on, when he was re-instated?

VICTORIA, B. C.

Printed by RICHARD WOLFENDES, L.S.O., V.D., Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty.
1905.

ould have his support, he if it was based on sound principles. But he could dis- lying strata of economy in he bill struck rather at the educational system. If it prune some of the superflu- he would be inclined to he thought there was a ten- er educate. Pupils emerged alle schools with a confu- digested education, which excite distracting ambitions to assist usefulness. Such as not calculated, as often serve particularly the inter- children of the poor. Such led by the force of circum- withdraw from school before ent of the curriculum was and he believed they did no es without suffering any advantage. In the hetero- mixture of instruction meted sometimes were permitted to essential elements. For in- ed had experience with boys me from the schools unable fair signature. If he were education he thought he an occasional visit to the self to see how they were As for the bill, it would location of the educational e rural districts. He would government was cowardly in the bill, because the in- any measure which propos- of taxation required coun- of the government. He preferred an increase in the suggested also the appor- part of the public resour- ol purposes. There were of iron on the island, and a bonus were placed upon there would be a develop- would pay the government stment. He suggested that be addressed to the Domin- ent asking for an export area. He thought this would creation of a large smelting the island. He intimated to move that the bill be months' hoist. He appreci- al situation, and the neces- something to meet the ever ain for education. Teach- the Normal school should ay for the privilege. seconded the motion for the oist.

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the motion that the bill be reported to the House.

Mr. Macdonald said no. The motion passed and the bill was introduced and read a first time.

The bill to aid the municipality of Nelson to permit a new issue of debentures to take the place of debentures unpaid in connection with a certain loan, was committed, Mr. Munro in the chair. The bill was reported complete.

Mr. Hall continued the debate on the School Act. He proposed to deal with the subject from a provincial and not a party point of view. Any meritable

to \$3,000.00 had been expended. The bill respecting assignments and assignments by insolvent persons passed on reading. On consideration of the report on the bill to prevent frauds upon creditors, etc., an amendment was made by the Attorney-General and further consideration of the report was adjourned. The report on the bill to provide for registration of companies' mortgages was adopted. The bill stands for third reading today.

C. E. POOLEY, Speaker.

Notices of Motion

Mr. Murphy on Monday
1. Has the \$10,000 voted for roads and trails in Cariboo been expended? 2. On which road was this amount expended? 3. Into how many sections has the Cariboo main trunk road been divided for the purposes of the annual report? 4. What are these sections by mile per section? 5. How much of the \$20,000 vote for this road has been expended? 6. How much of the vote for road machinery has been devoted for machinery for Cariboo district? 7. Has road machinery yet reached Cariboo district? 8. Is it the intention to provide for the sleigh road from Quessley creek?

Mr. Munro on Monday
amount of coal was supplied during the years 1900, 1901, 1902, respectively, and what was the tonnage each year delivered?

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not been forthcoming. The gentlemen were and when they went, and how they got there are items of supreme importance. It is high time that the mystery should be solved. Each vague and shadowy delegations of influential personages on winged missions of official import should not be permitted to float about the country without the country's knowledge. Up to date during the present session Mr. John Oliver has not moved for a commission of enquiry, and we suggest this as a most favorable opportunity to exercise his talents of investigation.

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Hon. Mr. Green

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Hon. Mr. Green

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Hon. Mr. Green

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The Colonist.

TUESDAY, MARCH 7, 1905.

Provincial Legislature

**Criticism of the Education Bill
Peters Out—Debate Nearing
Close.**

**On Motion to Adjourn Opposi-
tion Provoke Division and
Government Wins.**

**Songhees Reserve in Discussion
—Business Juggling Success-
fully Along.**

Monday, March 6, 1905.

THE House met at 2 o'clock and after prayers by the Rev. Gideon Hicks the following was the order of business:

Petitions.

Mr. Munro presented a petition from Thomas Hall and others opposing the bill to incorporate the Sumas Development Co.

Bills.

Mr. Brown introduced a bill to amend the Benevolent Societies Act.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald moved that an order of the House be granted for a return of copies of all papers and correspondence relating to an application by Mr. John Elliott, as counsel, for a fiat for a petition of right to try questions relating to the mineral claim, "Pack Train." Carried.

Questions.

Mr. Brown asked: 1. Did the Columbia & Western Railway Co. comply with the provisions of section 5, chapter 8, statutes of 1896, in respect to the survey of lands granted to them under the provisions of said chapter 8?

Hon. Mr. Green replied: The company made surveys which enabled it to describe the blocks of land, which it had previously selected and designated, by metes and bounds; but the position of these boundaries has not yet been marked upon the ground, excepting along the line of railway.

Mr. Murphy asked: Is it the intention of the government to provide in the estimates for a ferry across the Fraser river at Quessell?

Hon. Mr. Green replied: The matter is under consideration.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald asked: 1. Have Geo. T. Kane, David P. Kane, E. S. Willington and W. J. Saunders been refused land on Kalaen Island in satisfaction of South African war scrip? 2. If so, why?

Hon. Mr. Green replied: 1. Yes. The names E. S. and John "Willington" should be "Millington." 2. Because the lands were under reservation, established by Gazette notice, dated 12th October, 1897.

In reply to a question by Mr. Murphy asking for details and amount of expenditure on roads in the Cariboo district, the Minister of Public Works stated that out of the \$100,000 voted for the purpose, \$60,000 had been expended.

The bill respecting assignments and preferences by insolvent persons passed third reading.

Upon consideration of the report on the bill to prevent frauds upon creditors, etc., an amendment was made by the Attorney-General and further consideration of the report was adjourned.

The report on the bill to provide for the registration of companies' mortgages was adopted. The bill stands for third reading today.

The bill for licensing commercial travelers was committed, Mr. Murphy in the chair.

Amendments were made by the Finance Minister, and the bill was reported complete. The principal amendment struck out the section providing for a rebate on the licence fee in cases where the business done by a traveler amounted only to so much, and fixed the licence at \$100 unconditionally.

Hon. Mr. Wilson announced a message from His Honor transmitting a bill to amend the repealed provisions of the Assessment Act.

The message and bill were referred to committee of the whole.

Mr. Oliver took the objection that the bill should not be reported to the House until copies thereof had been distributed.

Therefore, as this custom has been approved in previous proceedings of the House, the committee settled itself to a wait of a quarter of an hour, while the government printing presses were rushed into action. By and by the bill arrived, and the eagle eye of the opposition was focussed upon it in critical scrutiny.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald directed to the bill the following observations: As he understood according to the law, as it now stood, if a man incorrectly stated his income or his personal property, and was assessed, the roll was closed, and if the ordinary time for revision was passed the matter was closed forever. The assessors were not allowed to go back behind the roll which was settled by the court of revision. But under this act men were to be treated in an entirely different way, and the assessment which might be made of the minerals under the two per cent. clause of the act might never be final. It might be opened up years afterwards by the government should they take it into their heads that something had been mis-stated in previous reports of the mine managers.

There should be some limit to the right of an assessor to open up assessments which had been made, and which he had passed. That was provided for in the general laws and what the Attorney-General sought to do by this act was to place the mining industry on an entirely different basis with regard to assessment to that which was applied to other classes of property and income. Had the mining industry, he queried, not received raps enough at the hands of the legislature without this bill being brought in to place passed assessments in the hands of assessors to take up and re-assess upon. That was the object of the bill and the Attorney-General knew it was. He knew this act was brought in because of an appeal which was now pending between the Le Roi Mining Co. and the government. It was brought down in order that assessments which had been made three years ago might be opened up, and that the mine might be assessed something like \$10,000 upon its past production of ore. It was an attempt to place the mining industry on a different basis from that applied to other industries in the province.

The Attorney-General said a company was bound by law to make a full disclosure of their affairs, so that a proper assessment could be made, and he could not see that it was improper to introduce legislation to provide that when mining companies deliberately made a mis-statement, a subsequent remedy might be available. He could not see any suggestion of unfair treatment in this.

Mr. Macdonald: Why not put others on the same basis?

The Attorney-General said there might be argument for placing others on the same basis, but certainly there was no argument why it should not apply to mining companies.

Mr. Macdonald: Then it is class legislation.

The Attorney-General said that all mining legislation was class legislation. He moved that the bill be reported to the House.

Mr. Macdonald said no.

The motion passed and the bill was introduced and read a first time.

The bill to aid the municipality of Nelson to permit a new issue of debentures to take the place of debentures unsold in connection with a certain loan, was committed, Mr. Munro in the chair. The bill was reported complete.

Mr. Hall continued the debate on the School Act. He proposed to deal with the subject from a provincial and not a party point of view. Any meritable

measure would have his support, he said, that is if it was based on sound economical principles. But he could discover no underlying strata of economy in this bill. The bill struck rather at the roots of the educational system. If it proposed to prune some of the superfluous branches he would be inclined to favor it. He thought there was a tendency to over-educate. Pupils emerged from the public schools with a confusion of all digested education, which tended to excite distracting ambitions rather than to assist usefulness. Such a system was not calculated, as often supposed, to serve particularly the interests of the children of the poor. Such were compelled by the force of circumstances to withdraw from school before the full extent of the curriculum was encountered, and he believed they did so in many cases without suffering any mental disadvantage. In the heterogeneous admixture of instruction meted out pupils sometimes were permitted to overlook the essential elements. For instance he had had experience with boys who had come from the schools unable to write a fair signature. If he were minister of education he thought he would make an occasional visit to the schools himself to see how they were conducted. As for the bill, it would cause a dislocation of the educational system in the rural districts. He would not say the government was cowardly in bringing in the bill, because the introduction of any measure which proposed an increase of taxation required courage on the part of the government. He would have preferred an increase in the head tax and suggested also the apportionment of a part of the public resources for school purposes. There were rich deposits of iron on the Island, and he believed if a bonus were placed upon its production there would be a development which would pay the government for the investment. He suggested that a memorial be addressed to the Dominion government asking for an export tax on iron ores. He thought this would lead to the creation of a large smelting industry on the Island. He intimated his intention to move that the bill be given a six months' hoist. He appreciated the financial situation, and the necessity of doing something to meet the ever increasing drain for education. Teachers attending the Normal school should be thought pay for the privilege.

Mr. Wells seconded the motion for the six months' hoist.

Mr. Cotton moved the adjournment of the debate.

Opposition members objected and forced a division which resulted in the passage of the motion on a straight party vote, 19 to 10. Messrs. Houston, Macgowan, Wright, Gifford and Taylor were absent, so that if need be the government majority might have been larger.

Mr. McEwen continued the debate on the motion for the second reading of the Songhees reserve bill. He admitted that the matter was complicated and that it seemed to get more mixed up with continued discussion. He concluded from his survey of the position of affairs that the Dominion government had given its consent to the proposed withdrawal of the Indians and was only waiting for the provincial government to secure a new reserve for their accommodation. He thought the rights of Victoria should be observed in the final disposition of the matter, and in this connection he remarked upon the assurance of the Minister of Lands and Works that the city's interests would be protected. He disapproved of the suggestion that such a valuable piece of property should be placed in the hands of the provincial executive to be disposed of, and intimated that he would have some amendments to offer when the bill was taken up in committee.

Mr. Cameron did not see the necessity of the bill. It was wrong in principle that the legislature should delegate to the government powers which belonged to parliament as a whole. The reserve was the property of the province, but so long as it was occupied by the Indians could not be disposed of in any way. The city of Victoria had been put to expense and inconvenience in connection with the reserve. It was therefore entitled to consideration in this respect, and while they had the statement of the minister that the city's rights would not be disregarded, he thought the matter should be left for the legislature to deal with. He did not consider that the bill locked to a proposed settlement of the

question. It was an outcome of the agitation which had been going on for some time, but did not really propose an adjustment of the question. He agreed with Mr. McNiven that some provision should be embodied in the bill by which the interests of the city would be safeguarded. He thought at the least the city should be given an option to purchase a portion of the reserve, if it was not deemed right that they should receive a part of it as a grant.

Hon. Mr. Tatlow recalled that there was an arrangement, which had fallen through some time ago, by which Mr. Dunsen was to get terminal facilities on the reserve for the E. & N. railway in return for a grant of land to rehabilitate the Indians. The government had at all times been only too willing to find a solution of the question, but the government was only one of three parties to the matter, and if the House did not like the idea of placing power to act in the hands of the government they would only be in the position, in the event of an opportunity for settlement presenting itself, of having to wait until the next meeting of the legislature to have any arrangement carried out. If an arrangement were come to between the Indians, the Dominion government and the local government, and he assured them the local government was most anxious to see an arrangement made, all they asked the House was to put them in a position to act without having to wait for a session of the legislature.

Mr. Oliver said he understood the bill only took effect after the removal of the Indians by the Dominion government, that is, it gave the government power to deal with the lands in this event. The bill did not facilitate the removal of the Indians. The bill made no provision that the government should provide a new reserve, but empowered them to deal with these lands in any way they saw fit. It was, he thought, a dangerous piece of legislation. There was nothing to prevent the government handing over the lands to the C. P. R. or any other corporation. He would not say that the government would do this, but objected to the power being given them to do so. He suggested that the lands should be sold by auction.

Mr. Hall confessed that he was not in sympathy with the bill. Some consideration should be given therein to the interests of Victoria.

The Premier pointed out that Mr. Oliver wanted the lands to be sold by auction.

Mr. Hall thought it was a pity that the opportunity should not have been given, which occurred during the regime of a previous government, to settle the question. He suggested that perhaps the government might see its way clear to amend the bill to meet the points mentioned.

The Premier moved the adjournment of the debate.

The bill to incorporate the British Canadian Fire Insurance Company, and the bill respecting the Brunette Saw Mill Company, were passed the committee stage.

Mr. Clifford asked for a suspension of the rules to make nine members instead of twelve a quorum of the railway committee, as it had been found almost impossible to get the required number together.

After discussion this suggestion was agreed to on condition that the change of rule should obtain only during the present session.

The bill to secure to their dependents the wages of deceased workmen was committed, Dr. King in the chair.

Mr. Hawthornthwaite proposed an amendment to extend from three months' wages to six months' wages the amount of wages of a deceased workman, which should be recoverable by the widow, irrespective of any debts owed by the deceased.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald, the mover of the bill, disapproved of extending the time, although he entered a plea for the general principle of the bill, namely, that something should be available to the widow of a workman killed by accident. While merchants might object that their interests would be affected disadvantageously, he believed that the legislation would have general approval from the standpoint of common humanity.

Mr. Hawthornthwaite did not see why Mr. Macdonald, having seen fit to introduce the measure at all, should not consent to such a paltry enlargement of its provisions.

The amendment was rejected upon consideration of the section providing that such widow shall be entitled to such wages on production of a certificate of a justice of the peace or of a minister of the gospel, setting forth that he has satisfied himself that the person claiming to be the widow of the deceased is in fact such widow.

Mr. Hawthornthwaite moved to add words in effect that it should be always provided that no fees should be charged by such justice of the peace or minister of the Gospel.

The Attorney General proposed to strike out the words "minister of the Gospel."

Mr. J. A. Macdonald thought the section should stand as it was.

Mr. Hawthornthwaite objected to admitting the clergy into matters where the administration of the law was concerned. The closer they were kept to their religious duties the better for the people and the interests of the workmen.

The question was put and the amendment declared lost.

Mr. Hawthornthwaite called attention to the fact that the division bell had not been rung, and that he had asked that this be done. He asked that another vote be taken.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald objected, but his objection was overruled by the majority.

Another vote was taken upon the Attorney General's amendment, which carried.

Mr. Hawthornthwaite accordingly withdrew the amendment offered by him.

The Attorney General proposed an amendment to provide for cases of widows who had not been living with their husbands. Some discussion arose in regard to this, and the committee arose and reported progress, leaving the question in abeyance.

The bill to amend the Explosive Act passed second reading; also a bill respecting the manufacture and sale of explosives. In connection with the latter, it was explained by Mr. Hawthornthwaite, who had charge of the measure, that its purpose was to secure greater protection to life and property. Among other things, it ordained that the strength and date of manufacture should be stamped on the packages. Some explosives became more dangerous with age, and accidents were not infrequently due to ignorance of the particulars provided for by the bill.

The House adjourned.

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Legislative

Prayers by the

The following

By Mr. Ross—

Game Laws.

By Mr. King—

By Mr. Wells—

same subject.

By Mr. Houston—

By Mr. Houston—

The petition from
Development Compa

Mr. Brown asked

1. Did the Gov
viewers, under the
Riding?

2. Were fence-v

3. If so, who we

4. If not, why r

The Hon. Mr. A

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The Colonist.

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No. 19.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Legislative Assembly of British Columbia.

Tuesday, 7th March, 1905.

Two O'CLOCK, P.M.

Prayers by the Rev. J. P. Hicks.

The following petitions were laid on the table:—

By Mr. Ross—From Alfred Stork and others, residents of Fernie, re amendments to the Game Laws.

By Mr. King—From James Gill and others, residents of Cranbrook, on same subject.

By Mr. Wells—From W. P. Emons and others, residents of Wilmer and Canterbury, on same subject.

By Mr. Houston—From T. G. Proctor and others, residents of Nelson, on same subject.

By Mr. Houston—From Arthur O'Kell and others, residents of Creston, on same subject.

The petition from Thos. Hall and others, opposing Private Bill to incorporate the Sumas Development Company, was received.

Mr. Brown asked the Hon. the Provincial Secretary the following questions:—

1. Did the Government receive a request during the summer of 1904 to appoint fence viewers, under the "Line Fences and Water-courses Act," for any locality in Greenwood Riding?

2. Were fence-viewers appointed in pursuance of the said request?

3. If so, who were appointed?

4. If not, why not?

The Hon. Mr. Fulton replied as follows:—

"1. Yes.

"2. No.

"3. Answered by No. 2.

"4. Owing to the application having been temporarily lost sight of, the appointments have not yet been made. The matter is now receiving attention."

The Report on Bill (No. 8) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Land Registry Act and amending Acts,'" was further considered.

The Hon. Mr. Wilson moved to strike out all of section 23 except the first two lines, and insert:—

"75. Every certificate of indefeasible title hereafter issued under this Act shall, so long as the same remains in force and uncanceled, be conclusive evidence in all Courts of Justice

the province, and from a study of the of the past, drew the conclusion there would be no such impairment of the rural school system as suggested in the debate. These districts were not discriminated against under the proposed change. They were practically upon for nothing more than to up the incidental expenses, such

vation in which he was concerned. He wanted to know what it was.

Mr. Wells said that his observation, whatever it was, had no bearing offensive or otherwise upon the member for Fernie, but being apparently nettled by Mr. Ross' challenge, added that if the cap fitted that hon. gentleman he could wear it.

Mr. Tanner asked the Speaker if a scriptural quotation was not in order if reversedly used.

The Speaker gave a smiling answer that it might be so.

Mr. Tanner thought that a suggestion that he had blasphemed should be withdrawn.

rest in lands in the Flat- and never expected to not think anything of this from Mr. Wells, who was in one of the rottenest gov- province ever had. ge both Mr. Wells and Mr. red that they had been row- thing, but mutually misun- Apologies were extended, des for hasty words uttered, serenity again in the cham- there was the greatest good Mr. McInnes, with imiti- ness, arose and added his of Mr. Ross' apology, as a he government, whose quali- in so unfavorably rated. withorthwaite pointed out ells' ideas about the utilis- Kootenay lands had appar- in the shades of opposi- ward never heard of when member of the government. al conditions which necessi- rent bill were not due to cent. The debt of \$11,000, when they acceded to office, ere under necessity of pro- \$300,000 yearly for interest fund alone. Even under upon them the government came any high handed de- they approached the House ty, and asked that the bill be in a non-partisan spirit. But ion, with an insatiable greed, ad refused unbiased discus- ad made it a party fight. He at a high school education ary to the proper equipment is point with Liberal speak- apparently believed in the cur- this branch of the system. approved the principle of as to the objection that trust not act under the bill, he forced meetings had been held such objections, but without he read a letter from a prom- see in his district heartily ap- this section of the bill and assure as a whole. Examining ms of Mr. Oliver that the gov- had been grossly extravagant ion with the construction of a his district, he reduced this to on against the payment of un- to the carpenter and painter

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The Colonist.

1905

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7TH MARCH.

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Question proposed, "Shall the words proposed to be struck out stand part of the question," and Resolved in the affirmative on the following division:—

YEAS:

Messieurs

<i>Davidson,</i>	<i>Cotton,</i>	<i>A. McDonald,</i>	<i>Young,</i>
<i>Hawthornthwaite,</i>	<i>Ellison,</i>	<i>Green,</i>	<i>Gifford,</i>
<i>Williams,</i>	<i>Clifford,</i>	<i>Fulton,</i>	<i>Macgowan,</i>
<i>Tallow,</i>	<i>Bowser,</i>	<i>Garden,</i>	<i>Shatford,</i>
<i>McBride.</i>	<i>Fraser,</i>	<i>Taylor,</i>	<i>Grant—23.</i>
<i>Wilson,</i>	<i>Ross,</i>	<i>Wright,</i>	

NAYS:

Messieurs

<i>McInnes,</i>	<i>Murphy,</i>	<i>Oliver,</i>	<i>Paterson,</i>
<i>Drury,</i>	<i>Jones,</i>	<i>J. A. Macdonald,</i>	<i>Wells,</i>
<i>King,</i>	<i>Evans,</i>	<i>Henderson,</i>	<i>Hall,</i>
<i>Brown,</i>	<i>Tanner,</i>	<i>Munro,</i>	<i>Cameron—17.</i>
<i>McNiven,</i>			

Bill read a second time on the same division.
To be committed to-morrow.

The adjourned debate on the Second Reading on Bill (No. 16) intituled "An Act respecting the Songhees Indian Reserve," was resumed.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald moved in amendment to strike out all the words after the word "That," and insert the following in lieu thereof:—

"in the opinion of this House the Government should immediately procure a new reserve for the Indians now on the Songhees Indian Reserve, which reserve should be satisfactory to the said Indians and to the Dominion Government, and remove and settle said Indians upon said new reserve; and that the question of the disposition of the lands now forming the Songhees Indian Reserve be not now considered, but that the same be dealt with by this House at the Session of the same following the removal of said Indians as aforesaid, in a manner which will protect the City of Victoria in the matter of park lands; give said city control of part of the southern end of said reserve for wharves and other harbour facilities; provide terminal facilities for transportation companies and conserve the general interests of the Province in the premises."

The debate continuing, the same was adjourned until to-morrow.

Resolved, That the House, at its rising, do stand adjourned until two o'clock to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned at 6 P.M.

C. E. POOLEY, *Speaker.*

NOTICES OF MOTION.

On Thursday next—

Mr. King to ask leave to introduce a Bill intituled "An Act to amend the 'Supreme Court Act.'"

By Mr. Murphy—On Thursday next—Questions of the Hon. the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works—

1. Is it the intention of the Government to expend the unexpended balance of the \$10,000 voted for roads and trails for Cariboo District last Session, before the 30th June next?

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simple in the hereditaments therein
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from the Crown:
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n of the land is by wrong descrip-
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Hon. Mr. Tatlow recalled that was an arrangement, which through some time ago, Mr. Dumasuir was to get territory on the reserve for the Indians in return for a grant of land to the Indians. The government at all times been only too ready to solve the question of the reservation was only open to the Indians, and if the Indians like the idea of placing the hands of the government only be in the position, it is an opportunity for settling itself, of having to the next meeting of the legislative assembly any arrangement carried out by the Indians, the Dominion government, and the local government, and

then the local government anxious to see all arrangements they asked the House in a position to act with wait for a second day. Mr. Oliver said he understood the only ticket left after the Indians by the Dominion is to give the government with the land in this area. He said the Dominion Government should provide a n empowered them to deal in any way they saw fit. He said a large place there was nothing to prevent handing over the land R. or any other corporation. He said he did not say that in general. He said he was objecting to the way them to do so. He said lands should be sold by Mr. Hall contended that sympathy with the Indians and the land had given there was of Victoria.

The Premier pointed out that the Government wanted the lands to be so disposed that there would be no opportunity should not be taken which occurred during the previous government, to settle them. He suggested that the Government might see its way to the bill to meet the points raised.

The bill to incorporate the Indian Fire Insurance Company, which was presented by Mr. Clifford, was passed by a vote of twelve to nine. The rules of the association were then adopted, and the meeting adjourned.

The bill to secure to the wages of deceased workmen, Dr. King in the case of Mr. Hawthornthwaite amendment to extend from wages to six months' wages of a deceased workman should be recoverable by the estate of the deceased or by the respective of any debts incurred by the deceased.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald, the bill, disapproved of extent though he entered a plea principle of the bill, na thing should be available a workman killed by acci chants might object the would be affected disadva lieved that the legislation eral approval from the s men humanity.

Mr. Hawthornthwaite
Mr. Macdonald, having
duce the measure at all
sent to the gallery of
provisions

The amendment was a consideration of the section such widow shall be entitled on production of a certificate of the peace or of a minister, setting forth that he believes that the person claiming to be the widow of the deceased is a widow.

Mr. Hawthorthwaite moved to add words to effect that it should be always provided that no fees should be charged by such justice of the peace or minister of the Gospel.

The Attorney General proposed to strike out the words "minister of the Gospel." Mr. J. A. Macdonald thought the section should stand as it was. Mr. Hawthorthwaite objected to admit-

1905

2. Is it the intention of the Government to expend the unexpended balance of the \$20,000 voted for the Cariboo Main Trunk Road, before the 30th June next?
3. Has the \$10,000 voted for road machinery last Session been all expended? If not, how much of it remains unexpended?
4. What has been the total cost of the Chimney Creek Bridge and approaches to date?
5. Were any complaints made to the Government against *Robert McLaren*, former Road Superintendent in Cariboo District? If so, what were they and by whom made?
6. Why was *Robert McLaren* dismissed as Road Superintendent?
7. Who has charge of the protection work now being done on the Quesnel River at Quesnel?
8. Has anyone other than the person in charge the right to dictate what persons shall obtain employment on said work?

Mr. Cameron to move, in Committee of the Whole on Bill (No. 16) intituled "An Act respecting the Songhees Indian Reserve," the following amendments:—

Section 2, lines 3 and 4—Strike out the word “such,” between the words “upon” and “terms,” in the third line, and strike out the words “may be deemed advisable” in the fourth line, and insert the word “follows” at the end of the section.

To add the following as sub-sections to section 2 :—

- "(1.) For a free grant to the City of Victoria of the twenty-five acres (more or less) of the Reserve lying to the north of the Esquimalt Road, such land to be used for public park purposes, upon such terms and conditions as the Lieutenant-Governor in Council may prescribe:
- "(2.) By giving to the City of Victoria the first right to purchase or acquire the seventeen and one-half acres (more or less) of the said Reserve lying to the south of the Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway right of way, upon such terms and conditions as may be agreed upon between the City and the Lieutenant-Governor in Council:
- "(3.) By a free grant to the City of Victoria of sites for purposes of (a) public school or schools, (b) fire hall, (c) three public landing places, including wharves and buildings, upon such terms and conditions as the Lieutenant-Governor in Council may prescribe:
- "(4.) The remaining portions of the Reserve may be disposed of by public auction, under the terms and conditions as provided by the 'Land Act.'"

The Hon. Mr. *Wilson* to move, on the consideration of the Report on Bill (No. 8) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Land Registry Act and amending Acts,' to add to section 52, line 4, after the word "office," the following :—

"and of any instruments affecting land which are intended to be deposited, filed, kept or registered, upon the same being so deposited, filed, kept or registered, and in the last-mentioned case the copies may be made by or on behalf of the party depositing, filing or registering the same."

The Hon. Mr. Wilson to move, on consideration of the Report on Bill (No. 6) intituled "An Act to consolidate and amend the Law for preventing Frauds upon Creditors by secret Bills of Sale of Personal Chattels," the following amendments:—

Section 7—To strike out sub-sections (6) and (8).

"(11.) A transfer or assignment of a registered bill of sale need not be registered."

The Hon. Mr. *Fulton* to move, in Committee of the Whole or upon the consideration of the Report on Bill (No. 15) intituled "An Act to amend and consolidate the 'Public Schools Act,'" to insert the following as a new section:—

"No trustee shall hold the office of teacher within the district of which he is a trustee. Provided always, that no clergyman of any denomination shall be eligible for the position of Superintendent, Inspector, Teacher or Trustee."

The Colonist.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8, 1905

Provincial Legislature

**Educational Bill Passes Second
Reading on Division—Major-
ity Six.**

**Leader of Opposition Names an
Amendment to Songhees
Reserve Bill.**

**General Business and Other
Matters of the Day's
Work.**

Tuesday, March 7, 1905.

THE House assembled at 2 o'clock, and after prayers by Rev. J. P. Hicks the following was the order of business.

Petitions.

A number of petitions were presented by Mr. Ross, Mr. King, Mr. Wells and Mr. Houston from parties in their districts asking for amendments to the game laws.

The petition from Thos. Hall and others, opposing the private bill to incorporate the Sumas Development Co., was received.

Mr. Brown asked: 1. Did the government receive a request during the summer of 1904 to appoint fence viewers under the Line Fence and Water-courses Act, for any locality in Green-cowasak? 2. Were fence-viewers appointed in pursuance of the said request? 3. If so, who were appointed? 4. If not, why not?

Hon. Mr. Fulton replied: 1. Yes. 2. No. 3. Answered by No. 2. 4. Owing to the application having been temporarily lost sight of, the appointments have not yet been made. The matter is now receiving attention.

Upon consideration of the report upon the bill to amend the Land Registry Act a number of amendments were introduced by the Attorney-General and adopted.

Mr. Cotton continued the debate on the school bill. Criticism had failed he said to discover any fault in the principle of the bill, but merely objections as to detail. The necessity for financial readjustment in connection with education was admitted.

Harrowing pictures had been drawn of the evils which the educational system would suffer owing to impossible duties imposed upon the trustees.

Yet the member for Delta, who was perhaps the chief critic of this feature of the bill was a member of a school board, which for the last eleven years had vouched for a report similar to that required by the new act.

Mr. Oliver seemed to think there was a difference, but

Mr. Cotton showed that in so far as the argument was concerned the matters were practically identical. Judging by the speeches of opposition members, whose knowledge of the bill was transparently meagre, the introduction of this measure had set the members on fire and

trustees resign in a body. He was glad to say that the fire had apparently gone out, that prejudice had largely disappeared, and that no such disruption, as predicted, had been brought about. He briefly reviewed the history of education in the province, and from a study of the events of the past, drew the conclusion that there would be no such impairment of the rural school system as suggested in the debate. These districts were not unfairly discriminated against under the proposed change. They were practically called upon for nothing more than to make up the incidental expenses, such

as coal oil, which were very light in connection with the maintenance of the schools. The principle of the bill, that of free education, they were all agreed upon. Differences of opinion were confined to the method of assessing and collecting the required revenue, and in this respect the measure was no mere experiment arising from any peculiar exigency, but was based on systems prevailing in New Brunswick and elsewhere. He cited a statement to show that the additional amount which the bill required from the Delta constituency in order to maintain the schools in their present efficiency, was only about \$45.

Mr. Oliver asked how about the cost of collecting the money?

Mr. Cotton presumed that if the municipal machinery were as might be expected under the skilled tutelage of the member for that district the cost would be very little. He remarked that the total valuation of property in the district was \$4,032,530 or thereabouts, so that the total expenditure would amount at the most to only one mill on the dollar of the assessment of real estate. There were one or two small matters of detail, which might be subject to improvement, but these could be corrected in committee and did not affect the principle of the bill. He invited the opposition to put aside partisan feeling and co-operate with the government in putting the measure through without a division.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald said it was evident that the bill they were to have, after it emerged from committee, would be a different measure from that brought down by the government. He did not agree that the principle of the bill was free education. Its principle was to exact more taxation from the people. Direct taxation would be better than that proposed. As a result of the assessment commission the government found it advisable to undo their act of last year, and he suggested that this might prove to be the case in connection with the present measure. The admission of a minister of the crown that amendments would have to be made to the bill was evidence of the carelessness with which it was drawn. If, as stated, the bill did not change the incidence of taxation there was no necessity for it. The city of Rossland would suffer financial disadvantage under the bill, and he suggested that the schools might have to close six months in the year as a consequence. He was opposed to the principle of the bill. If there was to be retrenchment why not effect it through some other department, the administration of justice or civil service, which in proportion were much more costly to the province?

Mr. Wells agreed that there was necessity for a readjustment of finances in relation to the educational department, but disagreed with the method adopted. He compared the advent of the bill with the launch of a ship crowded with spectators, witnessed by himself in Toronto. A hitch occurred, and enquiry demonstrated the fact that there was a fear of drowning the people. Then an individual came along and said "let her go, I'll take the responsibility." So it was with the government bill. He pointed to the East Kootenay coal and oil lands as an estate which, properly managed, might yield all the revenue required without necessity for increased taxation.

The Premier asked if it was the policy of the Liberal party to deal with these lands in this way?

Mr. Wells did not reply as to this, but intimated that he was one who assisted in saving these lands to the province, and making them possible for provincial administration. As to the point that economy might wisely be effected in relation to the scope of the curriculum of the public schools, he admitted that there might be room for some modification in that regard. He passed a remark about the government having to keep an eye upon some of its supporters with respect to something or other, which was not very clear.

Mr. Ross, apparently mistaking what was said, thought there was something offensive to him, having been told by somebody that somebody else had told the first party that Mr. Wells had in the course of his speech made an observation in which he (Mr. Ross) was concerned. He wanted to know what it was.

Mr. Wells said that his observation, whatever it was, had no bearing offensive or otherwise upon the member for Penticton, but being apparently nettled by Mr. Ross' challenge, added that if the cap fitted that hon. gentleman he could wear it.

What sort of a cap it was did not seem very clear, nor was there apparently any cap in sight whatever. But as Mr. P. P. and lawyers will sometimes quarrel Mr. Ross affirmed that, if this was what was meant, he never had any interest in lands in the Flat-head country and never expected to have. He did not think anything of this kind was due from Mr. Wells, who was dismissed from one of the rottenest governments the province ever had.

At this stage both Mr. Wells and Mr. Ross discovered that they had been rowing about nothing, but mutually misunderstanding. Apologies were extended from both sides for hasty words uttered, and all was serenity again in the chamber. In fact there was the greatest good humor, for Mr. McInnes, with inimitable facetiousness, arose and added his acceptance of Mr. Ross' apology, as a member of the government, whose qualities had been so unfavorably rated.

Mr. Hawthorthwaite pointed out that Mr. Wells' ideas about the utilization of East Kootenay lands had apparently ripened in the shades of opposition. They were never heard of when he was a member of the government. The financial conditions which necessitated the present bill were not due to the government. The debt of \$11,000,000 existed when they acceded to office, and they were under necessity of providing over \$800,000 yearly for interest and sinking fund alone. Even under the pressure upon them the government did not assume any high handed demeanor. They approached the House with modesty, and asked that the bill be considered in a non-partisan spirit. But the opposition, with an insatiable greed for office, had refused unbiased discussion, and had made it a party fight. He claimed that a high school education was necessary to the proper equipment of the children of the province, and took issue on this point with Liberal speakers, who apparently believed in the curtailment of this branch of the system. He heartily approved the principle of the bill. As to the objection that trustees would not act under the bill, he said that forced meetings had been held to hatch such objections, but without success. He read a letter from a prominent trustee in his district heartily approving of this section of the bill and of the measure as a whole. Examining the criticisms of Mr. Oliver that the government had been grossly extravagant in connection with the construction of a school in his district, he reduced this to an objection against the payment of union wages to the carpenter and painter employed.

Mr. Oliver denied this, saying that he objected because the carpenter was imported and favored for political reasons, and that local men were overlooked.

Mr. Hawthorthwaite said that such a fault even if true would scarcely supplant and made no corresponding return. He charged that the Liberal government at Ottawa was responsible for the financial conditions in this province. They had exploited the province of \$14,000,000 and made no corresponding return. He was proceeding to attribute an avowal to opposition members in favor of an increase in the poll tax, when

Mr. J. A. Macdonald objected that no such idea had been expressed by anybody on his side of the House except the member for Slokan.

Mr. Davidson entered a soft protest that he was not responsible for the enunciation of such an idea.

Mr. Macdonald said it came then to the fact that such an enunciation had not come from anybody on that side.

Mr. Hawthorthwaite commented upon remarks of opposition members, suggesting a disposition to curtail the educational system, and provoked the manifestation of a very uncomfortable feeling in the opposition ranks. He commented upon expressions of pride in Sir Wilfrid Laurier, which fell from Mr. Wells, and asked for an explanation of his policy with reference to schools, to which no reply was offered. The policy of the Liberals in connection with this measure was simply to confuse the issue and draw a herring across the trail. He twitted Mr. Tanner with an ill favored use of a scriptural quotation in closing his ruminations against the bill.

Mr. Tanner asked the Speaker if a scriptural quotation was not in order if reverently used.

The Speaker gave a soothing assurance that it might be so.

Mr. Tanner thought that a suggestion that he had blasphemed should be withdrawn.

pend the unexpended balance of the pre the 30th June next? If not, at Session been all expended? If not,

Creek Bridge and approaches to date? against Robert McLaren, former Road they and by whom made? Superintendent?

being done on the Quesnel River at

the right to dictate what persons shall

le on Bill (No. 16) intituled "An Act z amendments:—

uch," between the words "upon" and may be deemed advisable" in the fourth section.

the twenty-five acres (more or less) of uimalt Road, such land to be used for onditions as the Lieutenant-Governor in

ight to purchase or acquire the seven-said Reserve lying to the south of the y, upon such terms and conditions as e Lieutenant-Governor in Council:

ites for purposes of (a) public school or g places, including wharves and build- Lieutenant-Governor in Council may

be disposed of by public auction, under "Land Act."

n of the Report on Bill (No. 8) intituled ending Acts," to add to section 52, line

intended to be deposited, filed, kept or registered, and in the last-mentioned arty depositing, filing or registering the

f the Report on Bill (No. 6) intituled ating Frauds upon Creditors by secret dments:—

ll of sale need not be registered."

Whole or upon the consideration of nd and consolidate the 'Public Schools

in the district of which he is a trustee: on shall be eligible for the position of

The King's Most Excellent Majesty.

Mr. Hawthornthwaite was happy to remove any occasion for imitation in this connection and responded gracefully to the suggestion.

Dr. King argued that a school system was not necessarily good for this province because it succeeded in New Brunswick. He denied the allegation that agitation against the bill was being worked up for political purposes. The government would realize this when it went to the country.

The motion for the second reading of the bill was then put and carried on the following vote:

For: Davidson, Hawthornthwaite, Williams, Taitow, McBride, Wilson, Colton, Ellison, Clifford, Bowser, Fraser, Ross, A. McDonald, Green, Fulton, Garden, Taylor, Wright, Young, Gifford, Margowan, Shatford, Grant—23.

Against: McInnes, Drury, King, McNiven, Brown, Murphy, Jones, Evans, Tanner, Oliver, J. A. Macdonald, Henderson, Munro, Paterson, Wells, Hall, Cameron—17.

The Songhees' Reserve.

The Premier continued the debate on the bill respecting the Songhees Indian reserve. He pointed out that this question had from time to time occupied attention in Victoria and was now again to the fore. Attempt was made to shoulder responsibility upon the local government. From examination of all the aspects of the question, legal and otherwise, it was clear that the Indians must retain possession of the reserve until they were made party to an arrangement satisfactory to them. The Indians had been taught to believe that it would be foolish for them to yield their tenure without a considerable indemnity and generous terms. They could not be removed by force. The first essential was to get the Indians to acquiesce in an agreement, and this might perhaps be best accomplished if the two governments and the Indians were left to settle the matter between themselves, without interference from outside parties, and he offered this suggestion in a friendly spirit toward the city council and other public bodies of Victoria. The alarm expressed by the member for Delta about the power the government would have, under the bill to deal with the reserve, was needless. If the bill became law no disposition would be made of the lands irrespective of the interests of Victoria in the matter. The government was not prepared to accept any amendment to the bill. He thought the government should command the confidence of the House that it would act in a decent and fair manner. He pointed out that the views of Mr. C. E. Leed, one of those who had made special study of the Songhees reserve question, were favorable to the idea that a settlement of the question would be facilitated by having the government vested with power to act in the matter. He also showed that an inaccurate impression had been conveyed that the move looking toward a settlement of the question should be credited to the Ottawa government, remarking that without the steps taken by the provincial government nothing would have been done.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald argued that the proposed bill could only be of practical effect after the Indians had been got off the reserve. Why then should the government seek power to dispose of the lands before this part of the arrangement was accomplished? He did not see why the legislature should relinquish its control in the matter to the government before it was known what sort of an administration of the reserve might be expected, or whether the interests of Victoria and the province generally were to be properly conserved. Any arrangement made by the government with respect to Victoria would naturally be made with the city council. As it was a matter in which the people were concerned in a more popular sense, he thought it should remain with the legislature. He moved in amendment in effect that in the opinion of the House, the government should immediately secure a new reserve for the Indians now on the Songhees reserve and arrange with the Dominion government for their settlement thereon.

And that the question of the disposition of the land now forming the reserve be not now considered, but that the same be dealt with by this House at the session of the same following the removal of the Indians.

It being 6 o'clock the House rose.

The Co

VOTE

Legislative

Prayers by the Rev.

The following petitions:

From Alfred Storey.

From James Gill.

From W. P. Ems.

From T. G. Proctor.

From Arthur O'Keefe.

On the motion of 'Game Protection Act' second time to-morrow.

Mr. Murphy asked:

1. Is there a clause same?

2. If not, since leases issued since said?

3. Does the employment a forfeiture of?

4. If the answer forfeiture effective?

5. How many Cariboo District during?

6. How many Cariboo District?

7. Is it the intention?

8. What reason Recorder's Office at?

9. What became The Hon. Mr.

"1. No.

"2. 30th May.

"3. Yes, under

"4. The recon under section 99 of

tion 99, Place
amendment
and action by
the section 99
(a) 60, (b)
(c) 14;
company in
two reasons
Mr. Murphy
in course
of execution
of certain
of value
of which
and what

No. 20.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Legislative Assembly of British Columbia.

Wednesday, 8th March, 1905.

Two o'clock, P.M.

Prayers by the Rev. J. P. Hicks.

The following petitions were received:—

- From Alfred Stork and others, residents of Fernie, re amendments to the Game Laws.
 From James Gill and others, residents of Cranbrook, on same subject.
 From W. P. Emons and others, residents of Wilmer and Canterbury, on same subject.
 From T. G. Proctor and others, residents of Nelson, on same subject.
 From Arthur O'Kell and others, residents of Creston, on same subject.

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. Fulton, Bill (No. 28) intituled "An Act to amend the Game Protection Act, 1898" was introduced, read a first time and Ordered to be read a second time to-morrow.

Mr. Murphy asked the Hon. the Minister of Mines the following questions:—

1. Is there a clause in all mining leases that no Chinese be employed in the working of same?
2. If not, since what date has such a clause been inserted, and has it been inserted in all leases issued since said date?
3. Does the employment of Chinese in the working of a lease containing such a clause work a forfeiture of the lease?
4. If the answer to No. 3 be yes, what proof and procedure is necessary to make such forfeiture effective?
5. How many (a) Hydraulic, (b) Creek, (c) Dredging Leases, have been cancelled in Cariboo District during the year 1904?
6. How many of each class of leases mentioned in question 5 hereof are still in existence in Cariboo District?
7. Is it the intention of the Government to lessen mining lease rentals and water rates?
8. What reason had the Government for asking G. E. Stephenson, Clerk in the Mining Recorder's Office at Quesnel Forks, for his resignation?
9. What became of this reason, later on, when he was re-instated?

The Hon. Mr. McBride replied as follows:—

- "1. No.
- "2. 30th May, 1902; yes.
- "3. Yes, under section 99, "Placer Mining Act."
- "4. The recommendation of the Gold Commissioner and action by the Minister of Mines under section 99 of the "Placer Mining Act."

Hon. Mr. Placer Mining Act. 4. The recommendation of the gold commissioner and action by the Minister of Mines under section 99 of the Placer Mining Act. (a) 60, (b) 65, (c) 17; (d) (a) 147, (b) 109, (c) 14; 7. No; 8. Despatch, and necessary in the collection of revenue; 9. The reason still held good."

Mr. Murphy asked: 1. Was an order in council ever passed by the provincial executive fixing the assessment of certain lands in the province at a fixed value? 2. If the answer be yes, in what order in council still in force, and what land does it affect?

marks of the previous day in moving the amendment that the matter of disposing of the reserve lands should be reserved for the legislature.

The Premier said the bill had been introduced with a view to accelerate the settlement of the question in the public interests. He regretted that the matter should have been discussed by opposition members from a political point of view. Had these members approached him in a businesslike way their representations would have received fair consideration. Instead of doing this, however, they had tried to confuse the sub-

ject by making political capital out of it. He regretted that members who professed to have the interests of the city at heart should act in such a weak and foolish fashion. In this connection he stated that Mr. Oliver wanted the assent of under the Land Act, regard to the interests of Victoria.

He denied that he had taken any action.

Mr. Green said that about a week ago members had received written instructions to support the bill, and he received advice to oppose it.

Members had taken independent action of instructions from council. The government had decided the reasons for the bill, and in a measure looking to the interests of the lands before the withdrawal of the Indians was effected. He saw why they should support a bill to relinquish their control in favor to the government.

Mr. Anderson opposed the bill, contending that the government had not yet taken the House into its consideration. The bill could have no effect on the Dominion government action.

Mr. Green said the House knew all the facts in the matter. There was nothing to conceal.

Mr. Niven said the Songhees matter had engaged attention for some time for the past forty years. There was nothing in the bill which promised a settlement of the question. He thought the government should have an idea as to what it would do with the lands when it got them. This was stated in the bill. If the Premier's disposition was to be the lands he should inform the House if he did not know, then there was reason why the House should have government with full control over the matter.

Mr. Attorney-General disagreed with the action that the Dominion government was all powerful in the matter. He was guardians of the Indians, it was duty of the Dominion to see that Indians were removed to another place, which the province had to do. When the Indians were removed, the province reverted to the province and subject to provincial jurisdiction. He thought the House could not put the government with the control of the lands.

Mr. Green emphasized the point that local government had no authority to remove the Indians who were under the Dominion government. If the Indians were removed, they belonged to the province. He saw why Victoria representatives should fear that the city would be dealt with in the matter, and that this opinion was in line with what was expressed by Mr. C. H. Lister to the public press.

Mr. Green said that the position taken by the House was that the matter should be dealt with by the government.

The government lacked the authority of a considerable section of the House, and for very good reason, for the government had disposed of certain lands in connection with the deal with the farm without legal authority. If the present bill passed, reserve lands might be turned over to a corporation or be disposed of in any way, which would not be approved by the House. He observed that Mr. Attorney-General had been re-elected in a case brought by the House to determine rights against the House on the waterfront of that a bill would give the government power to grant valuable waterway corporation or to deal with the reserve lands.

Mr. MacDonald's amendment was and lost on a straight party vote of 16, the bill passing its second reading by a similar vote. Three supporters were absent.

Mr. MacDonald moved the Replevin Act to amend the committee stage; also the bill to their dependents the wages of workmen.

The House adjourned. Mr. J. MacDonald asked for some further information with reference to a return made by the Lands and Works Department relative to lands selected for South African scrip on Kaimosi Island. He wanted to know if the island was covered by reserves?

Hon. Mr. Green said that the island did not show as reserve on the map, but that the reserve as made was intended to include it.

Mr. MacDonald asked if the government would consent to the appointment of a committee to look into the matter.

Hon. Mr. Green said this was not necessary, as no application had been made for petition of right by parties in-

Mr. Hawthornthwaite was happy to remove any occasion for imitation in this connection and respond to the suggestion.

Dr. King argued that it was not necessarily good since because it succeeded in its aim. He denied that agitation against the government would result in the country.

The motion for the second reading of the bill was then put and following vote:

For: Davidson, Ha Williams, Tatlow, Mc Cotton, Ellison, Clifford, er, Ross, A. McDonald, Garden, Taylor, Wright ford, Macgowan, Shatto. Against: McInnes, Dr Niven, Brown, Murphy, Tanner, Oliver, J. A. M derson, Munro, Paterson Cameron—17.

The Songhees' Bill

The Premier continued the bill respecting the Songhees reserve. He pointed out that it had from time to time been in Victoria and to the fore. Attempt to shoulder responsibility for the government. From the aspects of the question otherwise, it was clear that must retain possession until they were made a permanent satisfactory Indians had been taught to tenure without a considerable and generous terms. The removed by force. The was to get the Indians an agreement, and this be best accomplished if the matter between the out interference from and he offered this in friendly spirit toward and other public bodies alarm expressed by the in about the power of the reserve, was needless came law no disposition of the lands irrespective of Victoria in the matter amendment to the bill, government should consider the House in a decent and fair manner out that the views of grin, one of those who study of the Songhees were favorable to the settlement of the question stated by having the go with power to act in also showed that an in sion had been conveyed looking toward a settlement should be credited government, remarking steps taken by the present nothing would have Mr. J. A. Macdonald proposed bill could only effect after the Indians off the reserve. Why government seeks power lands before this partment was accomplished see why the legislature its control in the matter ment before it was known an administration of the be expected, or whether Victoria and the province to be properly conserved ment made by the govern spect to Victoria would made with the city council a matter in which the concerned in a more popular thought it should remain lature. He moved in a fact that in the opinion the government should cure a new reserve for on the Songhees reserve and arrange with the Dominion government for their settlement thereon.

And that the question of the disposition of the land now forming the reserve be not now considered, but that the same be dealt with by this House at the session of the same following the removal of the Indians.

It being 6 o'clock the House rose.

8TH MARCH.

1905

2

- "5. (a) 53; (b) 53; (c) 17.
- "6. (a) 147; (b) 169; (c) 14.
- "7. No.
- "8. Dispatch and economy in the collection of revenue.
- "9. The reason still held good."

Mr. Murphy asked the Hon. the Minister of Finance the following questions:—

1. Was an Order in Council ever passed by the Provincial Executive fixing the assessment of certain lands in the Province at a fixed value?
2. If the answer be yes, is such Order in Council still in force, and what land does it affect?

The Hon. Mr. Tatlow replied as follows:—

"1. An Order in Council was approved on 3rd May, 1898, fixing the assessed value of the lands granted to the Columbia and Kootenay Railway Company at \$1 per acre (excepting townsites), so long as the Company agrees to open up these lands for sale at Government prices.

"2. Yes; the lands mentioned in the above answer."

Mr. Munro asked the Hon. the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works the following question:—

What amount of coal was supplied to Matsqui pumps during the years 1903, 1904, respectively, and what was the cost per ton each year delivered at the pumps?

The Hon. Mr. Green replied as follows:—

"1903, 751.50 tons; 1904, 371.90 tons. 1903, \$4.50 per ton; 1904, \$4.80 per ton.

The Report on Bill (No. 51) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the British Canadian Fire Insurance Company, Limited," was adopted.

Third reading to-morrow.

The Report on Bill (No. 56) intituled "An Act respecting the Brunette Saw-Mill Company, Limited," was adopted.

Third reading to-morrow.

The Report on Bill (No. 6) intituled "An Act to consolidate and amend the Law for preventing Frauds upon Creditors by secret Bills of Sale of Personal Chattels," was further considered.

The Hon. Mr. Wilson moved to amend section 7, sub-section (7), line 8, after the word "Supreme," by inserting the words "or County."

Carried.

The Hon. Mr. Wilson moved to amend section 8, line 5, before the word "copy," by inserting the words "original or."

Carried.

The further consideration of the Report was adjourned until to-morrow.

The following Bills were read a third time and passed:—

Bill (No. 11) intituled "An Act for Licensing Commercial Travellers."

Bill (No. 23) intituled "An Act to aid the Municipality of the City of Nelson."

Bill (No. 15) intituled "An Act to amend and consolidate the 'Public Schools Act,'" was committed.

Progress reported.

Committee to sit again to-morrow.

The adjourned debate on the Second Reading of Bill (No. 16) intituled "An Act respecting the Songhees Indian Reserve," and on the amendment moved by Mr. J. A. Macdonald on 7th March, as follows:—

The Co

5 ED. 7

To strike out of:—

"in the opinion of the Indians for the Indians the said Indians said new reserve hees Indian Rese the Session of the will protect the the southern end facilities for tra the premises," was Question pro tion," and Resole

Hawthornthwaite Williams, Tatlow, McBride, Wilson, Cotton,

McInnes, Drury, King, McInven,

Bill read a

Bill (No. 1 Reported Report ad Third read

Bill (No. Workmen," wa Reported Report to

Resolved,

And then

By Mr. C That an between the to the claim o

Bill No. 11, the amendment and action by the section 9 (a) 60, (b) 100, (c) 14; economy in the reason Mr. Murphy in council certain excec value of the land what la

The Colonist.

Hon. Mr. Taitow replied: 1. An order in council was approved on May 3, 1898, fixing the assessed value of the lands granted to the Columbia & Kootenay Railway Co. at \$1 per acre for a term of years.

ject by making political capital out of it. He regretted that members who professed to have the interests of the city at heart should act in such a weak and foolish fashion. In this connection he stated that Mr. Oliver wanted the bill passed under the Land Act, in regard to the interests of Victoria.

Mr. Oliver denied that he had taken any action. He said that about a week before the bill was introduced, he had received advice to support it, and that he had taken independent action in regard to the bill. He said that the government had not taken the House into its confidence. The bill could have no effect on the Dominion government's action.

Mr. Oliver said the House knew all about the matter. There was nothing to conceal. He said that the Songhees had been engaged in the matter for some time, and that there was nothing in the bill which would affect the settlement of the question. He thought the government should have a better idea as to what it would do with the lands when it got them. This was stated in the bill. If the Premier wanted to know what disposition was to be made of the lands, he should inform the House. If he did not know, then there was no reason why the House should be kept in the dark.

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1905

5 ED. 7

8TH MARCH.

3

To strike out all the words after the word "That," and insert the following in lieu thereof:—

"in the opinion of this House the Government should immediately procure a new reserve for the Indians now on the Songhees Indian Reserve, which reserve should be satisfactory to the said Indians and to the Dominion Government, and remove and settle said Indians upon said new reserve; and that the question of the disposition of the lands now forming the Songhees Indian Reserve be not now considered, but that the same be dealt with by this House at the Session of the same following the removal of said Indians as aforesaid; in a manner which will protect the City of Victoria in the matter of park lands; give said city control of part of the southern end of said reserve for wharves and other harbour facilities; provide terminal facilities for transportation companies and conserve the general interests of the Province in the premises," was resumed.

Question proposed, "Shall the words proposed to be struck out stand part of the question," and Resolved in the affirmative on the following division:—

YEAS:

Messieurs

Hawthornthwaite,
Williams,
Taitow,
McBride,
Wilson,
Cotton,

Ellison,
Clifford,
Bousser,
Ross,
A. McDonald,

Green,
Fulton,
Garden,
Taylor,
Wright,

Young,
Gifford,
Macgowan,
Shatford,
Grant—21.

NAYS:

Messieurs

McInnes,
Drury,
King,
McNiven,

Murphy,
Jones,
Evans,
Tanner,

Oliver,
J. A. Macdonald,
Henderson,
Munro,

Paterson,
Wells,
Hall,
Cameron—16.

Bill read a second time on the same division.

Bill (No. 19) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Replevin Act,'" was committed.

Reported complete without amendment.

Report adopted.

Third reading to-morrow.

Bill (No. 18) intituled "An Act to Secure to their Dependents the Wages of Deceased Workmen," was again committed.

Reported complete with amendments.

Report to be considered to-morrow.

Resolved, That the House, at its rising, do stand adjourned until two o'clock to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned at 6 P.M.

C. E. POOLEY, Speaker.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

By Mr. Oliver—On Friday next—

That an Order of the House be granted for a Return of copies of all correspondence between the Government, or any member thereof, and any other person or persons in respect to the claim of Mr. Aulay Morrison, K. C., for compensation for services rendered.

Hon. Mr. Oliver asked: 1. The recommendation of the gold commissioner and action by the Minister of Mines under section 99 of the Placer Mining Act, (a) 60, (b) 63, (c) 17; 2. (a) 147, (b) 148, (c) 14; 3. No; 4. Despatch and economy in the collection of revenue; 5. The reason still held good.

Mr. Murphy asked: 1. Was an order in council ever passed by the provincial executive fixing the assessment of certain lands in the province at a fixed value? 2. If the answer be yes, in what order in council still in force, and what land does it affect?

marks of the previous day in moving the amendment that the matter of disposing of the reserve lands should be reserved for the legislature.

The Premier said the bill had been introduced with a view to accelerate the settlement of the question in the public interest. He regretted that the matter should have been discussed by opposition members from a political point of view. Had these members approached him in a businesslike way their representations would have received fair consideration. Instead of doing this, however, they had tried to confuse the sub-

information with reference to a return made by the Lands and Works department relative to lands selected for South African scrip on Kalen Island. He wanted to know if the island was covered by reserve?

Hon. Mr. Green said that the island did not show as reserve on the map, but that the reserve as made was intended to include it.

Mr. Macdonald asked if the government would consent to the appointment of a committee to look into the matter.

Hon. Mr. Green said this was not necessary, as no application had been made for petition of right by parties in-

Mr. Hawthornthwaite was happy to remove any occasion for objection to this connection and respond to the suggestion.

Dr. King argued that it was not necessarily good since because it would remove it. He denied that agitation against the worked up for political government would result to the country.

The motion for the second reading was then put and following vote:

For: Davidson, Ha Williams, Taylor, Mc Cotton, Ellison, Clifford, er, Ross, A. McDonald, Garden, Taylor, Wright ford, Macgowan, Shatto Against: McInnes, De Niven, Brown, Murphy, Tanner, Oliver, J. A. Merson, Munro, Paterson Cameron—17.

The Songhees' Bill

The Premier continued the bill respecting the Songhees reserve. He pointed out that had from time to time in Victoria and to the fore. Attempt should responsibility government. From examination of the aspects of the question otherwise, it was clear that must retain possession until they were made permanent satisfactory to the Indians had been taught to would be foolish for the tenure without a considerable and generous terms. The removed by force. The was to get the Indians an agreement, and this be best accomplished if the matter between the out interference from and he offered this in friendly spirit toward and other public bodies alarm expressed by the in about the power of would have, under the the reserve, was needless came law no disposition of the lands irrespective of Victoria in the matter was not prepared amendment to the bill. government should commence of the House that in a decent and fair manner out that the views of grin, one of those who study of the Songhees were favorable to the element of the question stated by having the go with power to act in also showed that an impression had been conveyed looking toward a settlement should be credited government, remarking steps taken by the present nothing would have.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald proposed bill could only effect after the Indians off the reserve. Why government seek power lands before this partment was accomplished and why the legislature its control in the matter ment before it was known administration of the be expected, or whether Victoria and the province to be properly considered ment made by the government to Victoria would made with the city concerned in a more popular thought it should remain. He moved in a fact that in the opinion the government should cure a new reserve for on the Songhees reserve and arrange with the Dominion government for their settlement thereon.

And that the question of the disposition of the land now forming the reserve be not now considered, but that the same be dealt with by this House at the session of the same following the removal of the Indians.

It being 6 o'clock the House rose.

On Friday next—

Mr. Williams to ask leave to introduce a Bill intituled "An Act to amend the 'Provincial Elections Act.'"

On Tuesday next—

Mr. Bowser to ask leave to introduce a Bill intituled "An Act to amend the 'Dentistry Consolidation Act.'"

VICTORIA, B. C.

Printed by RICHARD WOLFENDEN, L.S.O., V.D., Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty. 1905.

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THURSDAY, MAR

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Songhees Reserve
Second Reading
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The Colonist.

THURSDAY, MARCH 9, 1905.

Provincial Legislature

Songhees Reserve Bill Passes Second Reading on Party Vote.

Education Act Considered in the Committee of the Whole.

Bill to Amend the Game Act Introduced — Warden Appointed.

Wednesday, March 8, 1905.

THE House assembled at 2 o'clock and after prayers by Rev. J. P. Hicks, the following was the order of business:

Petitions.

A number of petitions presented on the previous day asking for amendments to the game laws were received.

Bills.

Hon. Mr. Fulton introduced a bill to amend the Game Act. As already intimated, the bill provides for the appointment of a warden, who shall give his entire time and attention to the game, forestry and fishing interests of the province, conduct prosecutions and see that all laws having reference to game, forestry and fish are enforced.

It shall be the duty also of every constable and peace officer within the province of British Columbia to enforce all laws for the protection of animals, game, game birds, song birds, wild fowl, trout and forests within their respective districts.

The provincial game and forest warden shall, annually, on the 31st day of December in each year, make a written report to the Attorney-General of his operations during the preceding year.

It is said that the appointment of Mr. Williams of Vancouver has been recommended for the position of warden by all the game protection societies, and will be confirmed in a few days.

Questions.

Mr. Murphy asked: 1. Is there a clause in all mining leases that no Chinese be employed in the working of same? 2. If not, since what date has such a clause been inserted, and has it been inserted in all leases issued since said date? 3. Does the employment of Chinese in the working of a lease containing such a clause work a forfeiture of the lease? 4. If the answer to No. 3 be yes, what proof and procedure is necessary to make such forfeiture effective? 5. How many (a) hydraulic, (b) creek, (c) dredging leases have been cancelled in Cariboo district during the year 1904? 6. How many of each class of leases mentioned in question 5 hereof are still in existence in Cariboo district? 7. Is it the intention of the government to lessen mining lease rentals and water rates? 8. What reason had the government for asking G. E. Stephenson, clerk in the mining recorder's office at Quesnel Forks, for his resignation? 9. What became of this reason, later on, when he was reinstated?

Hon. Mr. McBride replied: 1. No. 2. 30th May, 1902; yes. 3. Yes, under section 90, Placer Mining Act. 4. The recommendation of the gold commissioner and action by the Minister of Mines under section 99 of the Placer Mining Act. 5. (a) 60, (b) 53, (c) 17; 6. (a) 147, (b) 109; (c) 14; 7. No; 8. Despatch; 9. Economy in the collection of revenue; 9. The reason still held good.

Mr. Murphy asked: 1. Was an order in council ever passed by the provincial executive fixing the assessment of certain lands in the province at a fixed value? 2. If the answer be yes, in such order in council still in force, and what land does it affect?

Hon. Mr. Tatlow replied: 1. An order in council was approved on May 3, 1898, fixing the assessed value of the lands granted to the Columbia & Kootenay Railway Co. at \$1 per acre (excepting townships), so long as the company agrees to open up these lands for sale at government prices. 2. Yes; the lands mentioned in the above answer.

Mr. Munro asked: What amount of coal was supplied to Matsqui pumps during the years 1903 and 1904 respectively, and what was the cost per ton each year delivered at the pumps?

Hon. Mr. Green replied: 1903, 751.50 tons; 1904, 371.00 tons; 1903, \$4.50 per ton; 1904, \$4.80 per ton.

The reports on the bill to incorporate the British Canadian Fire Insurance Co. and the bill respecting the Brunette Sawmill Co. were adopted. The bills are now slated for third reading.

Upon consideration of the report on the bill for the prevention of frauds upon creditors, a number of technical amendments were made by the Attorney-General and further consideration of the report was adjourned.

School Bill.

The House went into committee on the school bill, Mr. Macgowan in the chair.

Mr. Evans offered an amendment designed to enable all districts attaining to the status as to population, etc., entitling them to high school facilities, to command the same under the act. The sub-section of section 6, dealing with this subject, was allowed to stand over in order that the matter might be fairly considered.

With respect to section 14, relating to "assisted schools," the Minister of Education explained in reply to a question by Mr. Williams that this section was exactly as it stood in the old act. Where necessity was shown for an assisted school the boundaries would be redefined to cover the point. It had never been the policy of the department to refuse to establish a school where the necessary number of children was shown to be, and its necessity was established.

Some discussion fell upon section 47, which reads: It shall be the duty of the assessors of taxes, whether provincial or municipal, upon making up the assessment rolls for their respective districts, to call upon the trustees of every rural school district which in whole or in part lies within the assessment or municipal district of such assessors, for a copy of the boundaries of the rural school district, and for the names of all persons, resident and non-resident, who own real estate in such district, and of all corporations, firms as aforesaid, and persons not being residents liable as aforesaid to be rated in respect of real or personal property or income in the district, together with the nature of such property; which statements of names and property, and copy of boundaries, it shall be the duty of the trustees forthwith to give.

Mr. Brown thought the duties imposed upon the trustees were too onerous. The Minister of Education said the trustees were in a much better position to supply the information asked for with reference to their districts than the provincial assessors. The section, he said, was taken word for word from the New Brunswick act, which had worked very satisfactorily there, and had become a model not only for other parts of Canada, but in other parts of the world.

Mr. Evans considered it would be difficult for trustees to give the required information as to incomes.

The minister agreed to allow the section to stand over for closer consideration. Some other sections of the bill with respect to provincial aid, the division of school districts, election of trustees in city school districts, and their duties and powers, etc., were also stood over, as well as some other sections of the bill. About two-thirds of the bill, which embraces 118 sections, was passed without discussion.

The committee reported progress.

Songhees' Reserve.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald closed his remarks of the previous day in moving the amendment that the matter of disposing of the reserve lands should be reserved for the legislature.

The Premier said the bill had been introduced with a view to accelerate the settlement of the question in the public interests. He regretted that the matter should have been discussed by opposition members from a political point of view. Had these members approached him in a businesslike way their representations would have received fair consideration. Instead of doing this, however, they had tried to confuse the sub-

ject by making political capital out of it. He regretted that members who professed to have the interests of the city at heart should act in such a weak and foolish fashion. In this connection he remarked that Mr. Oliver wanted the reserve disposed of under the Land Act, without regard to the interests of Victoria.

Mr. Oliver denied that he had taken this position.

Mr. Cameron said that about a week ago the city members had received written instructions to support the bill, and later had received advice to oppose it. The members had taken independent action irrespective of instructions from the city council. The government had not explained the reasons for the bill. Why bring in a measure looking to the disposal of the lands before the withdrawal of the Indians was effected. He did not see why they should support a proposition to relinquish their control in the matter to the government.

Mr. Henderson opposed the bill, contending that the government had not sufficiently taken the House into its confidence. The bill could have no effect unless the Dominion government acted in the matter.

The Premier said the House knew all there was to know in the matter. There was nothing to conceal.

Mr. McNiven said the Songhees reserve matter had engaged attention from time to time for the past forty years, and there was nothing in the bill which promised a settlement of the question. He thought the government should give some idea as to what it would do with the lands when it got them. This should be stated in the bill. If the Premier knew what disposition was to be made of the lands he should inform the House. If he did not know, then there was no reason why the House should entrust the government with full control in the matter.

The Attorney-General disagreed with the suggestion that the Dominion government was all powerful in the matter. Being the guardians of the Indians, it was the duty of the Dominion to see that the Indians were removed to another reserve, which the province had to provide. When the Indians were removed the lands reverted to the province and became subject to provincial jurisdiction, and he thought the House could well entrust the government with the disposition of the lands.

Hon. Mr. Green emphasized the point that the local government had no authority to remove the Indians who were the wards of the Dominion government. When the Indians were removed, the lands belonged to the province. He could not see why Victoria representatives should fear that the city would be unfairly dealt with in the matter, and showed that this opinion was in line with views expressed by Mr. C. H. Lagimodiere in letters to the public press.

Mr. Oliver said that the position taken on his side of the House was that the lands should be dealt with by the legislature. The government lacked the confidence of a considerable section of the House, and for very good reason, for the government had disposed of certain public lands in connection with the deal for the asylum farm without legal authority therefor. If the present bill passed the reserve lands might be turned over to some corporation or be disposed of in some way, which would not be sanctioned by the House. He observed that the Attorney-General had been retained as counsel in a case brought by Vancouver to determine rights against the C. F. R. on the waterfront of that city. This bill would give the government power to grant valuable waterfront to any corporation or to deal with it as they chose.

Mr. Macdonald's amendment was then put and lost on a straight party vote, 21 to 16, the bill passing its second reading on a similar vote. Three government supporters were absent.

The bill to amend the Ruperin Act passed its committee stage; also the bill to secure to their dependents the wages of deceased workmen.

Before the House adjourned, Mr. J. A. Macdonald asked for some further information with reference to a return made by the Lands and Works Department relative to lands selected for South African scrip on Kalaen Island. He wanted to know if the island was covered by reserve?

Hon. Mr. Green said that the island did not show as reserve on the map, but that the reserve as made was intended to include it.

Mr. Macdonald asked if the government would consent to the appointment of a committee to look into the matter.

Hon. Mr. Green said this was not necessary, as no application had been made for petition or right by parties in-

The House then adjourned.

Mr. Williams gives notice of a bill to amend the Provincial Elections Act.

A meeting of the mining committee is called for Friday to consider suggestions with reference to proposed amendments to the Placer and Mineral Acts. In this a very general impression prevails in parliamentary circles that the mining laws will not be disturbed during the present session of the House.

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MR. SPEAKER :

Your Select & report as follows :-

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The report w

Mr. Murphy
questions :—

1. Is it the \$10,000 voted for next?
2. Is it the \$20,000 voted for?
3. Has the how much of it?
4. What has?
5. Were any Superintendent?
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The Colonist.

Hon. Mr. Green suspended that the amendment was out of order.
Mr. J. A. Macdonald argued that it was incompetent for a private member to introduce a bill relating to revenue or

knowledge of game to effect a close observance of its provisions. They looked upon it as an outside matter and one with which they should not be bothered or concerned. With the appointment of these conditions would be the enforcement of the law, which was not attended to. The speaker proceeded to an explanation of the clauses of the bill, which had already been given in the

as moved the adjournment.

incorporate the British Insurance Co. and the the Brunette Sawmill Co. reading, rose at 4 o'clock.

Notes

ulation was occasioned in yesterday by Mr. Will the adjournment of the bill to amend the Game Act at first thought that he had some objection to the friends of the blue grouse of the game family hastened of the member for New the trouble was. It turned Hawthornthwaite, who is a champion of game protection, had expressed his opinion, and had expressed his colleague to see that the opportunity. The men, therefore, may be there is no occasion for

committee is scheduled to meet on Monday. It is probable that the bill which has been introduced today. If not, it will be introduced early next week. From Sumas are expected on Sunday evening to attend the private bills on Monday, with respect to the Sumas Development Corporation.

THE GAME LAW.

The Act is to be amended in a number of important respects. One provision generally commended, and which is to the protection of the animal is rapidly on the decline owing to the inroads of trappers, prospectors and others who are to extinction. The elk is to be exterminated and specimens should be made for its preservation. In this connection, the Government has made for the set of a tract of land, as a special reserve, is worthy of serious consideration. The Corbin experiment in the States has demonstrated the feasibility in this way, and it is entirely practicable in British Columbia on a large scale. As pointed out by Hon. Mr. Fulton, game is a valuable asset and should be conserved in every way possible.

No. 21.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Legislative Assembly of British Columbia.

Thursday, 9th March, 1905.

TWO O'CLOCK, P.M.

Prayers by the Rev. J. P. Hicks.

On the motion of Mr. King, Bill (No. 29) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Supreme Court Act,'" was introduced, read a first time and *Ordered* to be read a second time to-morrow.

Mr. Ross presented the Tenth Report from the Private Bills Committee, as follows:—

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,
March 9th, 1905.

MR. SPEAKER:

Your Select Standing Committee on Private Bills and Standing Orders beg leave to report as follows:—

That the preamble of Bill (No. 59) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the Golden Light, Power and Water Company, Limited," has been proved, and the Bill ordered to be reported with amendments.

W. R. Ross,
Chairman.

The report was received.

Mr. Murphy asked the Hon. the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works the following questions:—

1. Is it the intention of the Government to expend the unexpended balance of the \$10,000 voted for roads and trails for Cariboo District last Session, before the 30th June next?
2. Is it the intention of the Government to expend the unexpended balance of the \$20,000 voted for the Cariboo Main Trunk Road, before the 30th June next?
3. Has the \$10,000 voted for road machinery last Session been all expended? If not, how much of it remains unexpended?
4. What has been the total cost of the Chimney Creek Bridge and approaches to date?
5. Were any complaints made to the Government against Robert McLaren, former Road Superintendent in Cariboo District? If so, what were they and by whom made?
6. Why was Robert McLaren dismissed as Road Superintendent?
7. Who has charge of the protection work now being done on the Quesnel River at Quesnel?
8. Has anyone other than the person in charge the right to dictate what persons shall obtain employment on said work?

to be a free grant to the city of Victoria of sites for purposes of (a) public buildings, (b) fire hall, (c) three public meeting places, including wharves and piers, upon such terms and conditions as the Lieutenant-Governor in Council may determine.

The remaining portions of the revenue to be disposed of by public auction, and the terms and conditions as to the Land Act.

more than sufficient to pay the salary of the game warden proposed by the present act. It was expected also that by the appointment of a warden more of these licences would be collected, and the revenue would be increased. Information had reached the department that a certain number of non-resident sportsmen came into the province without contributing this fee. At present the enforcement of the law was entrusted to rangers who were not adapted by

interested. Mr. Jos. Martin, who represented claimants in the matter, had advised that he intended to petition for a fiat, but had not done so.

The House then adjourned.

notices of motions.

Mr. Williams gives notice to amend the Provincial Election

Mr. Oliver on Friday next that an order of the House for a return of copies of all correspondence between the government member thereof, and any other persons in respect of the election of Anlay Morrison, K. C., for the House for services rendered.

A meeting of the mining commission called for Friday to consider with reference to proposed amendments to the Placer and Mineral Laws, this a very general impression in parliamentary circles that the laws will not be disturbed in the present session of the House.

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9TH MARCH.

1905

The Hon. Mr. Green replied as follows:—

- "1. Yes, if necessary.
- "2. Yes, if necessary.
- "3. No. \$3,257.30.
- "4. \$76,805.
- "5. No record of any.
- "6. At end of season his engagement ceased.
- "7. R. Rutherford.
- "8. No, except by direction of the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works."

The Report on Bill (No. 18) intituled "An Act to Secure to their Dependents the Wages of Deceased Workmen," was adopted.
Third reading to-morrow.

Bill (No. 19) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Replevin Act, 1899,'" was read a third time and passed.

The Report on Bill (No. 6) intituled "An Act to consolidate and amend the Law for preventing Frauds upon Creditors by secret Bills of Sale of Personal Chattels," was further considered.

The Hon. Mr. Wilson moved to strike out sub-sections (6) and (8) of section 7.
Carried.

The further consideration of the Report was adjourned until to-morrow.

The Report on Bill (No. 8) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Land Registry Act and amending Acts,'" was further considered.

The Hon. Mr. Wilson moved to amend section 52, line 4, after the word "office," by inserting the following:—

"and of any instruments affecting land which are intended to be deposited, filed, kept or registered, upon the same being so deposited, filed, kept or registered, and in the last-mentioned case the copies may be made by or on behalf of the party depositing, filing or registering the same."

Carried.

The further consideration of the Report was adjourned until to-morrow.

Bill (No. 16) intituled "An Act respecting the Songhees Indian Reserve," was committed.
Reported complete without amendment.
Report to be considered to-morrow.

Bill (No. 25) intituled "An Act to amend the Unrepealed Provisions of the 'Assessment Act,'" was read a second time.
To be committed to-morrow.

On the Second Reading of Bill (No. 28) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Game Protection Act, 1898,'" a debate arose, which was adjourned until to-morrow.

Bill (No. 56) intituled "An Act respecting the Brunette Saw-Mill Company, Limited," was read a third time and passed.

The Hon. Mr. Green presented the following Returns:—

Return of copies of all correspondence, reports of agents, and all other documents, from January 1st, 1900, to the present time, relating to the acquirement of a new reservation for the Songhees Indians and their removal from the present reserve.

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Return of copies of the Municipalities acquired by the Government with the Insane Asylum.

Return of copies of grants, or other payments made by Burnaby for land.

Resolved, That

And then the

On Monday
The Hon. Mr. Wilson moved to strike out sub-sections (6) and (8) of section 7.
Carried.

On Monday
The Hon. Mr. Wilson moved to amend section 52, line 4, after the word "office," by inserting the following:—

By Mr. Wilson
1. Is it the duty of the teacher for an average of 2. If not, why not?

By Mr. Wilson
1. By what value of lands granted?
2. What is the value?
3. Is this land to be sold?
4. Are not the lands to be sold?
5. Is it the duty of the teacher for an average of 2. If not, why not?

Mr. Cameron
Act respecting the
Section 2, line, and insert the following:—
To add the following:—
(1.) For the purpose of the public Council.
(2.) By the Council.
The remainder of the Act may be dispensed with under the terms of the Act.

By a free grant of sites for the purpose of schools, or for the purpose of landing places, or for the purpose of buildings, upon the same as the Lands Act, may prescribe.
The remainder of the Act may be dispensed with under the terms of the Act.

The Colonist.

Hon. Mr. Green contended that the amendment was out of order.
Mr. J. A. Macdonald argued that it was incompetent for a private member to introduce a bill relating to revenue or expenditure, but that such a measure

knowledge of game to effect a close observance of its provisions. They looked upon it as an outside matter and one with which they should not be bothered or concerned. With the appointment of a warden these conditions would be the enforcement of the law energetically attended to. The speaker proceeded to an explanation of the clauses of the bill, already been given in the

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9TH MARCH.

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Return of copies of all correspondence between the Government, or any member thereof, and the Municipality of Coquitlam, or any officer thereof, in respect of taxes upon lands acquired by the Government in connection with the establishment of a farm in connection with the Insane Asylum at New Westminster.

Return of copies of all correspondence, documents, agreements, conveyances, Crown grants, or other papers in connection with the exchange of Crown lands in the Municipality of Burnaby for lands in the Municipality of Coquitlam.

Resolved, That the House, at its rising, do stand adjourned until two o'clock to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned at 3:50 P.M.

C. E. POOLEY, *Speaker*.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

On Monday next—

The Hon. Mr. Wilson to ask leave to introduce a Bill intituled "An Act to amend the Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Act."

On Monday next—

The Hon. Mr. Green to ask leave to introduce a Bill intituled "An Act to amend the Highway Traffic Regulation Act."

By Mr. Murphy—On Monday next—Questions of the Hon. the Minister of Education—

1. Is it the intention of the Government to provide in the Estimates for the salary of a teacher for an assisted school at Soda Creek or at Pickard's, Alexandria?
2. If not, why not?

By Mr. Murphy—On Monday next—Questions of the Hon. the Minister of Finance—

1. By what authority was the Order in Council of May 3rd, 1898, fixing the assessed value of lands granted to the Columbia and Kootenay Railway Company at \$1 per acre?
2. What is the number of acres of land affected by this Order in Council?
3. Is this land taxed as wild land or as real estate?
4. Are not lands adjoining this land taxed as wild land at \$10 an acre and upwards?
5. Is it the intention of the Government to cancel the above Order in Council?
6. If not, why not?

Mr. Cameron to move, on consideration of the Report on Bill (No. 16) intituled "An Act respecting the Songhees Indian Reserve," the following amendments:—

Section 2, lines 3 and 4—Strike out the word "such," between the words "upon" and "terms," in the third line, and strike out the words "may be deemed advisable" in the fourth line, and insert the word "follows" at the end of the section.

To add the following as sub-sections to section 2:—

- "(1.) For a free grant to the City of Victoria of the twenty-five acres (more or less) of the Reserve lying to the north of the Esquimalt Road, such land to be used for public park purposes, upon such terms and conditions as the Lieutenant-Governor in Council may prescribe:
- "(2.) By giving to the City of Victoria the first right to purchase or acquire the seventeen and one-half acres (more or less) of the said Reserve lying to the south of the Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway right of way, upon such terms and conditions as may be agreed upon between the City and the Lieutenant-Governor in Council:

By a free grant to the City of Victoria of sites for purposes of (a) public school or schools, (b) fire hall, (c) three public landing places, including wharves and buildings, upon such terms and conditions as the Lieut.-Governor in Council may prescribe:

The remaining portions of the reserve may be disposed of by public auction under the terms and conditions as provided by the Land Act.

the game warden proposed by the present act. It was expected also that by the appointment of a warden more of these licences would be collected, and the revenue would be increased. Information had reached the department that a certain number of non-resident sportsmen came into the province without contributing this fee. At present the enforcement of the law was entrusted to constables who were not adapted by

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incorporate the British Insurance Co. and the Brunette Sawmill Co. reading rose at 4 o'clock.

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THE GAME LAW.

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9TH MARCH.

1905

"(3.) By a free grant to the City of Victoria of sites for purposes of (a) public school or schools, (b) fire hall, (c) three public landing places, including wharves and buildings, upon such terms and conditions as the Lieutenant-Governor in Council may prescribe:

"(4.) The remaining portions of the Reserve may be disposed of by public auction, under the terms and conditions as provided by the 'Land Act.'"

By Mr. Oliver—On Monday next—Questions of the Hon. the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works—

1. Have any lands been reserved in the vicinity of Douglas and Devastation Channels, Kildala Arm, Kitamat Arm, Kitamat River and Skeena River?

2. If so, what lands were covered by such reserve, and what was the date of such reserve?

3. Has such reserve, or any portion of it, been cancelled?

4. If so, when?

5. Have any lands been Crown-granted in such reserved district?

6. If so, to whom were Crown grants issued, and the acreage and date of issue in each case?

7. What was the date of application, the date of advertisement, the date of acceptance of survey, and the amount paid per acre in each case?

8. Have any applications for lands in such reserved districts been deferred or held in abeyance?

9. If so, who were the applicants, the acreage applied for, with the date of the application, and for what reason were such applications refused or held in abeyance?

VICTORIA, B. C.

Printed by RICHARD WOLFENDEN, L.S.O., V.D., Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty.
1905.

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FRIDAY, MARCH

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The Colonist.

FRIDAY, MARCH 10, 1905.

Provincial Legislature

Second Reading of Game Act Moved by the Provincial Secretary.

Amendment Songhees Reserve Bill Ruled Out in the Committee.

A Quiet and Short Sitting— Transacts Only Routine Business.

Thursday, March 9.

THE House assembled at 2 o'clock and after prayers were read by Rev. Mr. Hicks the following was the order of business:

Introduction of Bills.

Dr. King introduced a bill to amend the Supreme Court Act.

Mr. Murphy asked: 1. Is it the intention of the government to expend the unexpended balance of the \$10,000 voted for roads and trails for Cariboo district last session before the 30th June next? 2. Is it the intention of the government to expend the unexpended balance of the \$20,000 voted for the Cariboo main trunk road, before the 30th June next? 3. Has the \$10,000 voted for road machinery last session been all expended? If not, how much of it remains unexpended? 4. What has been the total cost of the Chimney creek bridge and approaches to date? 5. Were any complaints made to the government against Robert McLaren, former road superintendent in Cariboo district? If so, what were they and by whom made? 6. Why was Robert McLaren dismissed as road superintendent? 7. Who has charge of the protection work now being done on the Quenel river at Quenel? 8. Has anyone other than the person in charge the right to dictate what persons shall obtain employment on said work?

Hon. Mr. Green replied: 1. Yes; 2. Yes, if necessary; 3. No, \$3,257.30; 4. \$76,805; 5. No record of any; 6. At end of season his engagement ceased; 7. R. Rutherford; 8. No, except by direction of the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works.

The Land Registry Act was further considered on report and adopted, with amendments.

Songhees' Reserve.

The bill respecting the Songhees reserve was committed, Mr. Ellison in the chair.

Mr. Cameron offered an amendment proposing the following conditions to the bill:

1. For a free grant to the city of Victoria of the twenty-five acres (more or less) of the reserve lying to the north of the Esquimalt road, such land to be used for public park purposes, upon such terms and conditions as the Lieutenant-Governor in council may prescribe:

2. By giving to the city of Victoria the first right to purchase or acquire the seventeen and one-half acres (more or less) of the said reserve lying to the south of the Esquimalt & Nanaimo right of way, upon such terms and conditions as may be agreed upon between the city and the Lieutenant-Governor in council:

3. By a free grant to the city of Victoria of sites for purposes of (a) public school or schools, (b) fire hall, (c) three public landing places, including wharves and buildings, upon such terms and conditions as the Lieutenant-Governor in council may prescribe:

4. The remaining portions of the reserve may be disposed of by public auction, under the terms and conditions as provided by the Land Act.

Hon. Mr. Green contended that the amendment was out of order.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald argued that it was incompetent for a private member to introduce a bill relating to revenue or expenditure, but that such a measure having been brought down, any amendment was in order. Otherwise the commitment of such bills would be a farce. The chairman said that the amendment was out of order.

The ruling was disputed by Mr. Macdonald, and a debate was occasioned in which Messrs. Cotton, Green and the Premier took a part. The point taken by the government was that it was not competent for a private member to bring in an amendment dealing with crown lands.

On an appeal from the ruling of the chair, the ruling was sustained on a show of hands, and the amendment was consequently ruled out.

The bill was reported complete without amendment.

The bill to amend the unrepaid provisions of the Assessment Act passed second reading after a brief explanation of its terms by the Attorney-General. In a word, the bill is designed to allow the reopening of assessments on mining properties, and the correction of same, where subsequent investigation shows that a proper disclosure of assets has not been made.

Game Act.

The Provincial Secretary moved the second reading of the bill to amend the Game Act. In doing so he observed that there were not only ethical reasons for the preservation of the game. There were practical reasons as well. In the state of Maine, for instance, where great attention is paid to the protection of game, and where large numbers of sportsmen annually foregather, about six million dollars is spent every year by parties going there to hunt. In California, which attracts a great number of tourists, many of whom go there to hunt and fish, it was estimated that some twenty million dollars were distributed annually from this source. In settlements on the Nipigon river, a famous trout stream of Ontario, about forty thousand dollars was spent every year by sportsmen, and this was but a small station on the north shore of Lake Ontario. This river, while famous throughout Canada, was not nearly so good for trout fishing as many streams in this province, and if proper attention were paid to the protection of the game, British Columbia might derive not only a revenue for its provincial treasury, but great financial benefits for the people. There were large numbers of sportsmen who came in at the present time for big game hunting and some for feathered game shooting, and there was every promise of a growing trade in this line, if measures were taken to secure the preservation of the game. One of the main principles of the bill was contained in the last two sections, which provided for the appointment of a game warden. Experience had proved that they could not expect to have the game laws efficiently administered until some official was appointed whose exclusive duty it should be to do so. For the present the appointment of only one warden was contemplated, as financial considerations would not allow them to go further at present. He had for many years advocated that a small gun licence be charged in order to provide funds to be used mainly for the protection of game. That did not seem to have obtained favor although he believed there was a certain amount of revulsion of feeling, and that a great many sportsmen of the province were coming to believe that this was a proper thing to do. The Farmers' Institute only a few days ago passed resolutions advocating the imposition of a \$10 licence. He would not go as far as that. Under the present act it was not proposed to charge any licence, but he believed its principle was good. In most of the states of the union a gun licence was enforced for residents as well as non-residents. In this province they already had a non-resident licence, and from that source there was collected last year about \$4,000. This would give them more than sufficient to pay the salary of the game warden proposed by the present act. It was expected also that by the appointment of a warden more of these licences would be collected, and the revenue would be increased. Information had reached the department that a certain number of non-resident sportsmen came into the province without contributing this fee. At present the enforcement of the law was entrusted to constables who were not adapted by

knowledge of game to effect a close observance of its provisions. They looked upon it as an outside matter and one with which they should not be bothered or concerned. With the appointment of a warden these conditions would be changed and the enforcement of the law would be energetically attended to. The minister then proceeded to an explanation of the various clauses of the bill, which has already been given in the Colonist.

Mr. Williams moved the adjournment of the debate.

The bill to incorporate the British Canadian Fire Insurance Co. and the bill respecting the Brunette Sawmill Co. passed third reading.

The House rose at 4 o'clock.

Notes

Some speculation was occasioned in the legislature yesterday by Mr. Williams moving the adjournment of the debate on the bill to amend the Game Act. It was at first thought that he had discovered some objection to the measure, and friends of the blue grouse and the rest of the game family hastened to enquire of the member for Newcastle what the trouble was. It turned out that Mr. Hawthornthwaite, who is an ardent champion of game protection, being unavoidably absent, had expressed a desire to add a word of commendation, and asked his colleague to see that he did not miss the opportunity. The game protection men, therefore, may be advised that there is no occasion for deputations.

The mining committee is scheduled to meet this morning.

It is possible that the bill which has been drafted to amend the Dyking Act will be introduced today. If not, it will be brought down early next week.

Deputations from Sumas are expected here again on Sunday evening to attend the meeting of the private bills committee on Monday, with respect to the application of the Sumas Development Co. for incorporation.

THE GAME LAW.

The Game Act is to be amended in a number of important respects. One provision will be generally commended, and that relates to the protection of the beaver. This animal is rapidly on the decrease and owing to the inroads of Indians, trappers, prospectors and others is liable soon to extinction. The elk is likely, too, to be exterminated and special provision should be made for its preservation. In this connection, the proposal several times made for the setting apart of a tract of land, as a special game reserve, is worthy of serious consideration. The Corbin experiment in the Eastern States has demonstrated what is possible in this way, and it seems to be entirely practicable in British Columbia on a large scale. As pointed out by Hon. Mr. Fulton, game is a valuable asset and should be conserved in every way possible.

The Colonist.

SATURDAY, MARCH 11, 1905.

Provincial Legislature

An Outstanding Bill Contracted by Late Government in Debate.

The Songhees Reserve Bill is Once More Before the House.

Assessment Act Amendment in the Committee of the Whole.

Friday, March 10, 1905.

THE House assembled at 2 o'clock, and after prayers were read by Rev. Mr. Hicks, the following was the order of business:

Mr. Williams introduced a bill to amend the Provincial Elections Act.

Mr. Oliver moved that an order of the House be granted for a return of copies of all correspondence between the government, or any member thereof, and any other person or persons in respect to the claim of Mr. Anlay Morrison, K. C., for compensation for services rendered.

He explained that Mr. Morrison had given certain services in connection with the New Westminster bridge, which occasioned several trips to Ottawa and considerable expense. His bill was disputed by the present government, and as he (Mr. Oliver) understood a petition of right to sue the government in order to have the matter settled by the court had been refused. He thought there could be no objection to the production of the correspondence.

The Premier said there was no objection to the production of the papers. At the same time he questioned the propriety of the member for Delta in allowing himself to be made an instrument in pressing a matter which was now before the executive of the province. This was one of various questions which were outstanding when the present government took office, and they had every right to go carefully in relation thereto. He entertained the highest regard for Mr. Justice Morrison, and believed he had sufficient confidence in the government of the day to believe that his claim would be fairly considered. He scarcely thought that Mr. Morrison would approve of any agitation of the matter.

The Finance Minister explained that Mr. Morrison had sent in a bill for \$3,000, which was considered to be an outrageous charge for the services rendered.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald wanted to know if the claim was outrageous as intimated by the Finance Minister, why the government should refuse to decide in the matter. He considered it was a business matter which should have been settled by the court.

Mr. Wells said he was a member of the government responsible for this account. He explained that the occasion of the employment of Mr. Morrison was a dispute with the Canadian Pacific Railway Co. relative to crossing their tracks at New Westminster. It became necessary to have counsel at Ottawa to bring the case before the railway committee, and Mr. Morrison was engaged. It was found that they had no status before the railway committee, and adjournment of several weeks was necessary during which, although the House had adjourned, Mr. Morrison had to remain at Ottawa. He had also been obliged to go there specially on several occasions subsequently. He (Mr. Wells) was satisfied that the claim was a reasonable one.

Mr. Oliver did not think any improper motive should be attributed to him in introducing the subject.

The Premier assured the member for Delta that no such imputation was intended. He did think, however, that the hon. gentleman was ill advised.

Mr. Oliver thought he was capable of judging for himself in that regard. He wanted to know if it was so that the Attorney-General had intimated some months ago that a fiat would be granted. The Finance Minister should not characterize Mr. Morrison's bill as an outrageous claim without substantial evidence that it was so.

The motion passed.

Songhees' Bill.

Upon consideration of the Songhees reserve bill on report.

Mr. Cameron again proposed his amendment, rejected in committee of the whole, to add certain sections to the bill as follows:

1. For a free grant to the city of Victoria of the twenty-five acres (more or less) of the reserve lying to the north of the Esquimalt road, such land to be used for public park purposes, upon such terms and conditions as the Lieut.-Governor in council may prescribe.

2. By giving to the city of Victoria the first right to purchase or acquire the seventeen and one-half acres (more or less) of the said reserve lying to the south of the Esquimalt & Nanaimo Railway right of way, upon such terms and conditions as may be agreed upon between the city and the Lieut.-Governor in council.

3. By a free grant to the city of Victoria of sites for purposes of (a) public school or schools, (b) fire hall, (c) three public landing places, including wharves and building, upon such terms and conditions as the Lieut.-Governor in council may prescribe.

4. The remaining portions of the reserve may be disposed of by public auction, under the terms and conditions as provided by the Land Act.

The point was again taken that the amendment, inasmuch as it encroached upon the government's prerogatives in the matter of dealing with crown lands, was out of order, and the point was debated at some length by Mr. Oliver, Mr. Macdonald, the Premier and others. The position taken by the opposition was that while the inauguration of such a measure was beyond the powers of a private member, once it was brought down and submitted to the House it was susceptible to amendment upon motion of any member.

The Speaker reserved decision in the matter until Monday, and further consideration of the bill was accordingly stood over until then.

Assessment Act.

The bill to amend the Assessment Act was committed, Mr. Fraser in the chair. This bill provides for the re-opening of mining assessments subsequently found to have been made upon incorrect returns of assets.

Mr. Macdonald argued that it was the assessor's duty to know that returns of assets were correct before the assessment was closed. He proposed an amendment that an additional three months be allowed after the closing of assessments, for the re-opening of same, and the correction of any mistakes, instead of allowing a re-opening of the assessment at any time subsequently, as stipulated in the bill. He characterized the measure as a slap at the mining industry and declared that while the Premier had pledged himself to abolish the two per cent. tax, he was now concurring in legislation to aggravate that tax. He contended that there was punishment provided in the general criminal law for the making of incorrect returns.

The Attorney-General said this was only in the case of wilfully deceptive statements. It gave no remedy where misrepresentation occurred through inadvertence.

Mr. Macdonald contended that the duty of checking returns and proving their accuracy devolved upon the assessors, who were located in the different districts for this purpose. He did not think that because of the failure of an assessor to do his duty, in allowing an incorrect statement to be returned, the mining companies should be subject to the possibility of being held up years afterwards on this account.

The Premier said a large amount of money was owing to the government by the Le Roi Mining Co. but owing to a technicality they were unable to collect the same. The bill was designed to remove this obstacle. There was no intention to make an attack upon the mining industry. He repeated the statement made by the leader of the opposition that he had not kept his word with reference to the two per cent. tax.

ment made by the leader of the opposition that he had not kept his word with reference to the two per cent. tax.

Mr. Macdonald said he would go further and say that the Premier had given a distinct promise to bring in a bill with reference to mining taxation and had not done so.

The Premier reminded the leader of the opposition that there were manifold differences of opinion with respect to a substitute for the two per cent. tax. Any statement made by him in the matter had been given in all sincerity, and there were very sound and justifiable reasons for the failure to bring down an amending measure. He commented upon the desirability of avoiding any disturbance in connection with mining legislation and the apparent inability of representatives of the industry throughout the country to assimilate their views and agree decisively upon any measure of substitution. He again resented the aspersions cast upon his good faith by the leader of the opposition and thought his word would go to the country side by side with that of his hon. friend.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald said the government had a remedy in the courts if the Le Roi Co. owed them money. But by the bill they were endeavoring to place themselves in a position to get what they were not entitled to should the courts decide unfavorably in the matter. As for his allegation with reference to the Premier, he had only stated what was true, and the Premier had acknowledged it. True, he had an excuse to offer, but the Premier was a master of excuses.

Mr. Brown contended that the object of the bill as explained by the Premier was not a sufficient justification for such legislation.

Hon. Mr. Green said the bill could not hurt any mining company that was honest.

The Attorney-General said from the tone adopted in the debate the idea might be taken that the government was endeavoring to extract money from mining companies which they were not entitled to. This was not so. The government only wanted to be protected against errors which might operate to its financial disadvantage.

Mr. Henderson said that on the ground of the understanding of assets, there might be just as much reason for making the bill apply to assessments of farms and personal property as to mining assessments.

The discussion was continued by Mr. Williams, Mr. Oliver and others and finally the amendment was put to the vote and defeated on a show of hands.

Mr. Macdonald continued his objection to the bill, holding that it might work injustice upon shareholders who came in after a certain assessment was made.

The Attorney-General repeated that the bill was simply designed to enable the government to get a remedy in cases where an under assessment was proved to have occurred through the making of incorrect returns by mining companies.

As for the case of the Le Roi Co., the Finance Minister said that the assessor was not aware that he had been misled until he saw the company's statement to its shareholders.

Mr. McInnes moved to strike out that part of the bill which gave the government power to re-assess after an assessment case had been determined by litigation in the courts. He argued that it was a reprehensible principle that the province should step in between litigants in the courts.

The Attorney-General agreed that such interference was bad in principle, but argued that the circumstances justified it in this case.

The amendment was rejected on a show of hands.

Game Protection Act.

Mr. Williams, who had moved adjournment of the debate on the second reading of the Game Act, took occasion to offer a few remarks in favor of the measure. He suggested that steps might be taken to prevent or restrict the carriage of guns by small boys.

Dr. Young took exception to the prohibition against the killing of game by miners, arguing that it would inflict a great hardship upon that class were they debarred from killing game out of season for their own sustenance.

Mr. Oliver pointed out that there was lack of consideration in the bill to the case of farmers, who suffered from the depredations of the pheasants and those hunting them. He remarked upon the ignorance or carelessness of some sportsmen in the handling of guns, reciting cases of injury done to horses and other animals in his district.

imals in his district. The bill passed. The bill to amend the law of evidence was also passed.

Legislation

Prayers by

On the motion of Mr. Williams, the House adjourned until tomorrow.

Mr. Clifford

MR. SPEAKER:

Your Selection

The preamble

(No. 55) "

(No. 57) "

(No. 60) "

(No. 53) "

(No. 61) "

and submit the

All of which

The report

On the motion

That an Order be made between the Government and the claim of Mr. Morrison.

The Report

was considered.

Mr. Cameron

Section 2, in "terms," in the line, and insert

No. 22.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Legislative Assembly of British Columbia.

Friday, 10th March, 1905.

TWO O'CLOCK, P.M.

Prayers by Rev. J. P. Hicks.

On the motion of Mr. Williams, Bill (No. 30) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Provincial Elections Act,'" was introduced, read a first time and *Ordered* to be read a second time to-morrow.

Mr. Clifford presented the First Report from the Railway Committee, as follows:—

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,
10th March, 1905.

MR. SPEAKER:

Your Select Standing Committee on Railways beg leave to report as follows:—

The preambles proved of Bills—

(No. 55) "An Act to amend the Queen Charlotte Islands Railway Company Act, 1901,"

(No. 57) "An Act to Incorporate the Stave River Valley Railway Company,"

(No. 60) "An Act respecting the Pacific Northern and Omineca Railway,"

(No. 53) "An Act to Incorporate the Fording Valley Railway Company,"

(No. 61) "An Act respecting the Kootenay, Cariboo and Pacific Railway Company,"

and submit the same herewith with amendments.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

CHARLES W. D. CLIFFORD,
Chairman.

The report was received.

On the motion of Mr. Oliver, seconded by Mr. King, it was *Resolved*,—

That an Order of the House be granted for a Return of copies of all correspondence between the Government, or any member thereof, and any other person or persons in respect to the claim of Mr. Aulay Morrison, K. C., for compensation for services rendered.

The Report on Bill (No. 16) intituled "An Act respecting the Songhees Indian Reserve," was considered.

Mr. Cameron moved the following amendments:—

Section 2, lines 3 and 4—Strike out the word "such," between the words "upon" and "terms," in the third line, and strike out the words "may be deemed advisable" in the fourth line, and insert the word "follows" at the end of the section.

animals in his district from this source.
The bill passed.
The bill to secure to their dependents
wages of deceased workmen passed.

by casual opinions, even from
the Attorney-General. The courts must
decide, and it is to be hoped that an
opportunity will be taken, by the
constitution of proceedings against some
under the provincial act, to
ascertain just what this legislation is
worth.

ment made by the leader of the opposi-
tion that he had not kept his word with
reference to the two per cent. tax.

Mr. Macdonald said he would go fur-
ther and say that the Premier had given
a distinct promise to bring in a bill with
reference to mining taxation and had
not done so.

The Premier reminded the leader of
the opposition that there were manifold
differences of opinion with respect to a
substitute for the two per cent. tax.
Any statement made by him in the mat-
ter had been given in all sincerity, and
there were very sound and justifiable
reasons for the failure to bring down
an amending measure. He commented
upon the desirability of avoiding any
disturbance in connection with
mining legislation and the apparent in-
ability of representatives of the industry
throughout the country to assimilate
their views and agree decisively upon
any measure of substitution. He again
resented the aspersions cast upon his
good faith by the leader of the opposi-
tion and thought his word would go to
the country side by side with that of
his hon. friend.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald said the govern-
ment had a remedy in the courts if the
Le Roi Co. owed them money. But by
the bill they were endeavoring to place
themselves in a position to get what they
were not entitled to should the courts
decide unfavorably in the matter. As
for his allegation with reference to the
Premier, he had only stated what was
true, and the Premier had acknowledged
it. True, he had an excuse to offer, but
the Premier was a master of excuses.

Mr. Brown contended that the object
of the bill as explained by the Premier
was not a sufficient justification for
such legislation.

Hon. Mr. Green said the bill could
not hurt any mining company that was
sane.

The Attorney-General said from the
one adopted in the debate, the idea
might be taken that the government was
endeavoring to extract money from min-
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titled to. This was not so. The gov-
ernment only wanted to be protected
against errors which might operate to
financial disadvantage.

Mr. Henderson said that on the
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making the bill apply to assessments of
lands and personal property as to min-
ing assessments.

The discussion was continued by Mr.
Williams, Mr. Oliver and others and
finally the amendment was put to the
vote and defeated on a show of hands.

Mr. Macdonald continued his objec-
tion to the bill, holding that it might
work injustice upon shareholders who
were in after a certain assessment was
made.

The Attorney-General repeated that
the bill was simply designed to enable
the government to get a remedy in
a case where an under-assessment was
found to have occurred through the
giving of incorrect returns by mining
panies.

As for the case of the Le Roi Co.,
Finance Minister said that the as-
sessor was not aware that he had been
deceived until he saw the company's state-
ment to its shareholders.

Mr. McInnes moved to strike out that
part of the bill which gave the govern-
ment power to reassess after an assess-
ment case had been determined by litiga-
tion in the courts. He argued that it
was a reprehensible principle that the
state should step in between litigants
in the courts.

The Attorney-General agreed that
interference was bad in principle,
but argued that the circumstances jus-
tified it in this case.

The amendment was rejected on a
show of hands.

Game Protection Act.

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journment of the debate on the second
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to make a few remarks in favor of the
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be taken to prevent or restrict the car-
rying of guns by small boys.

Young took exception to the propo-
sition against the killing of game by
small boys, arguing that it would inflict a
hardship upon that class were
debarred from killing game out of
their own sustenance.

Oliver pointed out that there was
of consideration in the bill to the
farmers, who suffered from the
depredations of the gamesters and those
who hunt them. He remarked upon the
carelessness or carelessness of some sports-
men in the handling of guns, reciting
of injury done to horses and other

The Colonist.

SATURDAY, MARCH 11

Provincial Legislature

An Outstanding Bill C
by Late Government
Debate.

The Songhees Reserve
Once More Before
House.

Assessment Act Amended
the Committee of
Whole.

Friday, March 11

THE House assembled and after prayers by Rev. Mr. Hicks, the order of business was read. Mr. Williams introduced the Provincial Election Bill. Mr. Oliver moved that an House be granted for a return of all correspondence between the government, or any member, or any other person or persons to the claim of Mr. Aulay, C., for compensation for services rendered.

He explained that Mr. Aulay had given certain services in connection with the New Westminster bridge, occasioned several trips to the bridge, and considerable expense. His claim was put by the present government to the right to sue the government, but the matter had been refused. He thought that there could be no objection to the claim.

The Premier said there was no objection to the production of the correspondence of the member for Delta. He said that in pressing a matter which was one of various questions outstanding when the present government took office, and the right to go carefully into the matter. He entertained the claim for Mr. Justice Morrison. He believed he had sufficient confidence in the government of the day to believe that the claim would be fairly considered. He thought that the government would approve of any agreement.

The Finance Minister explained that Mr. Morrison had sent in a claim for \$10,000, which was considered a large charge for the services rendered.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald was asked if the claim was outrageous. He said that the Finance Minister had refused to allow the courts to consider the matter. He considered the matter which should be considered by the courts.

Mr. Wells said he was the government responsible for the claim. He explained that the claim was made by the employment of Mr. Macdonald with the Canadian Pacific Railway Co., relative to the tracks at New Westminster. He said that it was necessary to have counsel at Ottawa to bring the case before the railway committee, and Mr. Morrison was engaged. It was found that they had no status before the railway committee, and adjournment of several weeks was necessary during which, although the House had adjourned, Mr. Morrison had to remain at Ottawa. He had also been obliged to go there specially on several occasions subsequently. He (Mr. Wells) was satisfied that the claim was a reasonable one.

Mr. Oliver did not think any improper motive should be attributed to him in introducing the subject.

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"(1.) For a free grant to the City of Victoria of the twenty-five acres (more or less) of the Reserve lying to the north of the Esquimalt Road, such land to be used for public park purposes, upon such terms and conditions as the Lieutenant-Governor in Council may prescribe:

"(2.) By giving to the City of Victoria the first right to purchase or acquire the seven-teen and one-half acres (more or less) of the said Reserve lying to the south of the Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway right of way, upon such terms and conditions as may be agreed upon between the City and the Lieutenant-Governor in Council:

"(3.) By a free grant to the City of Victoria of sites for purposes of (a) public school or schools, (b) fire hall, (c) three public landing places, including wharves and buildings, upon such terms and conditions as the Lieutenant-Governor in Council may prescribe:

"(4.) The remaining portions of the Reserve may be disposed of by public auction, under the terms and conditions as provided by the 'Land Act.'

A point of order arose, upon which Mr. Speaker reserved his decision until Monday next.

Bill (No. 25) intituled "An Act to amend the Unrepealed Provisions of the 'Assessment Act,'" was committed.

Reported complete without amendment.

Report to be considered on Monday next.

The adjourned debate on the Second Reading of Bill (No. 28) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Game Protection Act, 1898,'" was resumed.

Bill read a second time.

To be committed on Monday next.

The following Bills were read a third time and passed:—

Bill (No. 51) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the British Canadian Fire Insurance Company, Limited."

Bill (No. 18) intituled "An Act to Secure to their Dependents the Wages of Deceased Workmen."

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Resolved, That the House, at its rising, do stand adjourned until two o'clock on Monday next.

And then the House adjourned at 5:35 P.M.

C. E. POOLEY, Speaker.

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Add as section 53 and change numbers of following sections:—

"53. Section 2 of the principal Act is hereby amended by striking out the last clause, and inserting in lieu thereof:—

"Purchaser" shall mean the person who last acquired the land otherwise than by descent or devolution of law."

To add as section 54:—

"54. Notwithstanding anything hereinbefore contained—

"(1.) All those persons who at the commencement of this Act were justly entitled to a certificate of indefeasible title may (if the application be made within two years from the commencement of this Act) apply for and if found justly entitled have granted to them a certificate of indefeasible title:

"(2.) The application shall be made pursuant to the principal Act and the mode of application, the procedure therein, and the rights of the applicant and all others interested in the application shall be governed by the principal Act as it was before the commencement of this Act."

To amend section 56 by adding to the end of the section the words: "save and except section 53, which section shall come into effect on the passing of this Act."

Mr. *Williams* to move, in Committee of the Whole on Bill (No. 15) intituled "An Act to amend and consolidate the 'Public Schools Act,'" to add the following sub-section after sub-section (21):—

"(21a.) All rural schools within the Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway Belt, outside of municipalities, shall, for the purpose of the foregoing section, be considered and classed as 'assisted schools,' but in all other particulars shall be subject to the provisions of this Act."

The Hon. Mr. *Wilson* to move, on consideration of the Report on Bill (No. 7) intituled "An Act respecting the Jurisdiction and Procedure of County Courts," the following amendments:—

To add the following as sub-section (e) of section 116:—

"(e.) In any proceeding before the Court or Judge pursuant to the 'Coal Mines Act,' being chapter 137 of the Revised Statutes of British Columbia, 1897."

To strike out sub-paragraph (b) of sub-section (4), section 144.

To strike out sections 147 and 148.

To insert the following new sections:—

"*Certiorari, Prohibition and Mandamus.*

"125. It shall be lawful for the Supreme Court or a Judge thereof to order the removal into the Supreme Court, by writ of certiorari or otherwise, of any action or matter commenced in the Court under the provisions of this Act, if the Supreme Court or a Judge thereof shall deem it desirable that the action or matter shall be tried in the Supreme Court, and upon such terms as to payment of costs, giving security, or otherwise as the Supreme Court or a Judge thereof shall think fit to impose.

"126. It shall be lawful for any Judge of the Supreme Court, as well during the sittings as in vacation, to hear and determine applications for writs of prohibition to any Court and to make such orders for the issuing of such writs as might have been made by the Supreme Court, and all such orders so made by any such Judge of the Supreme Court shall have the same force and effect as heretofore.

"127. When an application shall be made to the Supreme Court or a Judge thereof for a writ of prohibition addressed to any Court, the matter shall be finally disposed of by order, and no declaration or further proceedings in prohibition shall be allowed. Upon any such application the Judge of the Court shall not be served with notice thereof, and shall not, except by the order of a Judge of the Supreme Court, be required to appear or be heard thereon, and shall not, except by such order, be liable to any order for the payment of the costs thereof;

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The Colonist.

SATURDAY, MARCH 1

Provincial Legisla

An Outstanding Bill C
by Late Governor
Debate.

The Songhees Reserv
Once More Before
House.

Assessment Act Amend
the Committee of
Whole.

Friday, March

THE House assembled
and after prayers w
Rev. Mr. Hicks, th
was the order of busi
Mr. Williams introduced
and the Provincial Election
Mr. Oliver moved that an
House be granted for a ret
of all correspondence betw
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The Premier said there
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Mr. J. A. Macdonald was
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The bill passed.

The bill to secure to their dependents
the wages of deceased workmen passed
third reading.

The bill respecting the manufacture
and sale of explosives passed the com-
mittee stage.

The House rose.

Notes.

The bill introduced by Mr. Williams
yesterday to amend the Elections Act
proposes to reduce the amount of the
deposit required of candidates for the
legislature from \$300 to \$50.

GAME LAW IMPROVEMENT.

General regret has been expressed by
sportsmen throughout the province
that the government has not seen fit
to insert a clause in the proposed
amendments to the Game Act requir-
ing resident sportsmen to take out a
license before killing game. It is felt
that now it is practically assured that
a game and forestry department will be
formed, the imposition of a small license
fee of say from \$2.00 to \$2.50 would
go a long way towards the expense con-
nected with the department and the
carrying out of the Game Act. All sorts
of laws may be passed, but unless they
are strictly enforced they are so
much waste paper. It requires money
to enforce game laws, and not one real
sportsman in this province would ob-
ject to the license were he assured that
the money would go into a fund for the
better protection of game. The license
may be objected to by some people as
being class legislation. This argument
cannot hold water, as in reality the
non-imposition of a license is what
constitutes class legislation in that the
funds for enforcing the game laws,
which only affect a small minority of
the community, viz., sportsmen and
hunters, will then be taken from the
general revenue; whereas if a license
is imposed sportsmen and others who
hunt and fish will pay towards the en-
forcement of the laws for the preserva-
tion of the game for which they hunt
and fish. Nearly all the states of the
Union have a resident game license.
The system has been a great success
and there is no reason why it should
not work equally well in British Co-
lumbia.

With respect to statements which
have recently appeared in the local
press anent the authority of the prov-
ince to enact the legislation of last
season providing a close season for
trout continuing until the 25th of
March, it is somewhat difficult to be-
lieve that the Attorney-General and
his deputy can have been correctly
understood in declaring that the pro-
vincial law is ultra vires and worth no
more than waste paper. Upon such a
constitutional question it is improb-
able that the law officer of the Crown
should venture an off-hand opinion
only to be interpreted as an invitation
to all and sundry fishermen to set at
naught the statute law of British Co-
lumbia. It is possible that the Domini-
on law with respect to trout fishing
overrides the provincial, albeit the
legislation is based upon the bet-
ter understanding of home conditions
and is more in the interest of fish and
fishermen. But this cannot be deter-
mined by casual opinions even from
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decide, and it is to be hoped that an
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The Colonist.

TUESDAY, MARCH 14, 1905.

The Provincial Legislature

Tired Lawmakers Begin Week With Brief and Uninteresting Sitting.

Opposition Try to Retard Settlement of Songhees Reserve Question.

Monday, March 13.

The House assembled at 2 o'clock, and after prayers were read by Rev. Dr. Campbell, the following was the order of business:

Introduction of Bills.

The Attorney-General introduced a bill to amend the births, deaths and marriages registration act.

The Finance Minister introduced a bill to amend the Wellington Receiver-ship Act.

The Minister of Public Works introduced a bill to amend the highway traffic regulation act.

Questions.

Mr. Murphy asked: 1. By what authority was the Order in Council of May 3, 1898, fixing the assessed value of lands granted to the Columbia and Kootenay Railway Company at \$1 per acre? 2. What is the number of acres of land affected by this Order in Council? 3. Is this land taxed as wild land or as real estate? 4. Are not lands adjoining this land taxed as wild land at \$10 an acre and upwards? 5. Is it the intention of the government to cancel the above Order in Council? 6. If not, why not?

Hon. Mr. Tatlow replied: 1. There is no special statutory authority. 2. 132,000 acres (approximately). 3. Taxed as wild land. 4. Lands adjoining the above lands, if wild land, are taxed as wild land at assessed values ranging from \$1 to \$5 an acre, but none as high as \$10 per acre. 5. The subject is under consideration. 6. Answered by answer to question number five.

Mr. Murphy asked: 1. Is it the intention of the government to provide in the estimates for the salary of a teacher for an assisted school at Soda Creek or at Pickard's, Alexandria? 2. If not, why not?

Hon. Mr. Fulton replied: 1. No. 2. There is no probability of an assisted school being established at either place during 1905-06. The application for an assisted school at Soda Creek was investigated by Inspector Gordon, in September, 1904, whose report was unfavorable. The application from Alexandria was investigated about the same time by the inspector, but owing to a disagreement among the patrons as to the location of building it was found impossible to establish it.

Songhees Reserve.

Upon consideration of the report on the bill respecting the Songhees Reserve, Speaker Pooley handed down his decision on the question raised on Friday as to whether it was competent for a private member to move the amendment proposed by Mr. Cameron, respecting the disposition of the reserve lands. In effect he ruled that the amendment was in order, in that it was coherent and consistent with the contents of the bill and did not propose to interfere with the general policy of the government, but was confined to the specific lands dealt with by the bill.

Mr. Cameron's amendment was accordingly put and rejected, the House dividing as follows: Yeas—McInnes, Drury, Murphy, Evans, Tanner, Oliver, J. A. Macdonald, Henderson, Munro, Paterson, Wells, Hall, Cameron—13. Nays—Hawthornthwaite, Williams, Tatlow, McBride, Wilson, Cotton, Ellison, Clifford, Bowser, Fraser, A. McDonald, Green, Fulton, Garden, Taylor, Young, Gifford, Shatford, Grant—19.

The report on the bill was adopted without amendment.

Hon. Mr. Green presented a return of papers respecting the Songhees Reserve.

The Game Act was committed, Mr. Henderson in the chair.

In reply to a question by Mr. Munro the Provincial Secretary explained that the protection to game during close season, would extend to game which might be killed outside the province. In other words the sale of imported game, which came under prohibition in the act would be debarred.

Mr. Brown proposed to reduce the number of deer which one sportsman may kill during a season from ten to three.

This amendment was allowed to stand over for consideration.

Mr. Oliver offered an amendment to make Sunday a close season.

The Provincial Secretary pointed out that the question of Sunday observance had been held to be a Dominion matter.

Mr. Oliver said that a similar provision obtained in the game acts of Ontario and other provinces in the East.

The Provincial Secretary observed that he was aware of this.

The amendment was slated for consideration.

Mr. Hall wanted to impose a gun license of \$2 per year. As the preservation of game was for the special advantage of sportsmen, he thought, they should contribute to the expense of administering the law.

Mr. Tanner approved of this but thought farmers should be exempt from the license.

Mr. Hawthornthwaite did not approve of the gun license. Such a measure as the game act, he thought, could only be satisfactorily administered if it was supported by the good will of the people.

The matter was taken en delibere.

The committee reported progress.

The bill respecting the manufacture and sale of explosives passed third reading.

The bill to amend the Benevolent Societies Act passed second reading, on motion of Mr. Bowser. He explained that abuses had occurred in connection with powers obtained by different "clubs" under this act, in the way of selling liquor and the general conduct of the institutions which were not consistent with the spirit of the act. His amendment simply proposed to authorize the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council to cancel the licenses of such places, where good ground for objection thereto was found to exist. In Vancouver particularly he said the conduct of such "clubs" had become a scandal, and there were quite a number of them, including Chinese and Japanese organizations.

Gallery Notes.

Mr. Cameron gives notice that he will again move his amendment to the Songhees Reserve bill, when it comes up for third reading; and Mr. J. A. Macdonald proposes to move on the same occasion, that "in the opinion of this House, the government should immediately procure a new reserve for the Indians now on the Songhees Indian Reserve, which new reserve should be satisfactory to the said Indians and to the Dominion government, and facilitate the removal and settlement of said Indians upon said new reserve; and that the question of the disposition of the lands now forming the Songhees Indian Reserve be not now considered, but that the same be dealt with by this House at the session of the same following the removal of said Indians as aforesaid, in a manner which will protect the city of Victoria in the matter of park lands; give said city control of part of the southern end of said reserves for wharves and other harbor facilities; provide terminal facilities for transportation companies and conserve the general interests of the province in the premises."

Application is being made to the legislature by the city of Greenwood for leave to make an extension of its water-works system.

Legislature

Prayers by

The following time to-morrow

By the Deaths and M

By the Traffic Regula

By the H Receivership

Mr. Murp

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The Hon.

"(11.) A

Carried.

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Any one of the receivership Act. The Finance Minister to condition years ago, an income of \$1,000 and assets. It had been a receiver. The May last, at the to the pur

No. 23.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Legislative Assembly of British Columbia.

Monday, 13th March, 1905.

TWO O'CLOCK, P.M.

Prayers by the Rev. Dr. J. Campbell, Ph.D.

The following Bills were introduced, read a first time and *Ordered* to be read a second time to-morrow:—

By the Hon. Mr. Wilson—Bill (No. 31) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Act.'"

By the Hon. Mr. Green—Bill (No. 32) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Highway Traffic Regulation Act.'"

By the Hon. Mr. Tallow—Bill (No. 33) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Wellington Receivership Act, 1901.'"

Mr. Murphy asked the Hon. the Minister of Finance the following questions:—

1. By what authority was the Order in Council of May 3rd, 1898, fixing the assessed value of lands granted to the Columbia and Kootenay Railway Company at \$1 per acre?
2. What is the number of acres of land affected by this Order in Council?
3. Is this land taxed as wild land or as real estate?
4. Are not lands adjoining this land taxed as wild land at \$10 an acre and upwards?
5. Is it the intention of the Government to cancel the above Order in Council?
6. If not, why not?

The Hon. Mr. Tallow replied as follows:—

- "1. There is no special statutory authority.
- "2. 132,000 acres (approximate).
- "3. Taxed as wild land.
- "4. Lands adjoining the above lands, if wild land, are taxed as wild land at assessed values ranging from \$1 to \$5 per acre, but none as high as \$10 per acre.
- "5. The subject is under consideration.
- "6. Answered by answer to question number five."

The Report on Bill (No. 6) intituled "An Act to consolidate and amend the Law for preventing Frauds upon Creditors by secret Bills of Sale of Personal Chattels," was further considered.

The Hon. Mr. Wilson moved to insert the following as sub-section (11):—

"(11.) A transfer or assignment of a registered bill of sale need not be registered."

Carried.

The further consideration of the Report was adjourned until to-morrow.

Receivership Act passed second reading.
The Finance Minister explained that owing to conditions in that place some time ago, an indebtedness of some \$45,000 had been necessary to appoint receivers. This appointment expired May last, and in order to give effect to the purpose of the act it was

1905

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13TH MARCH.

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On Mr. Cameron's amendment to section 2 of the Bill, viz.:-

Section 2, lines 3 and 4—Strike out the word "such," between the words "upon" and "terms," in the third line, and strike out the words "may be deemed advisable" in the fourth line, and insert the word "follows" at the end of the section.

The House divided. The amendment was negatived on the following division:—

YEAS:

Messieurs

McInnes,	Tanner,	Henderson,	Wells,
Drury,	Oliver,	Munro,	Hall,
Murphy,	J. A. Macdonald,	Paterson,	Cameron—13.
Evans,			

NAYS:

Messieurs

Hawthornthwaite,	Cotton,	Green,	Young,
Williams,	Ellison,	Fulton,	Gifford,
Tatlow,	Bowser,	Garden,	Shatford,
McBride,	Fraser,	Taylor,	Grant—18.
Wilson,	A. McDonald,		

On Mr. Cameron's amendment to add the following as sub-sections to section 2—

"(1.) For a free grant to the City of Victoria of the twenty-five acres (more or less) of the Reserve lying to the north of the Esquimalt Road, such land to be used for public park purposes, upon such terms and conditions as the Lieutenant-Governor in Council may prescribe:

"(2.) By giving to the City of Victoria the first right to purchase or acquire the seventeen and one-half acres (more or less) of the said Reserve lying to the south of the Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway right of way, upon such terms and conditions as may be agreed upon between the City and the Lieutenant-Governor in Council:

"(3.) By a free grant to the City of Victoria of sites for purposes of (a) public school or schools, (b) fire hall, (c) three public landing places, including wharves and buildings, upon such terms and conditions as the Lieutenant-Governor in Council may prescribe:

"(4.) The remaining portions of the Reserve may be disposed of by public auction, under the terms and conditions as provided by the 'Land Act.'"

The House divided. The amendment was negatived on the following division:—

YEAS:

Messieurs

McInnes,	Tanner,	Henderson,	Wells,
Drury,	Oliver,	Munro,	Hall,
Murphy,	J. A. Macdonald,	Paterson,	Cameron—13.
Evans,			

NAYS:

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Hawthornthwaite,	Cotton,	A. McDonald,	Young,
Williams,	Ellison,	Green,	Gifford,
Tatlow,	Clifford,	Fulton,	Shatford,
McBride,	Bowser,	Garden,	Grant—13.
Wilson,	Fraser,	Taylor,	

Report adopted.

Third reading to-morrow.

The Hon. Mr. Green presented a Supplemental Return of copies of correspondence re Songhees Indian Reserve.

The Finance Minister explained that owing to conditions in that place some years ago, an indebtedness of about \$45,000 had been accumulated by the Government of British Columbia. It had been necessary to appoint a receiver. This appointment expired in May last, and in order to give effect to the purposes of the act it was

The Colonist

TUESDAY, MARCH 14, 1905

The Provincial Legislature

Tired Lawmakers Begin With Brief and Uninteresting Session.

Opposition Try to Retard Amendment of Songhees Res Question.

Monday, March 13. The House assembled at 2 o'clock after prayers were read by Rev. Campbell, the following was the order of business:

Introduction of Bills. The Attorney-General introduced a bill to amend the birth, death and marriage registration act.

The Finance Minister introduced a bill to amend the Wellington ship act.

The Minister of Public Works introduced a bill to amend the highway regulation act.

Questions.

Mr. Murphy asked: 1. By what authority was the Order in Council 3, 1904, fixing the assessed lands granted to the Columbia tenancy Railway Company at \$1 per acre? 2. What is the number of acres affected by this Order in Council? Is this land taxed as wild land or real estate? 3. Are not lands lying this land taxed as wild land an acre and upwards? 4. Is the intention of the government to call above Order in Council? 5. If not?

Hon. Mr. Tait replied: 1. No special statutory authority, 1000 acres (approximately). 2. Wild land. 3. Lands adjoins above lands, if wild land, are wild land at assessed values from \$1 to \$5 an acre, but none as \$10 per acre. 4. The subject under consideration. 5. Answer to question number five.

Mr. Murphy asked: 1. Is the intention of the government to provide for the salary of a teacher for an assisted school at Soda Creek or at Pickard's, Alexandria? 2. If not, why not?

Hon. Mr. Fulton replied: 1. There is no probability of an assisted school being established at either place during 1905-06. The application for an assisted school at Soda Creek was investigated by Inspector Gordon, in September, 1904, whose report was unfavourable. The application from Alexandria was investigated about the same time by the Inspector, and acting on his favourable report the Education Department granted an assisted school, but owing to a disagreement among the patrons as to the location of building it was found impossible to establish it.

Songhees Reserve.

Upon consideration of the bill respecting the Songhees Reserve, Speaker Pooley handed down a decision on the question raised as to whether it was competent for a private member to move the amendment proposed by Mr. Cameron, the disposition of the reserve. He ruled that the amendment in order, in that it was coherent and consistent with the contents of the bill and did not propose to interfere with the general policy of the government, but was confined to the specific lands dealt with by the bill.

Mr. Cameron's amendment was accordingly put and rejected, the House dividing as follows: Yeas—McLennan, Drury, Murphy, Evans, Tanner, Oliver, J. A. Macdonald, Henderson, Munro, Paterson, Wells, Hall, Cameron—12. Nays—Hawthornthwaite, Williams, Tait, McEwen, Wilson, Cotton, Edman, Childers, Brown, Fraser, A. Macdonald, Keesee, Fulton, Gaudin, Taylor, Young, Clifford, Sharf, Grant—13.

The report on the bill was adopted without amendment.

4

13TH MARCH.

1905

Bill (No. 28) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Game Protection Act, 1898,'" was committed.

Progress reported.
Committee to sit again to-morrow.

The Report on Bill (No. 21) intituled "An Act respecting the Manufacture and Sale of Explosives," was adopted.
Bill read a third time and passed.

Mr. Murphy asked the Hon. the Minister of Education the following questions:—

1. Is it the intention of the Government to provide in the Estimates for the salary of a teacher for an assisted school at Soda Creek or at Pickard's, Alexandria?

2. If not, why not?

The Hon. Mr. Fulton replied as follows:—

"1. No.

"2. There is no probability of an assisted school being established at either place during 1905-06. The application for an assisted school at Soda Creek was investigated by Inspector Gordon, in September, 1904, whose report was unfavourable. The application from Alexandria was investigated about the same time by the Inspector, and acting on his favourable report the Education Department granted an assisted school, but owing to a disagreement among the patrons as to the location of building it was found impossible to establish it."

The order for the third reading of Bill (No. 17) intituled "An Act to provide for the Registration of Companies' Mortgages," was discharged and the Bill re-committed.

Reported complete with amendments.
Report to be considered to-morrow.

Resolved, That the House, at its rising, do stand adjourned until two o'clock to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned at 4:05 P.M.

C. E. POOLEY, Speaker.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

On Wednesday next—

The Hon. Mr. Green to ask leave to introduce a Bill intituled "An Act to Establish and Protect Highways."

Mr. J. A. Macdonald to move, on the third reading of Bill (No. 16) intituled "An Act respecting the Songhees Indian Reserve," the following Resolution:—

"In the opinion of this House, the Government should immediately procure a new reserve for the Indians now on the Songhees Indian Reserve, which new reserve should be satisfactory to the said Indians and to the Dominion Government, and facilitate the removal and settlement of said Indians upon said new reserve; and that the question of the disposition of the lands now forming the Songhees Indian Reserve be not now considered, but that the same be dealt with by this House at the Session of the same following the removal of said Indians as aforesaid, in a manner which will protect the City of Victoria in the matter of pack lands, give said city control of part of the southern end of said reserve for wharves and other harbour facilities; provide terminal facilities for transportation companies and conserve the general interests of the Province in the premises."

Application is being made to the legislature by the city of Greenwood for leave to make an extension of its water-works system.

5 ED. 7

The Hon. Mr. Wilson to move, in Act to amend the 'Land Registry Act'—

"(d.) In case the applicant shall only required," or words to

"(1.) Register the title

"(2.) Refuse to register

and in such case the assurance fund fee not be demanded from the applicant."

Mr. Hall to move, in Committee amend and consolidate the 'Public Schools Act'—

Section 2—To insert after the word "name"; and to strike out, on line 15, a same line, after "rent," the word "value." To strike out section 22 and substitute—

"22. The Board of Trustees for each hereinafter provided, by the votes of at least the full age of twenty-one years, or who for the current year, unless exempted by law."

Section 28—To strike out the word in lieu thereof the word "ratepayer."

Mr. Cameron to move, on the third reading of the Songhees Indian Reserve, the following Resolution:—

Section 2, lines 3 and 4—Strike out the words "in the third line, and strike out line, and insert the word 'follows' at the end of the line."

To add the following sub-sections:—

"(1.) For a free grant to the City of Victoria the Reserve lying to the north of the public park purposes, upon such terms as the Council may prescribe:

"(2.) By giving to the City of Victoria a free grant of one-half acre (more or less) of land, and strike out the word 'may be agreed upon between' and insert the word 'shall be granted to the City of Victoria'.

"(3.) By a free grant to the City of Victoria a free grant of one-half acre (more or less) of land, and strike out the word 'may be agreed upon between' and insert the word 'shall be granted to the City of Victoria'.

"(4.) The remaining portions of the reserve shall be disposed of in accordance with the terms and conditions as prescribed in the Act."

Mr. Hawthornthwaite to move, on the third reading of the Songhees Indian Reserve, the following Resolution:—

"provided that any legal rights or interests of any person not prejudiced or affected by such disposal shall be preserved."

Mr. J. A. Macdonald to move, on the third reading of the Songhees Indian Reserve, the following Resolution:—

"That the word 'not' be inserted after the word 'shall' in the first line of the Resolution."

The Finance Act passed second reading. The Finance Minister explained that owing to conditions in that place some years ago, an indebtedness of some \$45,000 and assets amounting to \$40,000, it had been necessary to appoint a receiver. This appointment expired in May last, and in order to give effect to the purpose of the act it was

1905

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13TH MARCH.

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The Hon. Mr. Wilson to move, in Committee of the Whole on Bill (No. 8) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Land Registry Act and amending Acts,'" to add to section 6 the following:—

"(d.) In case the applicant shall mark upon his application the words 'Absolute fee only required,' or words to the like effect, the Registrar may—

"(1.) Register the title in the Register of Absolute Fees; or

"(2.) Refuse to register the title;

and in such case the assurance fund fee and the fee for a Certificate of Indefeasible Title shall not be demanded from the applicant."

Mr. Hall to move, in Committee of the Whole on Bill (No. 15) intituled "An Act to amend and consolidate the 'Public Schools Act,'" the following amendments:—

Section 2—To insert after the word "holds," line 13, the words "in his or her own name"; and to strike out, on line 15, after "a," the words "rental or"; and to strike out, on same line, after "rent," the word "value."

To strike out section 22 and substitute the following therefor:—

"Election of Trustees."

"22. The Board of Trustees for each City School District shall be elected in the manner hereinafter provided, by the votes of any male or female ratepayer, being a British subject, of the full age of twenty-one years, or who is a householder who has paid road and revenue tax for the current year, unless exempted by law from the payment thereof."

Section 28—To strike out the word "householder," after "a," in the first line, and insert in lieu thereof the word "ratepayer."

Mr. Cameron to move, on the third reading of Bill (No. 16) intituled "An Act respecting the Songhees Indian Reserve," the following amendments:—

Section 2, lines 3 and 4—Strike out the word "such," between the words "upon" and "terms," in the third line, and strike out the words "may be deemed advisable" in the fourth line, and insert the word "follows" at the end of the section.

To add the following sub-sections to section 2:—

"(1.) For a free grant to the City of Victoria of the twenty-five acres (more or less) of the Reserve lying to the north of the Esquimalt Road, such land to be used for public park purposes, upon such terms and conditions as the Lieutenant-Governor in Council may prescribe:

"(2.) By giving to the City of Victoria the first right to purchase or acquire the seventeen and one-half acres (more or less) of the said Reserve lying to the south of the Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway right of way, upon such terms and conditions as may be agreed upon between the City and the Lieutenant-Governor in Council:

"(3.) By a free grant to the City of Victoria of sites for purposes of (a) public school or schools, (b) fire hall, (c) three public landing places, including wharves and buildings, upon such terms and conditions as the Lieutenant-Governor in Council may prescribe."

"(4.) The remaining portions of the Reserve may be disposed of by public auction, under the terms and conditions as provided by the 'Land Act.'"

Mr. Hawthornthwaite to move, on the Third Reading of Bill (No. 16) intituled "An Act respecting the Songhees Indian Reserve," to add after the word "advisable," in the 4th line of section 2, the following words:—

"provided that any legal rights or interests of the City of Victoria in the said land are not prejudiced or affected by such disposal."

Mr. J. A. Macdonald to move, on third reading of Bill (No. 16) intituled "An Act respecting the Songhees Indian Reserve," the following amendments:—

"That the word 'not' be inserted after the word 'is' in the first line of the third recital, and again after the word 'shall' in the second line of section 2 of said Act."

The Hon. Mr. Wilson to move, in Committee of the Whole on Bill (No. 8) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Land Registry Act and amending Acts,'" to add to section 6 the following:—

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TUESDAY, MARCH 14

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Question.

Monday, 13

The House assembled at 2 p.m. after prayers were read by Campbell, the following was of business:

Introduction of Bill

The Attorney-General introduced a bill to amend the birth, marriage, registration act.

The Finance Minister introduced a bill to amend the Wellington ship act.

The Minister of Public Works introduced a bill to amend the highway regulation act.

Questions.

Mr. Murphy asked: 1. By authority was the Order in Council, 1898, fixing the assessed lands granted to the Columbia tenancy Railway Company at \$3? 2. What is the number of acres affected by this Order in Council? 3. Is this land taxed as wild land? 4. Are not lands in this land taxed as wild land? 5. Is an acre and upwards? 6. Is the intention of the government to have the Order in Council? 7. Is not?

Hon. Mr. Tatlow replied: 1. No special statutory authority. 2. 000 acres (approximately). 3. Wild land. 4. Lands adjacent to wild land, are wild land at assessed value from \$1 to \$5 an acre, but not as \$10 per acre. 5. The subject under consideration. 6. Answer to question number five.

Mr. Murphy asked: 1. Is the intention of the government to have the estimates for the salary of an assisted school at Soda at Pickard's, Alexandria? 2. Why not?

Hon. Mr. Fulton replied: 2. There is no probability of a school being established at Soda during 1905-06. The application for an assisted school at Soda Creek was signed by Inspector Gordon, in 1904, whose report was able. The application from Soda was investigated about the same time by the inspector, but owing to agreement among the patrons of building it was found to be established.

Songhees Reserve.

Upon consideration of the bill respecting the Songhees Reserve, Speaker Pooley handed down a decision on the question raised as to whether it was competent for a private member to move the amendment proposed by Mr. Cameron, in the disposition of the reserve. He ruled that the amendment in order, in that it was consistent with the contents of the bill and did not propose to interfere with the general policy of the government, but was confined to the specific lands dealt with by the bill.

Mr. Cameron's amendment was accordingly put and rejected, the House dividing as follows: Yeas—McInnes, Dewar, Murphy, Evans, Tanner, Oliver, J. A. Macdonald, Henderson, Munro, Paterson, Wells, Hall, Cameron—13. Nays—Hawthornthwaite, Williams, Tatlow, McBride, Wilson, Cotton, Ellison, Clifford, Brown, Fraser, A. McDonald, Keesee, Fulton, Gordon, Taylor, Young, Gifford, Macfarlane, Grant—13.

The report on the bill was adopted without amendment.

6

13TH MARCH.

1905

Mr. Hall to move, in Committee of the Whole on Bill (No. 28) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Game Protection Act, 1898,' the following as a new clause:—

"No person domiciled in this Province (save those exempted from the provisions of this Act) shall at any time hunt, kill or take any of the animals protected by this Act, without being authorised by licence; such licence to be issued by any Government Agent upon payment of two dollars, and to continue in force during the current game season."

Mr. Brown to move, in Committee of the Whole on Bill (No. 28) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Game Protection Act, 1898,' to amend section 12 by adding, after the word "Schedule," in the fifth line thereof, the following: "by striking out the words 'more than ten in one season,' in the fourth column of said Schedule, opposite the words 'Deer (buck) and Deer (doe),' in the first column of said Schedule, and substituting the words 'more than three in one season.'"

The Hon. Mr. Fulton to move, in Committee of the Whole on Bill (No. 28) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Game Protection Act, 1898,' the following new section:—

"Section 3 of chapter 31 of the Statutes of 1903-4, being the 'Game Protection Act Amendment Act, 1904,' is hereby repealed, and the following substituted therefor:—

"3. It shall be unlawful at any time on Vancouver Island (or the islands adjacent thereto) to buy or sell, to offer for sale or market, to barter for, or exchange any deer, alive or dead, or any portion or part of a deer, or the skin or hide of any deer; and it shall be unlawful to export from British Columbia any deer, alive or dead, or any portion or part of a deer, or the skin or hide of any deer."

Mr. Wells to move, in Committee of the Whole on Bill (No. 28) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Game Protection Act, 1898,' the following as a new clause:—

"Section 9 of said Act is hereby amended by adding to sub-section (b) thereof the following words: "elk, moose or caribou."

The Hon. Mr. Fulton to move, in Committee of the Whole on Bill (No. 28) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Game Protection Act, 1898,' the following amendments:—

Section 10, last line, to strike out the word "that," and substitute the words the "Game Protection Act, 1898."

As new section 2—

"2. Section 3 of said chapter 24 is hereby amended by inserting after the word 'Esquimalt,' in the fourth line thereof, the following words:—"nor in any portion of Victoria Arm between Point Ellice Bridge and the northerly side of the Gorge Bridge."

Mr. Young to move, in Committee of the Whole on Bill (No. 28) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Game Protection Act, 1898,' the following amendments:—

In section 4, line 2—That the words "in mining" be struck out, and the words "in placer mining" substituted.

Section 4—That all the words after the word "thereof" in the second line be struck out.

Mr. Garden to move, in Committee of the Whole on Bill (No. 28) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Game Protection Act, 1898,' to amend section 12 of the "Game Protection Act, 1898," by inserting after the word "prospecting," in the fifth line, the following words: "nor to surveying or engineering parties engaged in their duties."

VICTORIA, B. C.

Printed by RICHARD WOLFENDEN, L.S.O., V.D., Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty.
1905.

Bill by the city of Greenwood for leave to make an extension of its water-works system.

The bill to amend the Wellington Land Act passed second reading. The Finance Minister explained that owing to conditions in that place some years ago, an indebtedness of some \$45,000 and assets amounting to \$25,000 or \$4,000, it had been necessary to appoint a receiver. This appointment expired in May last, and in order to give effect to the purpose of the act it was

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TUESDAY, MARCH 1

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The Attorney-General introduced a bill to amend the birth, marriages registration act.

The Finance Minister introduced a bill to amend the Wellington ship Act.

The Minister of Public Works introduced a bill to amend the highway regulation act.

Questions.

Mr. Murphy asked: 1. By authority was the Order in Council, 1888, fixing the assessed lands granted to the Columbia (enay) Railway Company at \$1? 2. What is the number of acres affected by this Order in Council? 3. Is this land taxed as wild land? 4. Are not lands of this land taxed as wild land an acre and upwards? 5. Is the intention of the government to amend the Order in Council? 6. Is not?

Hon. Mr. Tallow replied: 1. No special statutory authority. 2. 600 acres (approximate). 3. Wild land. 4. Lands adjacent to the railway, if wild land, are taxed as wild land at assessed values from \$1 to \$5 an acre, but none as \$10 per acre. 5. The subject under consideration. 6. Answer to question number five.

Mr. Murphy asked: 1. Is the intention of the government to amend the estimates for the salary of an assistant school at Soda Creek, Alexandria? 2. Why not?

Hon. Mr. Fulton replied: 2. There is no probability of an school being established at Soda Creek during 1905-06. The application for an assisted school at Soda Creek was rejected by Inspector Gordon, in 1904, whose report was available. The application from Alexandria was investigated about the same time by the inspector, but owing to an agreement among the patrons of the school it was found impossible to establish it.

Songhees Reserve.

Upon consideration of the bill respecting the Songhees Reserve, Speaker Pooley handed down a decision on the question raised as to whether it was competent for a private member to move the amendment proposed by Mr. Cameron, regarding the disposition of the reserve. He ruled that the amendment was in order, in that it was consistent with the contents of the bill.

and did not propose to interfere with the general policy of the government, but was confined to the specific lands dealt with by the bill.

Mr. Cameron's amendment was accordingly put and rejected, the House dividing as follows: Yeas—McInnes, Barry, Murphy, Evans, Tanner, Oliver, J. A. Macdonald, Henderson, Miller, Paterson, Wells, Hall, Cameron—13. Nays—Hawthornthwaite, Williams, Tallow, McBride, Wilson, Cotton, Ellison, Clifford, Bowser, Fraser, A. McDonald, Green, Fulton, Gordon, Taylor, Young, Clifford, Shatford, Grant—18.

The report on the bill was adopted without amendment.

leave by the city of Greenwood for leave to make an extension of its water-works system.

VOTES A

Legislative Asse

Tuesd

Prayers by the Rev. J. Campbell

On the motion of Mr. Bowser, Act," was introduced, read a first

On the third reading of Bill (N Reserve," Mr. J. A. Macdonald moved the Resolution after the first word

"in the opinion of this House, for the Indians now on the Songhees to the said Indians and to the Department of said Indians upon said new lands now forming the Songhees Indian Reserve, as dealt with by this House at the Session as aforesaid, in a manner which will give said city control of part of the harbour facilities; provide terminal general interests of the Province in

Mr. Speaker Pooley ruled the already expressed its opinion on the

Mr. Oliver moved in amendment "That" be struck out, and the following be read a third time this day three months

Question proposed, "Shall the vote be and Resolved in the affirmative on the

Hawthornthwaite,	Ellison,
Williams,	Clifford,
Tallow,	Bowser,
McBride,	Fraser,
Wilson,	Ross,
Cotton,	

1887 Act passed second reading. The Finance Minister explained that owing to conditions in that place some years ago, an indebtedness of some \$45,000 and assets amounting to \$3,000 or \$4,000, it had been necessary to appoint a receiver. This appointment expired in May last, and in order to give effect to the purpose of the act it was

[necessary to provide for the continuance]

No. 24.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Legislative Assembly of British Columbia.

Tuesday, 14th March, 1905.

TWO O'CLOCK, P.M.

Prayers by the Rev. J. Campbell, Ph.D.

On the motion of Mr. Bowser, Bill (No. 35) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Dentistry Act,'" was introduced, read a first time and *Ordered* to be read a second time to-morrow.

On the third reading of Bill (No. 16) intituled "An Act respecting the Songhees Indian Reserve," Mr. J. A. Macdonald moved, seconded by Mr. Munro, to strike out all the words of the Resolution after the first word "That," and insert the following:—

"in the opinion of this House, the Government should immediately procure a new reserve for the Indians now on the Songhees Indian Reserve, which new reserve should be satisfactory to the said Indians and to the Dominion Government, and facilitate the removal and settlement of said Indians upon said new reserve; and that the question of the disposition of the lands now forming the Songhees Indian Reserve be not now considered, but that the same be dealt with by this House at the Session of the same following the removal of said Indians as aforesaid, in a manner which will protect the City of Victoria in the matter of park lands; give said city control of part of the southern end of said reserve for wharves and other harbour facilities; provide terminal facilities for transportation companies and conserve the general interests of the Province in the premises."

Mr. Speaker Pooley ruled the motion out of order, on the ground that the House had already expressed its opinion on the same question on 8th instant.

Mr. Oliver moved in amendment that all the words of the Resolution after the first word "That" be struck out, and the following words be inserted in lieu thereof:—"The Bill be read a third time this day three months."

Question proposed, "Shall the words proposed to be struck out stand part of the question," and *Resolved* in the affirmative on the following division:—

YEAS:

Messieurs

Hawthornthwaite,	Ellison,	A. McDonald,	Wright,
Williams,	Clifford,	Green,	Young,
Tatlow,	Bowser,	Fulton,	Macgowan,
McBride,	Fraser,	Garden,	Shatford,
Wilson,	Ross,	Taylor,	Grant—21.
Cotton,			

Partnership Act passed second reading.
The Finance Minister explained that owing to conditions in that place some years ago, an indebtedness of about \$45,000 and assets amounting to \$2,000 or \$4,000, it had been necessary to appoint a receiver. This appointment expired in May last, and in order to give effect to the purpose of the act it was

necessary to provide for the continuance

1905

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14TH MARCH.

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Paterson,
Wells,
Hall,
Cameron—16.

it shall not lodge it with the Registrar, and give notice to the opposite party that it has issued, two clear days before the day fixed for the trial of the action or matter to which it shall relate, the Judge may, in his discretion, order the party who obtained the writ to pay all the costs of the day, or so much thereof as he shall think fit, unless the Supreme Court or a Judge thereof shall have made some order respecting such costs.

"130. No writ of mandamus shall issue to a Judge or an officer of the Court for refusing to do any act relating to the duties of his office, but any party requiring such act to be done may apply to the Supreme Court, upon an affidavit of the facts, for an order or summons calling upon such Judge or officer of the Court, and also the party to be affected by such act, to show cause why such act should not be done; and if after the service of such order or summons good cause shall not be shown, the Supreme Court may, by order, direct the act to be done, and the Judge or officer of the Court, upon being served with such order, shall obey the same on pain of attachment; and, in any event, the Supreme Court may make such order with respect to costs as to it shall seem fit.

"131. When the Supreme Court or a Judge thereof shall have refused to grant a writ of certiorari or prohibition to a Court, or any such order as in the last preceding section mentioned, no other Court or Judge shall grant such writ or order; but nothing herein shall affect the right of appealing from the decision of the Judge of the Supreme Court to the Supreme Court itself, or prevent a second application being made for such writ or order to the Supreme Court or a Judge thereof on grounds different from those on which the first application was founded."

And re-number the succeeding sections.

Carried.

The Hon. Mr. Wilson moved to strike out section 147.

Carried.

Report adopted.

Third reading to-morrow.

The Report on Bill (No. 6) intituled "An Act to consolidate and amend the Law for preventing Frauds upon Creditors by Secret Bills of Sale of Personal Chattels," was further considered.

Report adopted.

Third reading to-morrow.

The Report on Bill (No. 8) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Land Registry Act and amending Acts,'" was further considered.

The Hon. Mr. Wilson moved to add as section 53 and change numbers of following sections:—

"53. Section 2 of the principal Act is hereby amended by striking out the last clause, and inserting in lieu thereof:—

"Purchaser" shall mean the person who last acquired the land otherwise than by descent or devolution of law."

Carried.

The Hon. Mr. Wilson moved to add as section 54—

"54. Notwithstanding anything hereinbefore contained—

"(1.) All those persons who at the commencement of this Act were justly entitled to a certificate of indefeasible title may (if the application be made within two years from the commencement of this Act) apply for and if found justly entitled have granted to them a certificate of indefeasible title:

"(2.) The application shall be made pursuant to the principal Act and the mode of application, the procedure therein, and the rights of the applicant and all others interested in the application shall be governed by the principal Act as it was before the commencement of this Act."

Carried.

The Hon. Mr. Wilson moved to amend section 56 by adding to the end of the section the words: "save and except section 53, which section shall come into effect on the passing of this Act."

Carried.

The Bill to amend the Public Service Act passed second reading. The Finance Minister explained that owing to conditions in that place some towns had an indebtedness of some \$45,000 and grants amounting to \$3,000 or \$4,000. It had been necessary to appoint a receiver. This appointment expired in May last, and in order to give effect to the purpose of the act it was

The House rose.

1905

5 ED. 7

14TH MARCH.

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necessary to provide for the continuance

Mr. *Houston* to move, on the motion "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair," for the purpose of going into Committee of Supply, an amendment thereto, by adding the following words after "Chair":—

"Whereas there are, roughly speaking, 230,000,000 acres of unoccupied Crown lands in the Province of British Columbia. These lands are, in the main, unoccupied and unproductive because they are inaccessible. They are known to contain great resources of iron, coal, oil, silver, lead, gold, copper, and to be covered with limitless quantities of fine timber, besides containing many million acres of diversified farming and grazing land. They only require population, capital and means of transportation. The basis of all industry, the natural resources of the soil, is already there. The problem, therefore, is to provide population, capital and means of transportation for the unoccupied portions of British Columbia:

"And whereas the natural resources of the unoccupied lands, made intelligently available to the surplus population and surplus capital of other parts of the world, may themselves be made to supply the means necessary to provide the railroads, irrigation, canals, and waggon roads, which can alone make them productive. The methods of stimulating railroad construction, so far in vogue, have never gone beyond the idea of burdening the already productive resources of the Province with taxation to open up new districts. It is quite clear that if the natural resources of unoccupied lands could be made the means of building railways to open up these lands, the already productive resources of the Province would not only be relieved of a heavy burden, but the work of development by means of railway construction could be carried out much more rapidly:

"Therefore, be it Resolved, That this House declares the Province of British Columbia should issue 30,000,000 acres of land scrip, carrying with it the right of location on any of the Crown lands which are unoccupied, and the right to everything that is in the land or on it; it should be issued in denominations of 40, 80, 160, 320 and 640 acres, at the uniform price of \$1 per acre; the proceeds to be used (1) in paying off the Provincial debt; (2) providing a school fund; (3) aiding the construction of railways; (4) constructing systems of irrigation canals in the semi-arid districts and in building trunk waggon roads."

The Hon. Mr. *Wilson* to move, on third reading of Bill (No. 7) intituled "An Act respecting the Jurisdiction and Procedure of County Courts," to strike out the last two lines of subsection (1) of section 2.

The Hon. Mr. *Fulton* to move, in Committee of the Whole on Bill (No. 28) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Game Protection Act, 1898,'" the following new section:—

"Section 9 of said Act is hereby repealed and the following section substituted therefor:—

"9. It shall be unlawful for any person at any time—

"(a.) To kill any game bird or animal protected by this Act between one hour after sunset and one hour before sunrise:

"(b.) To buy or sell the heads of mountain sheep, elk, moose or caribou:

"(c.) To use, for taking or killing wild duck of any kind, or geese, any of the contrivances described or known as batteries, swivel guns or sunken punts in non-tidal waters:

"(d.) To expose for sale any deer, mountain sheep, goat, elk, moose or caribou without its head on, or any game bird without its plumage."

Mr. *Henderson* to move, in Committee of the Whole on Bill (No. 29) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Supreme Court Act,'" that the following section be added:—

"3. Section 112 of the said Act is hereby repealed and the following section is substituted therefor:—

"The wearing or use of the customary or official wigs by Judges, Barristers, or Registrars of this Court, during the sitting of the Court, is hereby prohibited."

VICTORIA, B. C.

Printed by RICHARD WOLFENDEN, L.S.O., V.D., Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty.
1905.

The bill to amend the Washington Receivership Act passed second reading. The Finance Minister explained that owing to conditions in that place some years ago, an indebtedness of some \$45,000 and assets amounting to \$3,000 or \$4,000, it had been necessary to appoint a receiver. This appointment expired in May last, and in order to give effect to the purpose of the act it was

The Provinc

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**Tired Lawmakers B
With Brief and Unin
Sitting.**

Opposition Try to Re- ment of Songhees Question.

Monday

The House assembled at 10 o'clock after prayers were read by Rev. Mr. Campbell, the following order of business:

Introduction of

The Attorney-General bill to amend the birth marriages registration act.
The Finance Minister bill to amend the Welling ship Act.

The Minister of Public introduced a bill to amend the fire regulation act.

Questions.

Mr. Murphy asked: 1. Authority was the Order in C 3, 1898, fixing the assessment lands granted to the Columbian Railway Company? 2. What is the number of affected by this Order in Is this land taxed as well real estate? 4. Are not ing this land taxed as well an acre and upwards? 5. Attention of the government above Order in Council? 6. not?

Hon. Mr. Tatlow replied: no special statutory authority. 000 acres (approximate). wild land. 4. Lands above lands, if wild land wild land at assessed value from \$1 to \$5 an acre, but as \$10 per acre. 5. The order consideration. 6. Answer to question number

Mr. Murphy asked: "Attention of the government the estimates for the salary for an assisted school at Pickard's, Alexandria why not?"

Hon. Mr. Fulton replied: 2. There is no probability of a school being established at Soda during 1905-06. The application for a school at Soda originated by Inspector Goldwater, September, 1904, whose report was favorable. The application was investigated about the same time by the inspector, but owing to no agreement among the parties, the location of building it was not possible to establish it.

Songhees-Res

Upon consideration of the bill respecting the Southern Speaker Pooley handed motion on the question raised as to whether it was the private member to move the proposed by Mr. Cameron the disposition of the resolution he ruled that the amendment in order, in that it was consistent with the content and did not propose to interfere with the general policy of the government was confined to the specific with by the bill.

Mr. Cameron's amendment accordingly put and rejected, dividing as follows: Y. Deary, Murphy, Evans, T. J. A. Macdonald, Hendrie, Patterson, Wells, Hall, Hays—Beworthinfwalte, Law, McBride, Wilson, C. Clifford, Bowser, Fraser, Green, Fulton, Garden, T. Gilford, Shafford, Grant.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15

The Provincial Legislature

Opposition Fall In Endeavor Tie-up Songhees Reserve Question.

Bill Finally Passed—Other Measures Advanced—Good Progress Made.

Tuesday, March 14, 1900

The House assembled at 2 o'clock after prayers by Rev. Dr. Campbell, following was the order of business:

Mr. Bowser introduced a bill to amend the Dentistry Consolidation Act.

Songhaas Reserve.

On the third reading of the Songt Reserve bill, Mr. Cameron and Mr. A. Macdonald again proposed amendments, which have already appeared in the proceedings, but the Speaker ruled them out of order on the ground that the House had already expressed opinion in the matter.

Mr. Oliver then moved that "the bill be read this day three months," offering justification therefor an opinion to the bill placed a dangerous power in hands of the government. As a suggestion that this power might be abused avowed that, in the matter of the change of lands, to acquire a farm the Westminster asylum, they had exceeded their statutory powers.

The Premier commented humorously upon Mr. Oliver's seeming solicitude for the interests of Victoria, in contrast to the opinion he gave utterance to on other occasions that its interests were too well served at the Capital. He refused to seek a reason for Mr. Oliver's persistence on this question.

Mr. Oliver did not think his motion should be discussed.

The Premier gracefully consented to withdraw any suggestion of motive, marking that he would let it pass as being a frivolous waste of time and energy more.

Mr. Murphy objected to the bill in principle. He wanted to know if the President of the Council (Mr. Cotter) would have been prepared to give power to the Martin government.

The motion to throw out the bill
put and lost on the following vote:

Against—Hawthornthwaite, William, Tatlow, McBride, Wilson, Cotton, son, Clifford, Bowser, Fraser, Ross, McDonald, Green, Fulton, Garden, son, Wright, Young, Macgowan, 8
ford, Grant—21.

For—McInnes, Drury, Brown, Mc
en, Murphy, Jones, Evans, Tanner,
er, J. A. McDonald, Henderson, M
ro, Paterson, Wells, Hall, Cameron.
The bill was read a third time
ually passed.

Mr. Hawthorthwaite had given notice of an amendment "that any rights or interests of the city of Toledo in the said land are not purchased or affected by such disposal," went it up to the Speaker after the sage of the bill, which had appeared escaped his attention. The amendment was accordingly ruled out of order.

The Colonist.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15.

The Provincial Legislature

Opposition Fail in Endeavor to Tie-up Songhees Reserve Question.

Bill Finally Passed—Other Measures Advanced—Good Progress Made.

Tuesday, March 14, 1905.

The House assembled at 2 o'clock and after prayers by Rev. Dr. Campbell, the following was the order of business:

Mr. Bowser introduced a bill to amend the Dentistry Consolidation Act. **Songhees Reserve.**

On the third reading of the Songhees Reserve bill, Mr. Cameron and Mr. J. A. Macdonald again proposed amendments, which have already appeared in the proceedings, but the Speaker ruled them out of order on the ground that the House had already expressed opinion in the matter.

Mr. Oliver then moved that "the bill be read this day three months," offering in justification therefor an opinion that the bill placed a dangerous power in the hands of the government. As a suggestion that this power might be abused, he averred that, in the matter of the exchange of lands, to acquire a farm for the Westminster asylum, they had exceeded their statutory powers.

The Premier commented humorously upon Mr. Oliver's seeming solicitude for the interests of Victoria, in contrast with the opinion he gave utterance to on former occasions that its interests were only too well served at the Capital. He proceeded to seek a reason for Mr. Oliver's persistence on this question.

Mr. Oliver did not think his motives should be discussed.

The Premier gracefully consented to withdraw any suggestion of motive, remarking that he would let it pass as being a frivolous waste of time and nothing more.

Mr. Murphy objected to the bill on principle. He wanted to know if the President of the Council (Mr. Cotton) would have been prepared to give such power to the Martin government.

The motion to throw out the bill was put and lost on the following vote:

Against—Hawthornthwaite, Williams, Tatlow, McBride, Wilson, Cotton, Ellison, Clifford, Bowser, Fraser, Ross, A. McDonald, Green, Falton, Garden, Taylor, Wright, Young, Macgowan, Shatford, Grant—21.

For—McInnes, Drury, Brown, McNiven, Murphy, Jones, Evans, Tanner, Oliver, J. A. McDonald, Henderson, Munro, Paterson, Wells, Hall, Cameron—16.

The bill was read a third time and finally passed.

Mr. Hawthornthwaite had given notice of an amendment "that any legal rights or interests of the city of Victoria in the said land are not prejudiced or affected by such disposal," and sent it up to the Speaker after the passage of the bill, which had apparently escaped his attention. The amendment was accordingly ruled out of order.

The bill to amend the Wellington Receivership Act passed second reading. The Finance Minister explained that owing to conditions in that place some years ago, an indebtedness of some \$45,000 and assets amounting to \$3,000 or \$4,000, it had been necessary to appoint a receiver. This appointment expired in May last, and in order to give effect to the purpose of the act it was

necessary to provide for the continuance of that appointment, and this was what the bill sought to accomplish.

In the absence of Dr. King, the second reading of the bill to incorporate the Fording Valley Railway Co. was moved by Mr. Brown. He remarked that the proposed railway would be about 90 miles in length and traverse a tract of country in the southeastern corner of the province, possessing large coal areas. The promoters of the road had already expended about \$75,000 in developing their coal deposits, and the railway was needed to assist in opening up this valuable country.

The motion passed.

Mr. Clifford moved the second reading of the bill respecting the Pacific Northern & Omineca Railway, which, he explained, provides for an extension of time for commencement of work, and authorizes a reduction of capital from five to one million dollars. The original charter contemplated construction from the eastern boundary of the province. It was recognized now that this would be covered by the main line of the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway, and as it was not necessary to provide for building that part, the reduction of capital was proposed.

The motion passed.

The motion for the second reading of the bill to incorporate the Stave Valley Railway Co. was discharged and the bill was referred back to the railway committee.

Benevolent Societies.

The bill to amend the Benevolent Societies Act was committed, Mr. Brown in the chair. This bill authorizes the government to cancel the licenses of "clubs," the conduct of which is adjudged to be contrary to the spirit of the act.

Mr. Macdonald suggested that the power to interfere with legitimate societies should not be placed in the hands of the government. It was never intended, he said, that clubs and gambling houses should be incorporated under the Benevolent Societies Act. He proposed an amendment that the power of interference should be restricted to clubs having authorization to sell liquor.

Mr. Bowser contended that this would destroy the bill as there were only a few societies which had permission in their charter to sell liquor. On the other hand, there were glaring cases of abuse, in which the government might justly interfere. He mentioned a list of clubs in Vancouver which were operating under the Benevolent Societies Act, namely, the Elks' club, Unique club, Railway Porters' club, Chinese club, Japanese club, Balmoral club and others. Incidentally he observed that the president of the Railway Porters' club was now doing a term of six months in jail. He observed that in Ontario and other provinces the government was given similar power with respect to organizations.

The Premier agreed with the member for Vancouver. He did not think it was to be feared that the government would take any high-handed action as a result of its powers in the matter.

The bill was reported complete with an amendment that it should apply only to "social" clubs.

The bill to amend the Supreme Court Act passed second reading upon motion of Mr. Brown. It provides that the amount of the deposit for costs occasioned by any appeal shall not exceed \$200.

Mr. Williams moved the second reading of the bill to amend the Provincial Elections Act, which proposes a reduction in the amount of the deposit required of candidates for the legislature from \$200 to \$50. The principle which he offered in argument for the bill was that poverty should not be a bar against admission to the House and that \$200 was an unreasonable obstacle.

The Premier moved the adjournment of the debate.

The House rose.

The Colonist.

THURSDAY, MARCH 16, 1905.

The Provincial Legislature

Railway Charters in Committee of the Whole—Opposition Eccentricities

Government Bills Dealing With Assessment and Dyking Acts Introduced.

Wednesday, March 15, 1905.

The House assembled at 2 o'clock, and after prayers by Rev. Dr. Campbell, the following was the order of business:

Reports.

The private bills committee recommended that the time for presentation of reports be extended to March 29. The report was adopted.

Questions.

Mr. Oliver asked: 1. Have any lands been reserved in the vicinity of Douglas and Devastation channels, Kildala arm, Kitamat arm, Kitamat river and Skeena river? 2. If so, what lands were covered by such reserve, and what was the date of such reserve? 3. Has such reserve, or any portion of it, been cancelled? 4. If so, when? 5. Have any lands been crown granted in such reserved district? 6. If so, to whom were crown grants issued, and the acreage and date of issue, in each case? 7. What was the date of application, the date of advertisement, the date of acceptance of survey, and the amount paid per acre in each case? 8. Have any applications for lands in such reserved districts been deferred or held in abeyance? 9. If so, who were the applicants, the acreage applied for, with the date of the application, and for what reason were such applications refused or held in abeyance?

Hon. Mr. Green replied: 1. Lands have been reserved at Kitamat arm, Kitamat river and Skeena river, but not at Douglas and Devastation channels, or south side of Kildala arm. 2. Reserve of Dec. 27, 1890, embraces a belt of land extending back from the shore line a distance of ten miles on each side of Kitamat arm, to the northward of Kildala arm as far as the mouth of Kitamat river; also a belt of land commencing at the mouth of Kitamat river, thence on a line running northerly up the Kitamat valley to Lake Lakelse, and then by the mouth of Copper river and the Skeena river to the Kitsilas canyon, and having a width of ten miles on each side of said line. Reserve of August, 1901, embraces a belt of land extending back for a distance of ten miles on each side of the Skeena river, between Kitsilas canyon and Hazelton. 3. Yes, a portion. 4. Aug. 9, 1901. 5. Yes. 6 and 7. On extra sheet attached, with details. 8. Yes. 9. M. C. Kendall, 160 acres, Sept. 6, 1896; Chas. W. D. Clifford, 160 acres, Sept. 6, 1896; A. I. Church, 160 acres, April 21, 1896; by notice in British Columbia Gazette; Theodore M. Magnesen, 160 acres, May 26, 1896—held in abeyance pending investigation of claims.

Private Bills.

The bill to amend the Queen Charlotte Islands Railway Co. Act was committed, Mr. Evans in the chair.

Mr. Oliver proposed an amendment providing that all other lines should have running powers over the road on terms considered fair by the Lieut.-Governor in council.

Mr. Clifford thought such a stipulation might hamper the company in securing capital.

The Attorney-General suggested that Mr. Oliver's point was covered in the general Railway Act.

Mr. Oliver said the proposed road was simply to develop the mineral and timber resources of the island. In no sense could it be considered as being in the general interests of the country.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald argued that there were loopholes by which the road might escape the provisions of the general Railway Act.

Hon. Mr. Cotton contended that the proposed line occupied a peculiar position. Conditions were entirely different from what they would be on the Mainland or on Vancouver Island. He did not see why separate charters should be loaded down with conditions provided for in the general Railway Act. It was not likely, he argued, that another railway comparable to this in extent would be built on the islands, and such a provision might enable some other company to take advantage of this pioneer investment so as to escape financial risk themselves.

The amendment was rejected.

Mr. Oliver proposed to change the bonding power of the railway as stipulated in the bill, namely, \$35,000 per mile. The company having the right to build either a narrow or a standard gauge line, he suggested that in case of the former, the bonding power be \$20,000 per mile and in case of the latter \$30,000 per mile.

The amendment was accepted, and the bill was reported complete as amended.

The bill respecting the Pacific Northern & Omineca Railway was committed, Mr. Shattford in the chair.

Mr. Oliver objected to the extension of time provided for the expenditure on the construction of the company's line of railway of ten per cent. of the capital, namely, until August, 1907, and the extension of time for completion of the work, namely, until May, 1909, claiming that the company had not done sufficient work up to the present to warrant such consideration.

Mr. Clifford replied that the company had already expended about \$23,000 in surveys and construction work.

The objection was not entertained. Mr. Oliver wanted to have incorporated in the bill a provision for mining powers for other lines. In this connection he argued that the road would practically constitute a part of the Grand Trunk Pacific system, and that such mining rights would be of mutual advantage to the two concerns.

Mr. Clifford said that such a condition would be a serious handicap. It was not within the power of the House to grant running powers over the Grand Trunk, and if that company were given running powers over this line, the advantage would be entirely one-sided.

Hon. Mr. Cotton said that where the line traversed a pass so narrow that construction of another line was impossible, running powers were provided for in the general act.

Mr. Oliver replied that there was provision now in the statutes under which the present company could claim running rights over the Grand Trunk Pacific.

Hon. Mr. Tatlow said if such an amendment passed, the Grand Trunk Pacific in the event of its acquiring the proposed road would be in a position to claim the subsidy which attached thereto.

Mr. Oliver mentioned the assertion that the road and the subsidy would in any event pass into the hands of the Grand Trunk Pacific, and argued that the consummation could not be prevented by any legislative enactment.

Hon. Mr. Tatlow said his point was that such an amendment might enable the Grand Trunk Pacific to get the subsidy for that part of the present line which might be common to both, and which the Grand Trunk Pacific would have to build in any event. As a matter of utility from a provincial point of view, it did not matter, of course, what company built the line.

Mr. Oliver could not see that this affected his point that running powers for other roads should be provided for in the charter. As for the Grand Trunk Pacific obtaining the bonus for any part of the line, which it might absorb in its main system, that could be prevented by special legislation on the point.

The Premier thought the incorporation of such a condition in the bill would be tantamount to a want of bona fides with the company, who had already expended some \$30,000 on the work, and who were not hampered by such a condition when the original bargain was made.

Mr. Oliver thought it was pertinent to ask if the railway company had lived up to its agreement? They had been in existence five years, had agreed to do certain work in that time and had failed. He could not see that it would be

a breach of faith on the part of the Legislature if it refused to renew the charter on the original conditions. He did not think the company had expended \$1,000 in construction.

Mr. Clifford said that \$19,000 was spent in surveys, \$2,000 in actual construction, and \$1,000 in expenses.

Mr. Oliver replied that many a rancher spent more than \$3,000 in improvements without coming to the legislature at all.

Mr. Clifford did not think the expenditure of money should be so lightly regarded.

Mr. Oliver remarked that the company was capitalized at \$5,000,000 and in five years had only spent in construction work the sum of \$3,000.

Mr. Clifford said the company was now asking to have its capital reduced to \$1,000,000.

Mr. McInnes said he was advised that the company had a Dominion charter. If this were so, the Dominion government had the right to grant running powers to any other line, and there was no occasion for the provincial legislature to enact such a condition.

The amendment was defeated.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald offered an amendment to make operative in the case of this railway that the section of the general Railway Act which has reference to running powers. In doing so he took occasion to comment upon promises of the Premier that he would endeavor to secure railway development in the province, and the failure of the government to formulate a policy in this regard.

The Premier showed that in all his references to the desirability of railway construction he was perfectly sincere, and remarked upon the futility of making any mere pretence of accomplishment by bringing down legislation, which gave no assurance of materialization. The statutes were already crowded with such railway bills, but not a sod had been turned in actual construction. Such legislation might satisfy the opposition, but it would not satisfy the present government. They wanted something tangible, and so soon as substantial contracts were secured, the proposals would be submitted to the House. As for the present company it had shown its bona fides by a large expenditure of money, and he did not think their operations should be hampered by the importation of new conditions into the contract.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald contended that his amendment would not impose any unfair conditions upon the company.

The amendment was defeated, it being noticeable that a number of the opposition, including Messrs. Wells, Hall, Cameron, McInnes and Paterson did not vote.

The bill was reported complete.

Government Bills.

Hon. Mr. Green introduced a bill to amend the Dyking Assessment Act.

Hon. Mr. Tatlow introduced a bill to amend the Assessment Act, 1903; also a bill to amend the Coal Tax Act.

The bill respecting the Kootenay, Cariboo & Pacific Railway Co. was committed, Mr. Hall in the chair.

This bill was in charge of Dr. King, for whom Mr. Brown was acting, and it passed committee without amendment and without discussion.

The Premier pointed out the inconsistency of the leader of the opposition in passing over a bill emanating from his party, after insisting so forcefully upon attacking conditions to those which immediately preceded it.

Mr. Macdonald claimed that he had intended to propose his amendment, but had inadvertently missed the opportunity.

Mr. Oliver endeavored to substantiate this by saying that Mr. Macdonald's amendment had been passed up to the chairman before the Premier spoke.

Mr. Bowser remarked that if the explanation offered fitted the case of the leader of the opposition, it certainly did not suit the case of Mr. Oliver, who had not even remotely suggested that he had any amendments to make to this bill. He went on to philosophize upon the domestic affairs of the opposition party, incidentally expressing a desire to know who the leader really was.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald responded to this by saying that the Premier was a master of claptrap, but that he was excelled by the junior member for Vancouver.

Mr. Brown, in order to assist his leader out of an awkward situation, consented to having the bill recommitted.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald then proposed his amendment, the same as that already defeated in connection with other

bill, to make the provisions with a

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Prayers by th

Mr. Ross pres

MR. SPEAKER:

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report as follows:

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Mr. Oliver ask

questions:—

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4. If so, wher

5. Have any

6. If so, to w

case?

7. What was

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8. Have any

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The Hon. Mr.

"1. Lands ha

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"2. Reserve of

line a distance of

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mat River, thence

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bill, to make the general Railway Act provisions with respect to running powers applicable.

No. 25.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Legislative Assembly of British Columbia.

Wednesday, 15th March, 1905.

TWO O'CLOCK, P.M.

Prayers by the Rev. J. Campbell, Ph.D.

Mr. Ross presented the Eleventh Report from the Private Bills Committee, as follows:—

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,
March 15th, 1905.

MR. SPEAKER:

Your Select Standing Committee on Private Bills and Standing Orders beg leave to report as follows:—

That an application be made to the House for an extension of the time for presentation of Reports to March 29th, 1905.

W. R. Ross,
Chairman.

The report was received.

The Standing Rules and Orders were suspended and the report adopted.

Mr. Oliver asked the Hon. the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works the following questions:—

1. Have any lands been reserved in the vicinity of Douglas and Devastation Channels, Kildala Arm, Kitamat Arm, Kitamat River and Skeena River?
2. If so, what lands were covered by such reserve, and what was the date of such reserve?
3. Has such reserve, or any portion of it, been cancelled?
4. If so, when?
5. Have any lands been Crown-granted in such reserved district?
6. If so, to whom were Crown grants issued, and the acreage and date of issue in each case?
7. What was the date of application, the date of advertisement, the date of acceptance of survey, and the amount paid per acre in each case?
8. Have any applications for lands in such reserved districts been deferred or held in abeyance?
9. If so, who were the applicants, the acreage applied for, with the date of the application, and for what reason were such applications refused or held in abeyance?

The Hon. Mr. Green replied as follows:—

- "1. Lands have been reserved at Kitimat Arm, Kitimat River and Skeena River, but not at Douglas and Devastation Channels, or south side of Kildala Arm.
- "2. Reserve of 27th December, 1899, embraces a belt of land extending back from the shore line a distance of ten miles on each side of Kitimat Arm, to the northward of Kildala Arm as far as the mouth of Kitimat River; also, a belt of land commencing at the mouth of Kitimat River, thence on a line running northerly up the Kitimat Valley to Lake Lakelse, and then by the mouth of Copper River and the Skeena River to the Kitsilas Canyon, and having a width of ten miles on each side of said line.

a breach of faith on the part of the Legislature if it refused to renew the charter on the original conditions. He did not think the company had expended \$1,000 in construction.

Mr. Clifford said that \$19,000 was spent in surveys, \$2,000 in actual construction, and \$1,000 in expenses.

Mr. Oliver replied that many a rancher spent more than \$3,000 in improvements without coming to the legislature at all.

Mr. Clifford did not think the expenditure of money should be so lightly regarded.

Mr. Oliver remarked that the company was capitalized at \$5,000,000 and in five years had only spent in construction work the sum of \$3,000.

Mr. Clifford said the company was now asking to have its capital reduced to \$1,000,000.

Mr. McInnes said he was advised that the company had a Dominion charter. If this were so, the Dominion government had the right to grant running powers to any other line, and there was no occasion for the provincial legislature to enact such a condition.

The amendment was defeated.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald offered an amendment to make operative in the case of this railway that the section of the general Railway Act which has reference to running powers. In doing so he took occasion to comment upon promises of the Premier that he would endeavor to secure railway development in the province, and the failure of the government to formulate a policy in this regard.

The Premier showed that in all his references to the desirability of railway construction he was perfectly sincere, and remarked upon the futility of making any mere pretence of accomplishment by bringing down legislation, which gave no assurance of materialization. The statutes were already crowded with such railway bills, but not a sod had been turned in actual construction. Such legislation might satisfy the opposition, but it would not satisfy the present government. They wanted something tangible, and so soon as substantial contracts were secured, the proposals would be submitted to the House. As for the present company it had shown its bona fides by a large expenditure of money, and he did not think their operations should be hampered by the importation of new conditions into the contract.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald contended that his amendment would not impose any unfair conditions upon the company.

The amendment was defeated, it being noticeable that a number of the opposition, including Messrs. Wells, Hall, Cameron, McInnes and Paterson did not vote.

The bill was reported complete.
Government Bills.

Hon. Mr. Green introduced a bill to amend the Dying Assessment Act.

Hon. Mr. Tatlow introduced a bill to amend the Assessment Act, 1903; also a bill to amend the Coal Tax Act.

The bill respecting the Kootenay, Cariboo & Pacific Railway Co. was committed. Mr. Hall in the chair.

This bill was in charge of Dr. King, for whom Mr. Brown was acting, and it passed committee without amendment and without discussion.

The Premier pointed out the inconsistency of the leader of the opposition in passing over a bill emanating from his party, after insisting so forcefully upon attacking conditions to those which immediately preceded it.

Mr. Macdonald claimed that he had intended to propose his amendment, but had inadvertently missed the opportunity.

Mr. Oliver endeavored to substantiate this by saying that Mr. Macdonald's amendment had been passed up to the chairman before the Premier spoke.

Mr. Bowser remarked that if the explanation offered fitted the case of the leader of the opposition, it certainly did not suit the case of Mr. Oliver, who had not even remotely suggested that he had any amendments to make to this bill. He went on to philosophize upon the domestic affairs of the opposition party, incidentally expressing a desire to know who the leader really was.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald responded to this by saying that the Premier was a master of claptrap, but that he was excelled by the junior member for Vancouver.

Mr. Brown, in order to assist his leader out of an awkward situation, consented to having the bill recommitted.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald then proposed his amendment, the same as that already defeated in connection with other

The Colonist

THURSDAY, MARCH 1905

The Provincial Legislature

Railway Charters In
of the Whole—Opposition
EccentricitiesGovernment Bills De
Assessment and Dy
Introduced

Wednesday, March 1st.
The House assembled at
after prayers by Rev. Dr.
following was the order of
Reports.

The private bills com-
mended that the time for
reports be extended to March
report was adopted.

Questions.

Mr. Oliver asked: 1. Has
been reserved in the vicin-
ity of Kitimat arm, Kitimat
Skeena river? 2. If so, what
covered by such reserve, and
the date of such reserve?
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9. If so, who were the
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were such applications
in abeyance?

Hon. Mr. Green replied:
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mouth side of Kitimat arm
of Dec. 27, 1890, embrac-
land extending back from
a distance of ten miles to
Kitimat arm, to the north
dala arm as far as the
mat river; also a belt of
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thence on a line running
the Kitimat valley to
and then by the mouth of
and the Skeena river to
yon, and having a width
each side of said line. In
1901, embraces a belt
tending back for a distance
on each side of the Ske-
between Kitsilas canyon and
Yes, a portion. 4. Any
Yes. 6 and 7. On extra
with details. 8. Yes.
dall, 160 acres. Sept. 6,
D. Clifford, 160 acres, by
I. Church, 160 acres, by
notice in British Columbia
Theodore M. Magnesen, 160
26, 1898—held in abeyance
vestigation of claims.

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The bill to amend the
Islands Railway Co. Act,
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Mr. Oliver proposed an amendment
providing that all other lines should have
running powers over the road on terms
considered fair by the Lieut.-Governor
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Mr. Clifford thought such a stipulation
might hamper the company in securing
capital.

The Attorney-General suggested that
Mr. Oliver's point was covered in the
general Railway Act.

Mr. Oliver said the proposed road was
simply to develop the mineral and timber
resources of the island. In no sense
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15TH MARCH.

1905

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"Reserve of 1st August, 1901, embraces a belt of land extending back for a distance of
ten miles on each side of the Skeena River, between Kitsilas Canyon and Hazelton.

"3. Yes, a portion.

"4. 9th August, 1901.

"5. Yes.

"6 and 7. On extra sheet attached, with details.

"8. Yes.

"9. M. C. Kendall, 160 acres, 6th September, 1896; Chas. W. D. Clifford, 160 acres,
6th September, 1896; A. I. Church, 160 acres, 21st April, 1898, by notice in British Columbia
Gazette; Theodore M. Magnesen, 160 acres, 26th May, 1898—held in abeyance pending inves-
tigation of claims.

"RANGE IV.

Date of Application.	Date of Advertise-ment.	Name.	Lot No.	Acreage.	Price per acre.	CROWN GRANT.		Date of Acceptance of Survey.	Remarks.
						No.	Date.		
April 10, 1904	May 12, 1898	F. M. H. Raley	305	156	81 00	1915/155	Oct. 12, 1904	Oct. 6, 1904	W. Magnesen, original app.
July 14, 1904	Feb. 10, 1898	Henriah G. Hall	309	127	1 00	1917/155	" 12, 1904	" 6, 1904	

"RANGE V.

Nov. 26, 1897		Geo. L. Anderson	73	160	1 00	1835/147	Mrh. 14, 1904	Jan. 7, 1904	Pre-emption.
May 11, 1897	Feb. 25, 1897	L. M. Clifford and W. A. Robertson	88	124	1 00	1335/114	Aug. 25, 1900	June 9, 1898	Mineral claim.
		Skeena River Min. Co.	71	50 37		630/96	July 9, 1898	Feb. 17, 1898	
			72	51 62		631/96	" 8, 1898	" " "	
May 11, 1897	" 25, 1897	C. Todd, Ed. Donahue and E. C. Stevens	89	166 60	1 00	1334/114	Aug. 25, 1900	June 9, 1897	Mineral claim.
Feb. 21, 1898	Nov. 26, 1897	J. A. Carthew	90	137	1 00	1375/120	Jan. 8, 1901	July 21, 1898	
" 21, 1898	" 26, 1897	Donald D. Mann	91	152 122	2 50	1374/120	" 8, 1901	" " "	
May 10, 1898	Mar. 10, 1898	Hugh Sutherland	92	160 150	2 50	1637/133	Oct. 30, 1902	April 3, 1892	Mineral claim.
" 3, 1898	" 3, 1898	Wm. McKenzie	93	117	1 00	1638/133	" " "	" " "	
" 3, 1898	" 3, 1898	T. G. Holt, Geo. Robinson and W. G. Aveling	94	458 178	2 50	1641/136	" " "	" " "	Mineral claim.
" 3, 1898	" 3, 1898	J. W. Patterson and W. S. Madden	95	310 107	1 00	1642/136	" " "	" " "	
	Sept. 22, 1898	Ernest Temple	96	136	2 50	1639/133	" " "	" " "	Mineral claim.
Aug. 23, 1898	" 22, 1898	Lewis Lukes	97	160	1 00	1640/133	" " "	" " "	
Feb. 17, 1898	Mar. 10, 1898	Kate Robinson	98	130	1 00	1635/133	July 23, 1902	" " "	Mineral claim.
July 25, 1898	May 19, 1898	Geo. Robinson	99	164	1 00	1689/136	Dec. 18, 1902	Nov. 13, 1902	
Sept. 16, 1903	May 19, 1898	L. A. S. Stevens	100	149	1 00	1769/147	July 3, 1903	Jan. 2, 1903	S. A. W. Scrip.
May 3, 1898	Mar. 3, 1898	Geo. Robinson	101	165	1 00	1788/147	Sept. 17, 1903	" " "	
June 2, 1901	" 3, 1898	James S. Murray	102a	160	1 00	1713/136	Feb. 5, 1903	" " "	Mineral claim.
	" 3, 1898	S. Arden Singlehurst	151	160	1 00	192/134	Dec. 2, 1901	Nov. 21, 1901	
	" 3, 1898	Niagara Mfg. & Dev. Co.	153	51 40		2445/140	Aug. 21, 1902	Jan. 30, 1902	Mineral claim.
	" 3, 1898	P. Hickey, Helen Flewin and D. A. Robertson	154	51 65		2446/140	" " "	" " "	
	" 3, 1898	P. Hickey, H. Flewin, D. A. Robertson, George Rudge & E. Donahue	166	51 65		2630/144	Nov. 26, 1902	" " "	Mineral claim.
	" 3, 1898	Gordon Hunter	167	49 35		2640/144	" " "	" " "	
Mar. 8, 1898	Jan. 27, 1898	A. K. Munro	169	51 65		2641/144	" " "	" " "	Mineral claim.
" 8, 1898	" 27, 1898	G. H. Raley	187	160	1 00	1843/155	Apr. 18, 1904	Mrh. 10, 1904	
Mar. 31, 1898	Mar. 31, 1898	Kate Robinson	307	160 157 50	1 00	1916/155	Oct. 12, 1904	Oct. 6, 1904	Mineral claim.
Jan. 28, 1898	Feb. 3, 1898	M. E. Oliver	308	132 2 50	1 00	1919/155	" " "	" " "	
Nov. 15, 1904	Mar. 10, 1898	M. E. Oliver	310	158 1 152	1 00	1961/163	Jan. 27, 1905	Jan. 26, 1905	Not issued.

Bill (No. 55) intituled "An Act to amend the Queen Charlotte Islands Railway Company Act, 1901," was committed.

Reported complete with amendments.

Report to be considered to-morrow.

Bill (No. 60) intituled "An Act respecting the Pacific, Northern and Omineca Railway," was committed.

Reported complete without amendment.

Report to be considered to-morrow.

special legislation on the point.

The Premier thought the incorpora-
tion of such a condition in the bill would
be tantamount to a want of bona fides
with the company, who had already ex-
pended some \$30,000 on the work, and
who were not hampered by such a con-
dition when the original bargain was
made.

Mr. Oliver thought it was pertinent to
ask if the railway company had lived up
to its agreement? They had been in
existence five years, had agreed to do
certain work in that time and had fail-
ed. He could not see that it would be

bill. He went on to philosophise upon
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Mr. J. A. Macdonald responded to this
by saying that the Premier was a mas-
ter of claptrap, but that he was excelled
by the junior member for Vancouver.

Mr. Brown, in order to assist his lead-
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V.

Price per acre.	CROWN GRANT.		Date of Acceptance of Survey.	Remarks.
	No.	Date.		
11 00	1915/155	Oct. 12, 1904	Oct. 6, 1904	W. Magnusen, original appl.
1 00	1917/155	" 12, 1904	" 6, 1904	

V.

1 00	1835/147	Mrh. 14, 1904	Jan. 7, 1904	Pre-emption.
1 00	1335/114	Aug. 25, 1900	June 9, 1898	Mineral claim.
2 50	630/96	July 9, 1898	Feb. 17, 1898	
2 50	631/96	" 8, 1898	" " "	"
1 00	1334/114	Aug. 25, 1900	June 9, 1897	S. A. W. Scrip.
1 00	1375/120	Jan. 8, 1901	July 21, 1898	
2 50	1374/120	" 8, 1901	" " "	"
2 50	1637/133	Oct. 30, 1902	April 3, 1892	Mineral claim.
1 00	1638/133	" " "	" " "	
2 50	1641/136	" " "	" " "	"
1 00	1642/136	" " "	" " "	"
2 50	1639/133	" " "	" " "	"
1 00	1640/133	" " "	" " "	"
1 00	1635/133	July 23, 1902	" " "	"
1 00	1689/136	Dec. 18, 1902	Nov. 13, 1902	"
1 00	1769/147	July 3, 1903	Jan. 2, 1903	"
1 00	1788/147	Sept. 17, 1903	" " "	"
1 00	1713/136	Feb. 5, 1903	" " "	"
1 00	102/134	Dec. 2, 1901	Nov. 21, 1901	"
2 50	2445/140	Aug. 21, 1902	Jan. 30, 1902	Mineral claim.
2 50	2446/140	" " "	" " "	
2 50	2639/144	Nov. 26, 1902	" " "	"
2 50	2640/144	" " "	" " "	"
2 50	2641/144	" " "	" " "	"
2 50	2642/144	" " "	" " "	"
00	1843/155	Apr. 18, 1904	Mrh. 10, 1904	"
00	1844/155	" " "	" " "	"
00	1916/155	Oct. 12, 1904	Oct. 6, 1904	"
00	1919/155	" " "	" " "	"
00	1951/163	Jan. 27, 1905	Jan. 26, 1905	Not issued.

huen Charlotte Islands Railway Company

Pacific, Northern and Omineca Railway.

The Hon. Mr. Green presented to Mr. Speaker a Message from His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, which read as follows :—

HENRI G. JOLY DE LOTBINIÈRE,
Lieutenant-Governor.

The Lieutenant-Governor transmits herewith a Bill intituled "An Act to Adjust Dyking Assessments," and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

Government House,
15th March, 1905.

Ordered, That the said Message and the Bill accompanying the same, be referred to a Committee of the Whole House forthwith.

(IN THE COMMITTEE.)

Resolved, That the Committee rise and report to the House a Bill (No. 39) intituled "An Act to Adjust Dyking Assessments," and recommend the introduction of the same.

Report adopted.
Bill introduced and read a first time.
Second reading to-morrow.

The Hon. Mr. Tatlow presented to Mr. Speaker a Message from His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, which read as follows :—

HENRI G. JOLY DE LOTBINIÈRE,
Lieutenant-Governor.

The Lieutenant-Governor transmits herewith a Bill intituled "An Act to amend the 'Assessment Act, 1903,'" and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

Government House,
14th March, 1905.

Ordered, That the said Message, and the Bill accompanying the same, be referred to a Committee of the Whole House forthwith.

(IN THE COMMITTEE.)

Resolved, That the Committee rise and report to the House a Bill (No. 36) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Assessment Act, 1903,'" and recommend the introduction of the same.

Report adopted.
Bill introduced and read a first time.
Second reading to-morrow.

The Hon. Mr. Tatlow presented to Mr. Speaker a Message from His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, which read as follows :—

HENRI G. JOLY DE LOTBINIÈRE,
Lieutenant-Governor.

The Lieutenant-Governor transmits herewith a Bill intituled "An Act to amend the 'Coal Tax Act,'" and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

Government House,
14th March, 1905.

Ordered, That the said Message, and the Bill accompanying the same, be referred to a Committee of the Whole House forthwith.

(IN THE COMMITTEE.)

Resolved, That the Committee rise and report to the House a Bill (No. 37) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Coal Tax Act,'" and recommend the introduction of the same.

bill. He went on to philosophise upon
the domestic affairs of the opposition
party, incidentally expressing a desire to
know who the leader really was.
Mr. J. A. Macdonald responded to this
by saying that the Premier was a mas-
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The Colonist

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Wednesday, Mar
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The bill to
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Mr. Brown
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the district.
The House

4

15TH MARCH.

1905

Report adopted.
Bill introduced and read a first time.
Second reading to-morrow.

Bill (No. 61) intituled "An Act respecting the Kootenay, Cariboo and Pacific Railway Company," was committed.
Progress reported.
Committee to sit again to-morrow.

Bill (No. 59) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the Golden Light, Power and Water Company, Limited," was read a second time.
To be committed to-morrow.

Bill (No. 53) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the Fording Valley Railway Company," was read a second time.
To be committed to-morrow.

Resolved, That the House, at its rising, do stand adjourned until two o'clock to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned at 5:40 P.M.

C. E. POOLEY, *Speaker*.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

On Friday next—

The Hon. Mr. Tallow to ask leave to introduce a Bill intituled "An Act to amend the Horticultural Board Act."

Mr. Young to move, in Committee of the Whole on Bill (No. 28) intituled "An Act to amend the Game Protection Act, 1898," the following amendment:—

In section 12 to add after the word "swan" in the last line "north of the 55th parallel of latitude it shall be unlawful to shoot or destroy duck (of all kinds), grouse, including ptarmigan, from March 30th to September 15th."

The Hon. Mr. Wilson to move, on third reading of Bill (No. 7) intituled "An Act respecting the Jurisdiction and Procedure of County Courts," the following amendments:—

In section 122, sub-section (3), strike out the last word of the sub-section, the word "sum," and insert in lieu thereof the word "same."

In section 154, line 2, strike out the words "or under section 148."

In section 159, line 6, strike out the words "or under section 148."

In section 160, line 3, strike out the following figures and word, "141 to 154," and insert "147 to 159."

Mr. J. A. Macdonald to move, on consideration of the Report on Bill (No. 55) intituled "An Act to amend the Queen Charlotte Islands Railway Company Act," the following as section 4a:—

"4a. Whenever a line of railway desires to connect with this Company's line of railway it shall have the right to so connect, and whenever a line of railway so connects, and it is proved to the Lieutenant-Governor in Council that from the nature of the country or other circumstances it would be impracticable, except at heavy expense, to build a parallel line, or that the public interests would be better promoted by giving to such Company running powers for their trains over the line or lines of this Company, it shall be lawful to grant such powers under such limitations and conditions as to compensation and otherwise as to the Lieutenant-Governor in Council may seem just."

VICTORIA, B. C.

Printed by RICHARD WOLFENDE, L.S.O., V.D., Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty.
1905.

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tion of such a condition in the bill would
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by saying that the Premier was a mas
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by the junior member for Vancouver.

Mr. Brown, in order to assist his lead
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ed to having the bill recommitted.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald then proposed
his amendment, the same as that al
ready defeated in connection with other

a breach of faith on the part of the Legislature if it refused to renew the charter on the original conditions. He

1905

Kootenay, Cariboo and Pacific Railway

the Golden Light, Power and Water

the Fording Valley Railway Company,"

adjourned until two o'clock to-morrow.

C. E. POOLEY, *Speaker*.

MOTION.

Bill intituled "An Act to amend the

on Bill (No. 28) intituled "An Act to amend amendment :—

the last line "north of the 55th parallel duck (of all kinds), grouse, including

f Bill (No. 7) intituled "An Act respecting the following amendments :—

word of the sub-section, the word "sum,"

under section 148."

under section 148."

ures and word, "141 to 154," and insert

f the Report on Bill (No. 55) intituled "Railway Company Act," the following as

ect with this Company's line of railway it of railway so connects, and it is proved to re of the country or other circumstances o build a parallel line, or that the public Company running powers for their trains to grant such powers under such limita as to the Lieutenant-Governor in Council

to the King's Most Excellent Majesty.

bill, to make the general Railway Act provisions with respect to running powers applicable.

The Premier opposed the amendment on the same grounds that he had taken before.

Mr. Brown explained that he was not personally responsible for the bill, but was simply acting for Dr. King, who had charge of it. As he was not advised as to how the proposed amendment would be regarded by those interested, he moved that the committee rise and report progress, and that the amendment be printed in the meantime. The committee rose accordingly.

The bill to incorporate the Golden Light, Power and Water Co. passed second reading.

Mr. Brown moved the second reading of the bill to incorporate the Fording Valley Railway Co. He explained that the project was to build 92 miles of railway through the southeastern part of the province, which would develop valuable coal, mineral and other resources of the district. The motion passed. The House rose.

the domestic affairs of the opposition party, incidentally expressing a desire to know who the leader really was. Mr. J. A. Macdonald responded to this by saying that the Premier was a master of claptrap, but that he was excelled by the junior member for Vancouver. Mr. Brown, in order to assist his leader out of an awkward situation, consented to having the bill recommitted. Mr. J. A. Macdonald then proposed his amendment, the same as that already defeated in connection with other

The Colonist.

FRIDAY, MARCH 17, 1905.

The Provincial Legislature

Game Act Considered in Committee of the Whole Yesterday.

Other Business Disposed of—A Day of Routine Progress.

Thursday, March 16, 1905.

The House assembled at 2 o'clock, and after the reading of prayers, the following was the order of business:

Bills.

The bill to amend the Coal Mines Regulation Act was committed.

Mr. Hawthornthwaite intimated that he had practically redrafted the measure to meet the objections taken to the bill on second reading, and upon suggestion of Mr. McInnes the committee rose and reported progress to allow the redraft to be printed for the information of the House.

The bill to amend the Supreme Court Act was committed. Dr. King in the chair. This bill provides that the deposit or security for costs on appeals to the Supreme Court shall not exceed \$200.

The Attorney-General asked serious consideration of the point involved. Personally he felt that litigants should be allowed one appeal without costs, but he questioned the propriety of changing the long established rule, which now obtained, that the matter of arranging security for costs should be in the discretion of the judge.

Mr. Bower expressed similar views. The committee reported progress, without advancing the bill.

The bill to provide for the registration of companies' mortgages passed third reading; also the bill respecting the jurisdiction and procedure of County courts; and the bill to amend the Wellington Receivership Act.

The bill to carry out an agreement respecting the incorporation of the city of Fernie was committed. Mr. Macgowan in the chair. Section 10 providing "that the city of Fernie may empty the overflow of any system or drainage terminating in any modern septic tank system into the Elk river, or discharge the same direct into the said river at any point where such river adjoins the city of Fernie," was struck out, objection being taken thereto by Mr. J. A. Macdonald on the ground that public health might be endangered.

The bill was reported complete with amendments.

Game Protection Act.

The bill to amend the Game Protection Act was again committed.

Upon motion of Hon. Mr. Fulton, section 9 was repealed and the following section substituted therefor: 9. It shall be unlawful for any person at any time—(a) to kill any game bird or animal protected by this act between one hour after sunset and one hour before sunrise; (b) to buy or sell the heads of mountain sheep, elk, moose or caribou; (c) to use, for taking or killing wild duck of any kind, or geese, any of the contrivances described or known as batteries, swirl guns or sunken punts in non-tidal waters; (d) to expose for sale any deer, mountain sheep, goat, elk, moose or caribou without its head on, or any game bird without its plumage.

Dr. Young offered an amendment to exempt placer miners from the prohibition of the act.

The amendment was held over for some qualification to be introduced by the Provincial Secretary to prevent abuses of the privilege.

Mr. Hall moved that "no person domiciled in this province (save those exempted from the provisions of this act) shall at any time hunt, kill or take any of the animals protected by this act, without being authorized by licence; such licence to be issued by any government agent upon payment of two dollars, and to continue in force during the current season."

If the committee could not see its way clear to accept the amendment, he suggested that something should be done to prevent small boys using guns.

Hon. Mr. Fulton thought the amendment was right in principle, but considered the time inopportune for adopting it.

Mr. Hawthornthwaite suggested that there was no agitation for a gun licence unless among the knickerbocker class, who would like the privilege of doing all the sporting and leaving the rest of the community to take it out in admiration. He suggested that a tax on knickerbockers would be more in order.

Mr. Bower recalled that last year the fourth member for Victoria had championed the ladies, and now he took to championing the dudes. He approved the stand taken by the provincial secretary.

Mr. Williams opposed the amendment on the ground that it looked to the creation of an exclusive privilege, which was not consistent with the spirit of local institutions.

Mr. Evans produced a petition which reached him last session objecting to a gun licence. It was signed by several hundred residents of his constituency, and he did not think that any change of opinion had since then taken place.

Mr. Paterson saw an explanation for the position of the provincial secretary that the time was not opportune for introducing a gun licence in the stand taken with respect to it by the members for Newcastle and Nanaimo.

Mr. Hall said this was in his mind when he introduced the subject, but he thought, on the other hand, that the government would fall readily into the idea of taxing people as they had been doing.

The amendment was rejected. The Provincial Secretary moved that "section 3 of chap. 31 of the statutes of 1904-5, being the Game Protection Act Amendment Act, 1904, is hereby repealed, and the following substituted therefor:

"3. It shall be unlawful at any time on Vancouver Island (or the islands adjacent thereto) to buy or sell, to offer for sale or market, to barter for, or exchange any deer, alive or dead, or any portion or part of a deer, or the skin or hide of any deer; and it shall be unlawful to export from British Columbia any deer, alive or dead, or any portion or part of a deer, or the skin or hide of any deer." This was carried.

As a return of courtesy to sportsmen resident on the Sound, the Provincial Secretary inserted a provision to enable them to come over and spend a week's shooting on payment of a fee of \$5, a similar condition obtaining with reference to non-residents on the other side of the line. This also carried.

Mr. Hawthornthwaite proposed an amendment to prohibit the keeping of game in cold storage at any time. It was held over for consideration.

The committee rose and reported progress. The order for the second reading of the bill to prevent the spreading of noxious weeds was discharged, and the bill was referred back to the agricultural committee.

Assessment Act.

The Finance Minister moved the second reading of the bill to amend the Assessment Act. In doing so, he reviewed the incidents which led up to the appointment of the commission to assist conclusions as to the best methods of taxation, and remarked that the present bill was, in large measure, based on their report. He explained the various sections of the bill, in line with the resume which has already appeared in the Colonist.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald moved the adjournment of the debate. The House rose.

Notice of Motion.

Mr. Houston gives notice that he will move on the motion, "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the chair," for the purpose of going into committee of supply, an amendment thereto, by adding the following words after "chair":

"Whereas there are, roughly speaking 230,000,000 acres of unoccupied crown lands in the province of British Columbia. These lands are, in the main, unoccupied and unproductive because they are inaccessible. They are known to contain great resources of iron, coal, oil, silver, lead, gold, copper, and to be covered with limitless quantities of fine timber, besides containing many million acres of diversified farming and grazing land. They only require population, capital and means of transportation. The basis of all industry, the natural resources of the soil, is already there. The problem, therefore, is to provide population, capital and means of transportation for the unoccupied portions of British Columbia;

"And whereas the natural resources of the unoccupied lands, made intelligently available to the surplus population and surplus capital of other parts of the world, may themselves be made to supply the means necessary to provide population, capital and means of transportation for the unoccupied portions of British Columbia;

"And whereas the natural resources of the unoccupied lands, made intelligently available to the surplus population and surplus capital of other parts of the world, may themselves be made to supply the means necessary to provide the railroads, irrigation, canals, and wagon roads, which can alone make them productive. The methods of stimulating railroad construction, so far in vogue, have never gone beyond the idea of burdening the already productive resources of the province with taxation to open up new districts. It is quite clear that if the natural resources of unoccupied lands could be made the means of building railways to open up these lands, the already productive resources of the province would not only be relieved of a heavy burden, but the work of development by means of railway construction could be carried out much more rapidly.

"Therefore be it resolved, that this House declares the province of British Columbia should issue 30,000,000 acres of land scrip, carrying with it the right of location on any of the crown lands which are unoccupied, and the right to everything that is in the land or on it; it should be issued in denominations of 40, 80, 160, 320 and 640 acres, at the uniform price of \$1 per acre; the proceeds to be used (1) in paying off the provincial debt; (2) providing a school fund; (3) aiding the construction of railways; (4) constructing systems of irrigation canals in the semi-arid districts and in building wagon roads."

AMENDMENTS TO THE ASSESSMENT ACT.

The promised amendments to the Assessment Act were laid before the Legislature on Wednesday in the form of a bill by the Honorable Minister of Finance. The bill in question, with one or two important exceptions, embodies the recommendations of the Assessment Commission, which were published in full and were dealt with editorially in the Colonist some weeks ago. It is, therefore, quite unnecessary to discuss the matter at any length. So far as practicable the complaints made against the present Assessment Act have been considered and dealt with. A differentiation in wild lands as between lands held for real estate, for speculative and other purposes, and lands that were held for timber and coal purposes, has been made and they have been classified accordingly for assessment. The objection to the assessment of personal property had careful consideration and, although it was found impracticable to do away with it in present circumstances, a reduction has been made to two-thirds of one per cent. of the assessed value with 10 per cent. off for prompt payment. The assessment on income for taxation purposes has also been more favorably adjusted. There are also practical enactments in respect to the preparation of the assessment roll, which will make a more intelligible classification than heretofore, and the schedules have been much simplified. An important recommendation has been adopted, namely, that for the equalization of assessment throughout the Province. Heretofore, as we pointed out on a former occasion, there has been no uniformity of methods adopted and the basis of assessment in one district bore no relation to that in another for the simple reason that assessors did not in any way confer with each other. We had this anomaly presented of a farmer on one side of the district line being assessed for three or four times the value of similar property on the other side. Under the new arrangement, provision will be made for assessors devoting more time to their duties as such than at present and fewer complaints may be expected as a consequence.

Disappointment on account of the omission in its report the grievance of la

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Legislative

Prayers by the

On the motion of Protect Highways," to-morrow.

Mr. Oliver asked questions:—

1. Did the Government in C
2. If so, who was
3. What was the
4. By whom was
5. When was the
6. What was the

The Hon. Mr. G

"1. No.

"2, 3, 4, 5 and

Bill (No. 10) introduced.

Progress reported Committee to sit

The Hon. Mr. G Government, or any of Mr. Aulay Morris

The Report on B was adopted.

Bill read a third

Bill (No. 29) introduced Progress reported Committee to sit

Bill (No. 17) introduced was read a third time

There were seven

the Government. On made some time a used to assume the and give back to the the land free of the dyking of the dyking was obviously una which has duty over that p country. The to take its

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"Therefore be it resolved, that this House declares the province of British Columbia should issue 30,000,000 acres of land scrip, carrying with it the right of location on any of the crown lands which are unoccupied, and the right to everything that is in the land or on it; should be issued in denominations of 0, 80, 160, 320 and 640 acres, at the uniform price of \$1 per acre; the proceeds to be used (1) in paying off the provincial debt; (2) providing a school fund; (3) aiding the construction of railways; (4) constructing systems of irrigation canals in the semi-arid districts and in building wagon roads."

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Disappointment has been expressed on account of the fact that the commission in its report did not deal with the grievance of land-holders in re-

confiscate the lands for such arrears of assessment charges. The latter course, it was felt, would have entailed a great hardship on the land-holders and the Government, though

No. 26

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Legislative Assembly of British Columbia.

Thursday, 16th March, 1905.

TWO O'CLOCK, P.M.

Prayers by the Rev. J. Campbell, Ph.D.

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. Green, Bill (No. 38) intituled "An Act to Establish and Protect Highways," was introduced, read a first time and *Ordered* to be read a second time to-morrow.

Mr. Oliver asked the Hon. the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works the following questions:—

1. Did the Government employ a surveyor to define the boundaries of lands acquired by the Government in Coquitlam Municipality?
2. If so, who was the surveyor employed?
3. What was the cost of the work?
4. By whom was the cost paid or to be paid?
5. When was the survey completed?
6. What was the object of such survey, with a statement of the work actually done?

The Hon. Mr. Green replied as follows:—

- "1. No.
"2, 3, 4, 5 and 6. Answered by No. 1."

Bill (No. 10) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Coal Mines Regulation Act,'" was again committed.

Progress reported.
Committee to sit again to-morrow.

The Hon. Mr. Green presented a Return of copies of all correspondence between the Government, or any member thereof, and any other person or persons, in respect to the claim of Mr. Aulay Morrison, K. C., for compensation for services rendered.

The Report on Bill (No. 27) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Benevolent Societies Act,'" was adopted.

Bill read a third time and passed.

Bill (No. 29) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Supreme Court Act,'" was committed.
Progress reported.
Committee to sit again to-morrow.

Bill (No. 17) intituled "An Act to provide for the Registration of Companies' Mortgages," was read a third time and passed.

Business is finished.

There were several courses open to the Government. One was the proposal made some time ago to the Government to assume the entire obligation and give back to the settlers one-half of the land free of obligations on account of the dyking. This would have been obviously unfair to the rest of the Province which has assumed so large a liability over that particular section of the country. The other was to allow the Government to take its course and sell or

paid each year the land charged with the liability shall be sold in the same manner as in the ordinary tax sales, the Government taking away its own power to exercise further leniency. We trust, however, that, with the greatly improved conditions of agriculture in the Province and the active demand for land, the settlers may be able to meet the new situation successfully and dispose of or otherwise utilize their land without further loss to themselves or the Government.

The Colonist.

FRIDAY, MARCH 17,

The Provincial Legislature

Game Act Considered
Committee of the V
Yesterday.

Other Business Disposed
A Day of Routine
Progress.

Thursday, March

The House assembled at 2
after the reading of prayers
and the order of business
was read.

The bill to amend the
Regulation Act was committed
to the committee. Mr. Hawthornthwaite
in his report had practically redrafted
to meet the objections taken
on second reading, and upon
of Mr. McInnes the committee
reported progress to allow it
be printed for the information
of the House.

The bill to amend the Supreme
Court Act was committed, Dr. J.
chair. This bill provides for
deposit or security for costs of
the Supreme Court shall be
\$200.

The Attorney-General as
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without advancing the bill.

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jurisdiction and procedure
courts; and the bill to amend
Hawthornthwaite Act.

The bill to carry out an
respecting the incorporation
of Fernie was committed, Dr.
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same direct into the said
point where such river adjo
of Fernie," was struck off
being taken thereto by Mr.
donald on the ground that
might be endangered.

The bill was reported
amendments.

Game Protection

The bill to amend the Game
Act was again committed.

Upon motion of Hon. Mr.
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section substituted therefor:

—(a) to kill any game bird
protected by this act between
after sunset and one hour
rise; (b) to buy or sell the
mountain sheep, elk, moose
(c) to use, for taking or killing
of any kind, or fence, any
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deer, mountain sheep, goat
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Dr. Young offered an amendment
to exempt placer miners from the prohibition
of the act.

The amendment was held over for
some qualification to be introduced by
the Provincial Secretary to prevent
abuse of the privilege.

Mr. Hall moved that "no person
exempted in this province (save those ex-
empted from the provisions of this act)
shall at any time hunt, kill or take any
of the animals protected by this act,
without being authorized by licence; such
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agent upon payment of two dollars, and
to continue in force during the current
game season."

If the committee could not see its way
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Hon. Mr. Fulton thought the amend-
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"And whereas the natural resources
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tion and surplus capital of other parts
of the world, may themselves be made
to supply the means necessary to pro-

Disappointment
on account of the
mission in its re-
the grievance of

2

16TH MARCH.

1905

5 ED. 7

On the third reading of Bill (No. 6) intituled "An Act to consolidate and amend the Law for preventing Frauds upon Creditors by secret Bills of Sale of Personal Chattels," the Hon. Mr. Wilson moved to amend section 3, lines 22 and 23, by striking out the words "Act, 1897, Amendment Act, 1905," and inserting the words "Mortgages Registration Act."

Carried.

Bill read a third time and passed.

The Report on Bill (No. 8) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Land Registry Act and amending Acts,'" was further considered.

The Hon. Mr. Wilson moved to add the following as sub-section (d) to section 6:—

"(d) In case the applicant shall mark upon his application the words 'Absolute fee only required,' or words to the like effect, the Registrar may—

"(1) Register the title in the Register of Absolute Fees; or

"(2) Refuse to register the title;

and in such case the Assurance Fund fee and the fee for a Certificate of Indefeasible Title shall not be demanded from the applicant."

Carried.

The further consideration of the Report was adjourned.

Mr. Ellison presented the Second Report from the Select Standing Committee on Agriculture, as follows:—

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,

March 15th, 1905.

MR. SPEAKER:

Your Select Standing Committee on Agriculture beg leave to report as follows:—

Moved by Mr. Shatford, seconded by Mr. Evans—That whereas "An Act respecting the Inspection and Sale of Seeds" has been passed by the Federal Government, which Act covers the matter dealt with by Bill (No. 3) before this House:

Therefore be it Resolved, That this Committee recommends the discharge of Bill (No. 3) intituled "An Act to prevent the spreading of Noxious Weeds," from the Order Paper.

Carried.

PRICE ELLISON,

Chairman.

The report was received.

The Report on Bill (No. 33) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Wellington Receivership Act, 1901,'" was adopted.

Bill read a third time and passed.

Bill (No. 24) intituled "An Act to carry out an Agreement respecting the Incorporation of the City of Fernie," was again committed.

Reported complete with amendments.

Report to be considered to-morrow.

Bill (No. 28) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Game Protection Act, 1898,'" was again committed.

Progress reported.

Committee to sit again to-morrow.

The order for the second reading of Bill (No. 3) intituled "An Act to prevent the Spreading of Noxious Weeds," was discharged and the Bill withdrawn.

On the second reading of Bill (No. 36) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Assessment Act, 1903,'" a debate arose, which was adjourned until to-morrow.

Bill (No. 37) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Coal Tax Act,'" was read a second time. To be committed to-morrow.

Columbia. These lands are, in the main, unoccupied and unproductive because they are inaccessible. They are known to contain great resources of iron, coal, oil, silver, lead, gold, copper, and to be covered with limitless quantities of fine timber, besides containing many million acres of diversified farming and grazing land. They only require population, capital and means of transportation. The basis of all industry, the natural resources of the soil, is already there. The problem, therefore, is to provide population, capital and means of transportation for the unoccupied portions of British Columbia;

and the basis of assessment in one district bore no relation to that in another for the simple reason that assessors did not in any way confer with each other. We had this anomaly presented of a farmer on one side of the district line being assessed for three or four times the value of similar property on the other side. Under the new arrangement, provision will be made for assessors devoting more time to their duties as such than at present and fewer complaints may be expected as a consequence.

The Report of
Railway Company
Third reading

The Report of
Omineca Railway,
Third reading

Bill (No. 61)
Company," was again
Reported complete
Report to be

Resolved, That

And then the

On Monday
Mr. J. A. M.
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On Monday
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By Mr. Oliver

1. What is

2. What is

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1. What was

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In section 5

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1905

Act to consolidate and amend the Law of Sale of Personal Chattels," the Hon. [Name] striking out the words "Act, 1897," and inserting "Land Registry Act."

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of Absolute Fees; or

Certificate of Indefeasible Title shall

ned.

elect Standing Committee on Agricul-

COMMITTEE ROOM,

March 15th, 1905.

g leave to report as follows:—

that whereas "An Act respecting the Federal Government, which Act covers

ommends the discharge of Bill (No. 3) "Weeds," from the Order Paper.

PRICE ELLISON,

Chairman.

amend the 'Wellington Receivership

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n Act to amend the 'Assessment Act, 1897,"

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Disappointment has been expressed on account of the fact that the commission in its report did not deal with the grievance of land-holders in re-

confiscate the lands for such arrears of assessment charges. The latter course, it was felt, would have entailed a great hardship on the land-holders and the Government though

5 ED. 7

16TH MARCH.

3

The Report on Bill (No. 55) intituled "An Act to amend the Queen Charlotte Islands Railway Company Act, 1901," was considered and adopted.
Third reading to-morrow.

The Report on Bill (No. 60) intituled "An Act respecting the Pacific, Northern and Omineca Railway," was adopted.
Third reading to-morrow.

Bill (No. 61) intituled "An Act respecting the Kootenay, Cariboo and Pacific Railway Company," was again committed.
Reported complete without amendment.
Report to be considered to-morrow.

Resolved, That the House, at its rising, do stand adjourned until two o'clock to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned at 5:30 P.M.

C. E. POOLEY, *Speaker*.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

On Monday next—

Mr. J. A. Macdonald to ask leave to introduce a Bill intituled "The Workmen's Compensation Act Amendment Act, 1905."

On Monday next—

Mr. J. A. Macdonald to ask leave to introduce a Bill intituled "The Railway Act Amendment Act, 1905."

By Mr. Oliver—On Monday next—Questions of the Hon. the Minister of Finance—

1. What is the rate of interest paid on overdraft on dying account?
2. What is the amount of interest due to December 31st (by districts) on dying account?

By Mr. Oliver—On Monday next—Questions of the Hon. the Attorney-General—

1. What was the total cost to the Government of the prosecution of Dr. Telford at the Vancouver Assizes?
2. What was the total amount paid for legal advice and legal services in connection with the prosecution of Dr. Telford, and to whom was this money paid?

Mr. Hawthorthwaite to move, in Committee of the Whole on Bill (No. 36) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Assessment Act, 1903,'" the following amendments:—

In section 5, line 5, to strike out the words "one per cent. upon the assessed value of real estate," and substitute the following:—

"Three-fifths of one per cent. upon real estate of the assessed value of \$2,000, and one per cent. upon the assessed value of all real estate over the assessed value of \$2,000.

In section 5, line 36, to strike out the words "of not less than twenty acres in extent."

Mr. Young to move, in Committee of the Whole on Bill (No. 28) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Game Protection Act, 1898,'" the following amendments:—

To add as a new section, following section 12, and numbered section 13:—

"13. Section 10 of said Act is hereby amended by adding: 'except that north of the 55th parallel of latitude it shall be unlawful to shoot or destroy duck (of all kinds), grouse, including ptarmigan, from March 30th to September 15th,' and re-number the succeeding sections."

and the basis of assessment in one district bore no relation to that in another for the simple reason that assessors did not in any way confer with each other. We had this anomaly presented of a farmer on one side of the district line being assessed for three or four times the value of similar property on the other side. Under the new arrangement, provision will be made for assessors devoting more time to their duties as such than at present and fewer complaints may be expected as consequence.

over \$2,000, while the total amount of arrearages is \$212,400.

There were several courses open to the Government. One was the proposal made some time ago to the Government to assume the entire obligation and give back to the settlers one-half of the land free of obligations on account of the dyking. This would have been obviously unfair to the rest of the province which has assumed so large a liability over that particular section of the country. The other was to allow the law to take its course and sell or

paid each year the land charged with the liability shall be sold in the same manner as in the ordinary tax sales, the Government taking away its own power to exercise further leniency. We trust, however, that, with the greatly improved conditions of agriculture in the Province and the active demand for land, the settlers may be able to meet the new situation successfully and dispose of or otherwise utilize their land without further loss to themselves or the Government.

"And whereas the natural resources of the unoccupied lands, made intelligently available to the surplus population and surplus capital of other parts of the world, may themselves be made to supply the means necessary to pro-

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1905

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ending Acts," the following amendments:—
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Form B" the words "of the principal Act."

H. C.
ter to the King's Most Excellent Majesty.

Disappointment has been expressed on account of the fact that the commission in its report did not deal with the grievance of land-holders in respect to land being divided up into small holdings, whereby the assessment of the latter was greatly increased over what it was originally when en bloc. That fact was pointed to as a distinct discouragement to the principle of small holdings so essential to the settlement of the country. However, it was felt that this was something relating to the administration, rather than to the principle of the Act, and, doubtless, as a result of the annual conference of assessors and representations from the Department of Finance something will be done to remedy what is obviously opposed to sound principles of taxation.

The practical effect of the Assessment Act in its amended form is to reduce the amount of revenue by taxation. We shall expect less from wild lands and personal property. In separate acts provision has been made for taxation in other forms which will add somewhat to the revenue, and we may also expect an increase of revenue on incomes. The new Act, when passed, although coming into effect immediately, will not affect the assessment for the present year.

THE DYKING BILL.

On Wednesday the Chief Commissioner brought down a Bill to adjust dyking assessments. The object of this important measure was explained in yesterday's Colonist and little more is necessary to be said in that regard. It is intended to give relief to the settlers in the different dyking districts whose lands are affected. The total obligation assumed by the Government, which stands under the Public Dyking Act as a charge against the lands, amounts to \$981,219. As appears from the report of the Inspector of Dykes contained in the annual report of the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works, the annual assessments required from the various districts to provide for this outlay would amount per acre as follows:

Pitt Meadows	\$2.724
Maple Ridge (low land)	1.98.8
Maple Ridge (high land)	1.37.9
Coquitlam	3.21.8
Matsqui	1.89.4
Chilliwack	82.2

It will be seen, therefore, that the annual charge against the land is an exceedingly high one and the farmers and land owners in these dyking districts complained that it was impossible for them to pay the annual assessments and all other Government rates. For instance, on one hundred acres a farmer in Pitt Meadows would have had to pay \$272, and in Coquitlam \$321 per annum. Most of the holdings are of much larger extent, and, as is well known, only a small percentage of the acreage is improved and productive. The problem was, therefore, a very difficult one. The settlers were unable to sell their lands with such high charges standing against them, and on the other hand were unable to produce enough to pay the annual charges. As a matter of fact, up to the present time the total amount paid is only a little over \$2,000, while the total amount of arrearages is \$212,400.

There were several courses open to the Government. One was the proposal made some time ago to the Government to assume the entire obligation and give back to the settlers one-half of the land free of obligations on account of the dyking. This would have been obviously unfair to the rest of the Province which has assumed so large a liability over that particular section of the country. The other was to allow the law to take its course and sell or

confiscate the lands for such arrears of assessment charges. The latter course, it was felt, would have entailed a great hardship on the land-holders and the Government, though it would have been strictly within its rights, did not feel that it was justified in taking such extreme measures.

Under the present bill it is proposed to reduce the total liability by wiping out the sum of \$360,278 and making the land liable, as formerly, for the remainder of the obligation, which amounts to \$621,000. In other words, the Government says "we will give the settlers another chance." Under the new bill Pitt Meadows, instead of paying \$2.72 as the annual assessment per acre, will pay \$1.67. Coquitlam, instead of paying \$3.21 per acre, will pay \$2.04. The various amounts are about as follows, per acre, for all annual charges:

Pitt Meadows	\$1.67
Maple Ridge (low land)	1.43.4
Maple Ridge (high land)	1.08.4
Coquitlam	2.04
Matsqui	1.67.6
Chilliwack	79.8

In the case of Chilliwack it will be observed that only a very small reduction has been made. This is owing to the fact that the annual assessment for that district under the old arrangement was very much lower than will be the lowest assessment under the new arrangement, and on the whole, the conditions in Chilliwack are much more favorable than those in the other districts.

It is very little use in harking back and saying that dyking arrangements were a mistake and should never have been undertaken. The Government at the time did what was considered in the very best interests of the settlers and if the enterprises were carried out at too great a cost it arose from the lack of experience in those matters. Certainly, the cost of the Province has exceeded anything that was anticipated at the outset and as a charge against the land is unduly burdensome. Probably the chief complaint against the present proposal will be not that a reduction is being made at all, but that it is not sufficiently great. We do not believe that even with the reduction that, under present conditions in many instances, the annual charges will be met and, it is quite safe to assume, in a few years a good deal of the land will inevitably revert to the Government. Had it not been for the interests of the settlers involved it would have been a much better arrangement for the Government to have taken over the land altogether, divided it into small holdings and sold it to settlers subject to the dyking charges. In this way forty or fifty thousand acres of very good land would have been made available for settlement and the advantages to be reaped in a direct way from taxation and from the general development of the New Westminster district would have been very great. However, the Government has taken the more charitable view of the situation and has decided to allow the land-holders to work out their salvation under more favorable financial conditions by relieving them of about one-third of the liability. The act in this instance, however, will be less flexible and where assessments are not paid each year the land charged with the liability shall be sold in the same manner as in the ordinary tax sales, the Government taking away its own power to exercise further leniency. We trust, however, that, with the greatly improved conditions of agriculture in the Province and the active demand for land, the settlers may be able to meet the new situation successfully and dispose of or otherwise utilise their land without further loss to themselves or the Government.

district bore no relation to that in another for the simple reason that assessors did not in any way confer with each other. We had this anomaly presented of a farmer on one side of the district line being assessed for three or four times the value of similar property on the other side. Under the new arrangement, provision will be made for assessors devoting more time to their duties as such than at present and fewer complaints may be expected as a consequence.

The Colonist.

FRIDAY, MARCH 17, 1905

The Provincial Legislature

Game Act Considered by Committee of the Whole Yesterday.

Other Business Disposed of in a Day of Round Progress.

Thursday, March 16th.

The House assembled at 2 o'clock after the reading of prayers and the order of business was read.

Bills.
The bill to amend the Regulation Act was committed to Mr. Hawthornthwaite in the chair. He had practically redrafted to meet the objections taken on second reading, and upon the report of Mr. McInnes the committee reported progress to allow the bill to be printed for the information of the House.

The bill to amend the Supreme Court Act was committed, Dr. Young in the chair. This bill provides for deposit or security for costs of the Supreme Court shall be \$200.

The Attorney-General asked consideration of the point in relation to the fact that litigation allowed one appeal without questioning the propriety of a long established rule, which provided that the matter of arrangement for costs should be in the hands of the judge.

Mr. Bowser expressed his opinion that the committee reported without advancing the bill.

The bill to provide for the regulation of companies' mortgages was read a third time; also the bill re jurisdiction and procedure in courts; and the bill to amend the Receiver's Act.

The bill to carry out an act respecting the incorporation of Fernie was committed, Mr. Young in the chair. Section 1 provided that the city of Fernie may overflow of any system or daminating in any modern system into the Elk river, or dam same direct into the said river at point where such river adjoins of Fernie." was struck off being taken thereto by Mr. Donald on the ground that it might be endangered.

The bill was reported with amendments.

Game Protection Act

The bill to amend the Game Protection Act was again committed.

Upon motion of Hon. Mr. Young section 9 was repealed and a new section substituted therefor:

It shall be unlawful for any person to—
(a) to kill any game bird protected by this act between sunset and one hour after sunrise;
(b) to buy or sell any mountain sheep, elk, moose or any kind of geese, any trivance described or known as, or by the name of, any tidal waters; (d) to expose deer, mountain sheep, goat or caribou without its head; or game bird without its plumage.

Dr. Young offered an amendment to exempt placer miners from the provisions of the act.

The amendment was held over for some qualification to be introduced by the Provincial Secretary to prevent abuses of the privilege.

Mr. Hall moved that "no person domiciled in this province (save those exempted from the provisions of this act) shall at any time hunt, kill or take any of the animals protected by this act, without being authorized by licence; such licence to be issued by any government agent upon payment of two dollars, and to continue in force during the current game season."

If the committee could not see its way clear to accept the amendment, he suggested that something should be done to prevent small boys using guns.
Hon. Mr. Fulton thought the amendment was right in principle, but con-

"And whereas the natural resources of the unoccupied lands, made intelligently available to the surplus population and surplus capital of other parts of the world, may themselves be made to supply the means necessary to pro-

Disappointment has been on account of the fact— omission in its report did the grievance of land-holding to land being divided into small holdings, whereby of the latter was greatly what it was originally. That fact was pointed to discouragement to the small holdings so essential to the country. was felt that this was relating to the administration to the principle, of doubtless, as a result of interference of assessors and from the Department of thing will be done to obviously opposed to a

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16TH MARCH.

1905

The Hon. Mr. Fulton to move, in Committee of the Whole on Bill (No. 28) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Game Protection Act, 1898,'" to strike out section 4 and substitute the following:—

"4. Section 12 of said Act is hereby amended by inserting the word 'placer' after the word 'in,' in the fifth line thereof, and by adding the words 'in unorganised districts' after the word 'prospecting' in the same line."

The Hon. Mr. Fulton to move, in Committee of the Whole on Bill No. (28) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Game Protection Act, 1898,'" to insert the following as Schedule C:

"Limited Game Licence—For one week.

"Under and by virtue of the power vested in me under the provisions of the 'Game Protection Act, 1898,' and amending Acts, permission is hereby given to—
of _____ to hunt, take or kill any game bird, under and in accordance with the provisions of the law in that respect, from the _____ day of _____, 19____, to the _____ day of _____, 19____.

"Fee \$5.

"Game Warden

"Or Government Agent."

Mr. Oliver to move, in Committee of the Whole on Bill (No. 28) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Game Protection Act, 1898,'" the following as a new clause:—

"It shall be unlawful to hunt for, kill or wound, or to shoot at, or to take by means of traps or any other device, any of the animals or birds mentioned in this Act during the whole of the Lord's Day, commonly called 'Sunday,' and any violation of this section shall subject the offender to the penalty provided for killing game during the prohibited season."

Mr. Hawthornthwaite to move, in Committee of the Whole on Bill (No. 28) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Game Protection Act, 1898,'" to amend section 5, line 4, by adding the words "but game shall not be kept in cold storage at any time."

The Hon. Mr. Wilson to move, on consideration of the Report on Bill (No. 8) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Land Registry Act and amending Acts,'" the following amendments:—

In section 39, line 1, insert after the words "Form E" the words "of the principal Act."

In section 41, line 1, insert after the words "Form B" the words "of the principal Act."

VICTORIA, B. C.

Printed by RICHARD WOLFENDEN, L.S.O., V.D., Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty.
1905.

main, unoccupied and unproductive because they are inaccessible. They are known to contain great resources of iron, coal, oil, silver, lead, gold, copper, and to be covered with limitless quantities of fine timber, besides containing many million acres of diversified farming and grazing land. They only require population, capital and means of transportation. The basis of all industry, the natural resources of the soil, is already there. The problem, therefore, is to provide population, capital and means of transportation for the unoccupied portions of British Columbia;

district bore no relation to that in another for the simple reason that assessors did not in any way confer with each other. We had this anomaly presented of a farmer on one side of the district line being assessed for three or four times the value of similar property on the other side. Under the new arrangement, provision will be made for assessors devoting more time to their duties as such than at present and fewer complaints may be expected as a consequence.

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confiscate the lands for such arrears of assessment charged. The latter course, it was felt, would have entailed a great hardship on the land-holders and the Government, though it would have been strictly within its rights, did not feel that it was justified in taking such extreme measures.

Under the present bill it is proposed to reduce the total liability by wiping out the sum of \$360,278 and making the land liable, as formerly, for the remainder of the obligation, which amounts to \$621,000. In other words, the Government says "we will give the settlers another chance." Under the new bill Pitt Meadows, instead of paying \$2.72 as the annual assessment per acre, will pay \$1.67. Coquitlam, instead of paying \$2.21 per acre, will pay \$2.04. The various amounts are about

What was said by McGinnis
on settlers right
in Hansard 1896-1897

Also on the same question
by J. Williams, Brewster
Died. T. Hawthornthwaite
in Prov House 1904 on

charges standing against them, and on the other hand were unable to produce enough to pay the annual charges. As a matter of fact, up to the present time the total amount paid is only a little over \$1,000, while the total amount of arrears is \$212,500.

There were several courses open to the Government. One was the proposal made some time ago to the Government to assume the entire obligation and give back to the settlers one-half of the land free of obligations on account of the dyking. This would have been a very useful in the best of the country which has suffered so large a loss. The other was to allow

land-holders to work out their salvation under more favorable financial conditions by relieving them of about one-third of the liability. The act in this instance, however, will be less flexible and where assessments are not paid each year the land charged with the liability shall be sold in the same manner as in the ordinary tax sales, the Government taking away its own power to exercise further leniency. We trust, however, that, with the greatly improved conditions of agriculture in the Province and the active demand for land, the settlers may be able to meet the new situation successfully and dispose of or otherwise utilise their land without further loss to themselves or the Government.

The Colonist.

SATURDAY, MARCH 18, 1905.

Provincial Legislature

Second Reading of Dyking Act Moved by Minister of Public Works.

Able Expose of Important Subject—Province Assumes Large Responsibility.

House to Be Photographed Monday—Opposition Advised to Look Pleasant

Friday, March 17.
THE House assembled at 2 o'clock, and after prayers were read the following was the order of business:

Bills.

Hon. Mr. Tatlow introduced a bill to amend the Horticultural Board Act. The bill to amend the repealed sections of the provisions of the Assessment Act was further considered on report.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald observed that this bill was professedly designed to enable the government to recover monies from the Le Roi Mining Company. In this connection he announced the receipt of a telegram from the manager of that company denying that the company was indebted to the government as stated on behalf of the province in the House.

Hon. Mr. Tatlow read from the text of a case submitted in the matter of the Le Roi claim, to show that the government's statement of the matter had been admitted in the proceedings.

The Attorney-General said he certainly would not be prepared to reconsider anything he may have said in this matter, on the strength of the telegram referred to by the leader of the opposition.

Mr. Macdonald went on to read the despatch and subjoined a contention that the settlement of the matter should be left to the courts. He disapproved of intervention in the way proposed by the bill, namely, that the assessment should be subject to revision, arguing that the adoption of such a course would tend to keep investors away from the province.

Hon. Mr. Tatlow said the statement contained in the telegram was untrue, and that the reader, if fully cognizant of the facts, must have been aware of its inaccuracy. He thought the government was justified in making provision for the correction of an admittedly inaccurate assessment, based on an incorrect return of assets.

The Premier remarked that the amount of taxation as claimed by the province had been admitted by counsel on either side, when the case was under review. He subjected the leader of the opposition to reproach for continually harping on the theme of blue ruin.

Mr. Oliver claimed that the only answer the Premier could find to opposition arguments was to call them blue-ruin agitators.

The report was adopted.

Assessment Act.

Upon the motion for the second reading of the Assessment Act Mr. J. A. Macdonald offered a few observations on the bill. He said the government might expect the hearty co-operation of his party in reviewing it in committee. The Assessment Act of last year, according to his idea, was a monstrosity; therefore the tax commission and the present bill. Had members of the government instead of taking jaunts to the Old Country, given their time to investigating the needs of the various districts, he opined that a much more satisfactory measure might have been evolved.

Mr. Hawthorthwaite wanted to know if the leader of the opposition could tell him what the provisions of the bill were.

Mr. Macdonald said he thought the member for Nanaimo could read the bill. As he understood it dealt with wild lands and personal property.

Mr. Hawthorthwaite replied that this was all he wanted to know. It was quite evident, he remarked facetiously, that the leader of the opposition had read the bill.

Dyking Act.

Hon. Mr. Green moved the second reading of the bill to adjust the dyking assessments, which he remarked had been brought down in fulfillment of promises made by the government last year, that the dyking question would be gone into with a view to an equitable readjustment. He reviewed the various transactions by which the dykes had been taken over and augmented by the government and the financial obligations contracted in connection therewith. The work done by the government was undertaken and executed in the public interests, and he believed that generally speaking the expenditures had been well administered. It was only proper therefore that the people in the dyking districts should be looked to for their share of the financial responsibility. He made an analysis of the assessments under the proposed readjustment in order to show that the taxation was fairly apportioned as between the different districts.

Under the Dyking Drainage and Irrigation Act, 1894, a number of dyking districts were formed—Pitt Meadows, Coquitlam, Matsqui and Sumas. The Maple Ridge district was organized under the Act of 1892, but its debentures were issued under the provisions of the Act of 1894.

Under the Act of 1894 commissioners were appointed for each of the districts to look after the affairs of constructing and managing the dykes. The commissioners had power to borrow money on the debentures of the districts. Debentures were chargeable against the lands to be benefited by the dykes, and the commissioners were authorized to levy assessments on such lands to raise moneys to pay interest and form a sinking fund to pay the debentures at maturity. The government was also authorized to guarantee two-thirds of the interest on such debentures.

Debentures were issued and disposed of as follows:

Maple Ridge	\$128,000
Coquitlam	70,000
Pitt Meadows	60,000
Matsqui	50,000
Sumas	18,000

Total \$324,000

The debentures bore interest at 6 per cent per annum, the government guaranteed interest at 4 per cent being two-thirds of the total interest. The government therefore became directly interested in the financial success of the dykes. After all this money was expended it was found that the dykes were still unfinished and that the estimate of cost had been much too low. The commissioners were unable to raise more money to complete the works and the portions already done were liable to be washed away and all the moneys expended thereon lost—a serious situation for the settlers in those districts. In 1897 an appeal was made to the Legislature for assistance. The government having guaranteed interest on the debentures the province was interested in having the dykes made a success. It was pointed out that the government could borrow money much cheaper than the districts and thus save the settlers considerable money in the way of excessive interest charges. Therefore the Legislature passed, in 1897, the Dyking Debenture Loan Act, authorizing the government to purchase the outstanding debentures of the dyking districts and to borrow \$150,000 more money with which to strengthen and complete the various dykes. Under this Act the government issued provincial debentures and repurchased the outstanding debentures of the districts and borrowed the \$150,000 additional to complete the dykes. This amount was found insufficient and it was found necessary to borrow more money. In 1898 the Public Dyking Act was passed authorizing the government to borrow \$45,000 to complete the unfinished works. Capital charges which were assessed against the districts for moneys already expended were confirmed. At this time other districts wanted dykes built and by the Act of 1898 the government was authorized to borrow \$225,000 to construct dykes as follows:

Chilliwack	\$131,000
Agassiz	10,000
Hastec	50,000
Surry	27,000
N. Westminster Dist. generally	7,000

Under the Act of 1898 an inspector of dykes was appointed who, on behalf of

the government, assumed control of all the dykes, and under whom the Chilliwack dyke was commenced and built. The building of the Chilliwack dyke was approved of by the people of the district in accordance with the Act of 1898. No work was done in any of the other proposed new districts. The amount allotted to Chilliwack was not sufficient to complete the dyke and in 1899 an amending Act was passed increasing the amount to \$155,000. In 1900 an amending Act was passed authorizing the sum of \$94,000, which was intended by the Act of 1898 for dykes in Agassiz, Hastec, Surry and New Westminster district to be used in strengthening and completing the dykes in the Chilliwack and other districts.

Still the Chilliwack dykes remained incomplete and in 1902 an amending Act was passed increasing the amount for this district to \$265,000. Of this amount \$21,801.08 was for protection works along the banks of the Fraser river and should not be charged against the Chilliwack district.

Cost of Construction.

The cost of constructing all the dykes and the capital charges per acre in respect thereof in each of the districts is as follows:

District—	Capital cost.	Capital cost per acre.
Pitt Meadows	\$85,250.61	\$36.21
Maple Ridge	201,197.70	\$27.48
Coquitlam	135,148.71	\$16.32
Matsqui	103,901.02	\$1.07
Chilliwack	265,578.11	19.43
**High land. *Low land.		13.80

This cost was very much greater than was anticipated. The cost of maintenance in all the districts excepting Chilliwack was very high. The large area in Chilliwack district made the cost of maintenance lower.

If no reduction were made the people in the said districts would have to pay as follows on each acre of land each year to pay for interest sinking fund and maintenance charges:

Dist.—	Int. & Sink.	Mainten.	Total.
Pitt Meadows	\$1.81	\$0.914	\$2.724
Maple Ridge	\$1.574	.564	1.138
	\$1.5	.564	1.374
Coquitlam	2.053	1.16	3.213
Matsqui	.971	.923	1.894
Chilliwack	.13	.135	.265
**High land. *Low land.			

The amount payable on 50 acres of land each year would be as follows:

In Pitt Meadows	\$136.20
Maple Ridge—Low land	\$58.50
Maple Ridge—High land	\$8.70
Coquitlam	160.65
Matsqui	94.70
Chilliwack	13.25

The settlers complained that they could not pay these heavy charges and make a living out of their land and if they were compelled to pay them they would have to abandon their homes.

The amount of assessments under the capital assessments already levied which had become due was \$212,401.02, of which only \$9,572.30 had been paid, leaving a balance of \$202,828.72 overdue. No payments had been made by the districts for costs of maintenance and the government had to pay all these charges. In addition they had to pay the interest and sinking fund on debentures and were practically receiving nothing from the districts. This burden was too great for the province to bear, and to get back some of the money expended and to lighten the burden on the settlers in the districts as far as it was possible to do so consistent with the financial conditions of the province and the needs of other districts the government had decided to make a reduction in the amounts chargeable against the lands in the said districts and to spread payment of such reduced amounts over a period of forty years.

The amounts payable on capital account in Chilliwack were much lower than in any of the other districts and did not seem excessive. In arriving at the amounts to be assessed against the several districts as fixed by section 4 of this bill, Chilliwack had been taken as a basis.

From the amount of the capital charge against Chilliwack District \$265,578.11 There had been deducted the portion of such amount spent on protection works \$21,801.09

Leaving \$243,777.02

In the Chilliwack district there were 19,030.68 acres of land assessable and the capital charge per acre would be \$12.72 and the annual payment per acre for interest at 3½ per cent and sinking fund at 1½ per cent would be \$0.630. Against the lands assessable in the other districts a capital charge of \$12.72 per

was to be made on the balance of the account was to be reduced to the

VO

Legislat

Prayers by R

Mr. Clifford

MR. SPEAKER:

Your Select

The preamble

Railway Company

All of which

The report w

On the motion

Horticultural Bo

time on Monday

Order for the

and procedure of

The Hon. Mr.

Carried.

The Hon. Mr.

the sub-section, the

Carried.

The Hon. Mr.

word, "141 to 15"

Carried.

The Hon. Mr.

section 148."

Carried.

The Hon. Mr.

section 148."

Carried.

Bill to be read

Mr. Oliver moved

debate.

Mr. Murphy sug

might stand over

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until the order p

debate was a

the government, assumed control of all the dykes, and under whom the Chilliwack dyke was commenced and built. The building of the Chilliwack dyke was approved of by the people of the district in accordance with the Act of 1898. No work was done in any of the other proposed new districts. The amount allotted to Chilliwack was not sufficient to complete the dyke and in 1900 an amending Act was passed increasing the amount to \$155,000. In 1900 an amending Act was passed authorizing the sum of \$94,000, which was intended by the Act of 1898 for dykes in Agassiz, Hastic, Surrey and New Westminster district to be used in strengthening and completing the dykes in the Chilliwack and other districts.

Still the Chilliwack dykes remained incomplete and in 1902 an amending Act was passed increasing the amount for this district to \$235,000. Of this amount \$21,801.03 was for protection works along the banks of the Fraser river and should not be charged against the Chilliwack district.

Cost of Construction.

The cost of constructing all the dykes and the capital charges per acre in respect thereof in each of the districts is as follows:

District—	Capital cost.	Capital cost per acre.
Pitt Meadows \$83,230.61	\$36.21	
Maple Ridge 201,197.79	*27.48	
	**16.32	
Coquitlam.... 135,148.71	41.97	
Matsqui 193,901.02	19.43	
Chilliwack... 263,878.11	13.80	
**High land. *Low land.		

This cost was very much greater than was anticipated. The cost of maintenance in all the districts excepting Chilliwack was very high. The large area in Chilliwack district made the cost of maintenance lower.

If no reduction were made the people in the said districts would have to pay as follows on each acre of land each year to pay for interest sinking fund and maintenance charges:

Dist.—	Int. & Sunk.	Mainten.	Total.
Pitt Meadows \$1.81	\$0.914	\$2.724	
Maple Ridge... \$1.374	.594	1.968	
	**813	.594	1.374
Coquitlam 2.053	1.14	3.193	
Matsqui971	.923	1.894	
Chilliwack69	.135	.825	
**High land. *Low land.			

The amount payable on 50 acres of land each year would be as follows:

In Pitt Meadows.....	\$136.20
Maple Ridge—Low land.....	96.90
Maple Ridge—High land.....	68.70
Coquitlam	160.05
Matsqui	94.70
Chilliwack	41.25

The settlers complained that they could not pay these heavy charges and make a living out of their land and if they were compelled to pay them they would have to abandon their homes.

The amount of assessments under the capital assessments already levied which had become due was \$212,401.02, of which only \$9,572.39 had been paid, leaving a balance of \$202,828.72 overdue. No payments had been made by the districts for costs of maintenance and the government had to pay all these charges. In addition they had to pay the interest and sinking fund on debentures and were practically receiving nothing from the districts. This burden was too great for the province to bear, and to get back some of the money expended and to lighten the burden on the settlers in the districts as far as it was possible to do so consistent with the financial conditions of the province and the needs of other districts the government had decided to make a reduction in the amounts chargeable against the lands in the said districts and to spread payment of such reduced amounts over a period of forty years.

The amounts payable on capital account in Chilliwack were much lower than in any of the other districts and did not seem excessive. In arriving at the amounts to be assessed against the several districts as fixed by section 4 of this bill, Chilliwack had been taken as a basis.

From the amount of the capital charge against Chilliwack District \$263,878.11 There had been deducted the portion of such amount spent on protection works..... 21,807.09

Leaving \$242,070.22

In the Chilliwack district there were 19,000.62 acres of land assessable and the capital charge per acre would be \$12.72 and the annual payment per acre for interest at 3% per cent and sinking fund at 1% per cent would be \$0.630. Against the lands assessable in the other districts a capital charge of \$12.72 per

There was to be made in respect of the amounts spent on capital account and the balance of the moneys spent on capital account was to be remitted. This would reduce the charges on capital account to the following amounts:

The bill to establish and protect highways passed second reading. Briefly the Act provides that roads on which money is expended shall be declared to be public highways; also that certain dams shall be constructed only upon bridges.

No. 27.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Legislative Assembly of British Columbia.

Friday, 17th March, 1905.

Two o'clock, P.M.

Prayers by Rev. J. Campbell, Ph.D.

Mr. Clifford presented the Second Report from the Railway Committee, as follows:—

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,
17th March, 1905.

MR. SPEAKER:

Your Select Standing Committee on Railways beg leave to report as follows:—

The preamble proved of Bill (No. 57) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the Stave Valley Railway Company," and submit the same herewith with amendments.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

CHAS. W. D. CLIFFORD,
Chairman.

The report was received.

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. Tatlow, Bill (No. 40) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Horticultural Board Act,'" was introduced, read a first time and Ordered to be read a second time on Monday next.

Order for the third reading of Bill (No. 7) intituled "An Act respecting the Jurisdiction and procedure of County Courts," called.

The Hon. Mr. Wilson moved to strike out the last two lines of sub-section (1) of section 2. Carried.

The Hon. Mr. Wilson moved, in section 122, sub-section (3), to strike out the last word of the sub-section, the word "sum," and insert in lieu thereof the word "same." Carried.

The Hon. Mr. Wilson moved, in section 160, line 3, to strike out the following figures and word, "141 to 154," and insert "147 to 159." Carried.

The Hon. Mr. Wilson moved, in section 159, line 6, to strike out the words "or under section 148." Carried.

The Hon. Mr. Wilson moved, in section 154, line 2, to strike out the words "or under section 148." Carried.

Bill to be read a third time on Monday next.

Mr. Oliver moved the adjournment of the debate.

Mr. Murphy suggested that the bill should stand over for six months, requesting that it was St. Patrick's day, and moved that the House adjourn.

The Premier took the suggestion in the same humor in which it was given and intimated that in view of the national desire of members to get through the business of the session, adjournment might just as well be deferred until the order paper was disposed of. The debate was adjourned.

districts, that, as a rule, purchasers would prefer land in Chilliwack even if the rates of assessment were equal.

The Colonist.

SATURDAY, MARCH 18

Provincial Legislation

Second Reading of D
Moved by Minister of
Works.

Able Expose of Import
ject—Province Assum
Responsibility

House to Be Photogra
day—Opposition Adv
Look Pleason

Friday,
THE House assembled
and after prayers we
following was the or
ness:

Bills.
Hon. Mr. Tatlow introduced
the Horticultural B
The bill to amend the
visions of the provisions of
ment Act was further cons
port.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald o
this bill was professedly de
able the government to re
from the Le Roi Mining C
this connection he announ
cept of a telegram from
of that company denying t
pany was indebted to the
as stated on behalf of the
the House.

Hon. Mr. Tatlow read
of a case submitted in the
Le Roi claim, to show the
ment's statement of the ma
admitted in the proceeding
The Attorney-General sa
ly would not be prepared
anything he may have said
ter, on the strength of the
ferred to by the leader o
tion.

Mr. Macdonald went on
despatch and subjoined
that the settlement of the
he left to the courts. He
of intervention in the way
the bill, namely, that the
should be subject to review
that the adoption of such a
tend to keep investors at
province.

Hon. Mr. Tatlow said
contained in the telegram
and that the sender, if full
the facts, must have been
inaccuracy. He thought th
was justified in making pre
correction of an admitted
assessment, based on an in
of assets.

The Premier remarks
amount of taxation as ch
province had been admitted
on either side, when the c
review. He subjected the
opposition to reproach for
harping on the theme of

Mr. Oliver claimed that
over the Premier could
tion arguments was to c
ruin agitators.

The report was adopted
Assessment A

Upon the motion for th
ing of the Assessment Act Mr. J. A.
Macdonald offered a few observations on
the bill. He said the government might
expect the hearty co-operation of his
party in reviewing it in committee. The
Assessment Act of last year, according
to his idea, was a monstrosity; there
fore the tax commission and the present
bill. Had members of the government
instead of taking jaunts to the Old
Country, given their time to investigat
ing the needs of the various districts,
he opined that a much more satisfactory
measure might have been evolved.

Mr. Hawthornthwaite wanted to
know if the leader of the opposition
could tell him what the provisions of the
bill were.

Mr. Macdonald said he thought the
member for Nanaimo could read the bill.
As he understood it dealt with wild
lands and personal property.
Mr. Hawthornthwaite replied that this
was all he wanted to know. It was

the government, assumed control of all
the dykes, and under whom the Chill
swack dyke was commenced and built.
The building of the Chillswack dyke
was approved of by the people of the
district in accordance with the Act of

acre was to be made
amounts spent on
the balance of the
ital account was to
This would reduce
ital account to the f

2

17TH MARCH.

1905

The Report on Bill (No. 25) intituled "An Act to amend the Unrepealed Provisions of the 'Assessment Act,'" was adopted.
Third reading on Monday next.

The Report on Bill (No. 24) intituled "An Act to carry out an Agreement respecting the Incorporation of the City of Fernie," was adopted.
Bill read a third time and passed.

The adjourned debate on the second reading of Bill (No. 36) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Assessment Act, 1903,'" was resumed.
Bill read a second time.
Ordered to be committed on Monday next.

On the second reading of Bill (No. 39) intituled "An Act to Adjust Dyking Assessments," a debate arose, which was adjourned until Monday next.

Bill (No. 38) intituled "An Act to Establish and Protect Highways," was read a second time.
To be committed on Monday next.

The following Bills were read a third time and passed:—
Bill (No. 55) intituled "An Act to amend the Queen Charlotte Islands Railway Company Act, 1901."

Bill (No. 60) intituled "An Act respecting the Pacific, Northern and Omjineca Railway."

The Report on Bill (No. 61) intituled "An Act respecting the Kootenay, Cariboo and Pacific Railway Company," was adopted.
Third reading on Monday next.

Bill (No. 59) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the Golden Light, Power and Water Company, Limited," was committed.
Progress reported.
Committee to sit again on Monday next.

Bill (No. 53) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the Fording Valley Railway Company," was committed.
Progress reported.
Committee to sit again on Monday next.

Bill (No. 29) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Supreme Court Act,'" was again committed.
Progress reported.
Committee to sit again on Monday next.

Resolved, That the House, at its rising, do stand adjourned until two o'clock on Monday next.

And then the House adjourned at 5 P.M.

C. E. POOLEY, *Speaker*.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

Mr. Tanner to move, in Committee of the Whole on Bill (No. 28) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Game Protection Act, 1898,'" to add to section 5 the following sub-section:—

"(e.) To kill any game bird or animal protected by this Act between one hour after sunset on Saturday and one hour before sunrise on Monday."

money. In 1900 the government
was passed authorizing the government
to borrow \$45,000 to complete the un
finished works. Capital charges which
were assessed against the districts for
moneys already expended were confirm
ed. At this time other districts wanted
dykes built and by the Act of 1898 the
government was authorized to borrow
\$225,000 to construct dykes as follows:
Chillswack \$121,000
Agassiz 10,000
Hatsie 50,000
Surrey 27,000
N. Westminster Dist. generally. 7,000
Under the Act of 1898 an Inspector of
dykes was appointed who, on behalf of

From the amount of the capi
tal charge against Chill
swack District \$263,878.11
There had been deducted the
portion of such amount spent
on protection works 21,807.00
Leaving \$242,070.22
In the Chillswack district there were
19,000.08 acres of land assessable and
the capital charge per acre would be
\$12.72 and the annual payment per acre
for interest at 3½ per cent and sinking
fund at 1½ per cent would be \$0.636.
Against the lands assessable in the other
districts a capital charge of \$12.72 per

5 ED. 7

The Hon.
"An Act to an
In section
"principal."
Section 40
In section
"1900" and in
In line 2 s
Act, 1901."
In section
"21 and 52."

Mr. Hende
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"Any one
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each offence."

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1905

5 ED. 7

17TH MARCH.

3

amend the Unrepealed Provisions of

carry out an Agreement respecting the

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An Act to Adjust Dyking Assess-
ment next.

protect Highways," was read a second

d:—

Charlotte Islands Railway Company

fic, Northern and Omineca Railway."

specting the Kootenay, Cariboo and

olden Light, Power and Water Com.

Fording Valley Railway Company,"

reme Court Act," was again com-

ourned until two o'clock on Monday

C. E. POOLEY, *Speaker*.

OTION.

Bill (No. 28) intituled "An Act to
in 5 the following sub-section:—
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on Monday."

From the amount of the capital charge against Chilliwack District \$263,878.11
There had been deducted the portion of such amount spent on protection works 21,807.09
Leaving \$242,070.22
In the Chilliwack district there were 10,000.00 acres of land assessable and the capital charge per acre would be \$12.72 and the annual payment per acre for interest at 3½ per cent and sinking fund at 1½ per cent would be \$0.690. Against the lands assessable in the other districts a capital charge of \$12.72 per

Mr. Oliver moved the adjournment of the debate.
Mr. Murphy suggested that the bill might stand over for six months, remarking that it was St. Patrick's day. He moved that the House adjourn.
The Premier took the suggestion in the same humor in which it was given and intimated that in view of the natural desire of members to get through with the business of the session, adjournment might just as well be deferred until the order paper was disposed of.
The debate was adjourned.

districts, that, as a rule, purchasers would prefer land in Chilliwack even if the rates of assessment were equal.

The Colonist.

SATURDAY, MARCH 18.

Provincial Legislation

Second Reading of Dyke
Moved by Minister of
Works.

Able Expose of Important
Subject—Province Assumes
Responsibility.

House to Be Photographed
Today—Opposition Advises
Look Pleasant

Friday, March 18.
THE House assembled at 10 o'clock and after prayers were read the following was the order of business:

Bills.

Hon. Mr. Tatlow introduced and moved the Horticultural Board Bill. The bill to amend the provisions of the Horticultural Board Act was further considered.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald opposed this bill as it was professedly designed to enable the government to recover from the Le Roi Mining Company this connection he announced receipt of a telegram from the company denying that it was indebted to the province as stated on behalf of the House.

Hon. Mr. Tatlow read from a case submitted in the Le Roi claim, to show that the government's statement of the matter admitted in the proceedings.

The Attorney-General said he would not be prepared to say anything he may have said later, on the strength of the statement referred to by the leader of the Opposition.

Mr. Macdonald went on to despatch and subjoined a despatch that the settlement of the matter be left to the courts. He also intervened in the way of the bill, namely, that the bill should be subject to revision that the adoption of such a resolution to keep investors away from the province.

Hon. Mr. Tatlow said the bill contained in the telegram and that the sender, if fully aware of the facts, must have been in a hurry. He thought the bill was justified in making provision for correction of an admittedly incorrect assessment, based on an incorrect statement of assets.

The Premier remarked that the amount of taxation as claimed by the province had been admitted on either side, when the case was reviewed. He subjected the bill to opposition to reprove for harping on the theme of blue ink.

Mr. Oliver claimed that the Premier could not make such arguments as to call for agitators.

The report was adopted.

Assessment Act.

Upon the motion for the second reading of the Assessment Act, Mr. Macdonald offered a few observations on the bill. He said the government might expect the hearty co-operation of his party in reviewing it in committee. The Assessment Act of last year, according to his idea, was a monstrosity; therefore the tax commission and the present bill. Had members of the government instead of taking jumps to the Old Country, given their time to investigating the needs of the various districts, he opined that a much more satisfactory measure might have been evolved.

Mr. Hawthornthwaite wanted to know if the leader of the opposition could tell him what the provisions of the bill were.

Mr. Macdonald said he thought the member for Nanaimo could read the bill. As he understood it dealt with wild lands and personal property. Mr. Hawthornthwaite replied that this was all he wanted to know. It was

the government, assumed control of all the dykes, and under whom the Chilliwack dyke was commenced and built. The building of the Chilliwack dyke was approved of by the people of the district in accordance with the Act of

acre was to be made in the amounts spent on capital. The balance of the moneys in the account was to be remitted. This would reduce the capital account to the following:

Pitt Meadows
Maple Ridge
Coquitlam
Katsqui
Chilliwack, as above

Total

To these amounts had been added the sums expended by the government in maintaining the dykes during the four years. It was felt it was burdensome to pay the maintenance charges at once and decided to add them to the spread the payment over the forty years. From the maintenance charges for the Chilliwack district the amount hereto which was spent on works had been deducted the sums to be charged against the districts as fixed by the bill. The total amount committed and assumed by the province was \$358,278.20.

Under this bill the charge against each acre would be as follows:

Cap. Charge
Pitt Meadows \$ 24.96
Maple Ridge
High land
Coquitlam 57.96
Low land 127.36
Katsqui 150.36
Chilliwack 202.96
The annual charges for fund and maintenance are as follows:

Int. and Sinking Fund
Pitt Meadows \$ 746
Maple Ridge
High land 3168
Coquitlam 861
Katsqui 763
Chilliwack 663

Maintenance charges for the experience of the government to be made were much less than in the districts and less than in the districts of Pitt Meadows, Coquitlam and Katsqui.

The bill provided that the payments to be given for payments under previous assessments be applied on first assessments under capital provided that annual payments on December 31st be paid by the following April and sold on the following April.

The bill was passed and the following April.

The bill was passed and the following April.

In conclusion Hon. Mr. Tatlow made a statement showing the location of the dykes and the location of the readjustment, as follows:

Length of Dyke, Miles.
Pitt Meadows 11.54
Maple Ridge 14.83
High land
Coquitlam 6.41
Katsqui 7.21
Chilliwack 15.66
Total 57.11

Mr. Paterson wanted to know of unoccupied lands in the districts.

Hon. Mr. Green said that the unoccupied lands were in the districts of Pitt Meadows, Coquitlam and Katsqui.

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Chilliwack \$131,000
Agassiz 19,000
Hastec 50,000
Surrey 27,000
N. Westminster Dist. generally, 7,000
Under the Act of 1898 an inspector of dykes was appointed who, on behalf of

From the amount of capital charge against Chilliwack District \$263,878.11
There had been deducted the portion of such amount spent on protection works 21,807.09

Leaving \$242,070.22

In the Chilliwack district there were 16,000.05 acres of land assessable and the capital charge per acre would be \$12.72 and the annual payment per acre for interest at 3½ per cent and sinking fund at 1¼ per cent would be \$0.630. Against the lands assessable in the other districts a capital charge of \$12.72 per

government, assumed control of all dykes, and under whom the Chilliwack dyke was commenced and built. The building of the Chilliwack dyke was approved of by the people of the district in accordance with the Act of

there was to be made in respect of the amounts spent on capital account and the balance of the moneys spent on capital account was to be remitted.

This would reduce the charges on capital account to the following amounts:

Pitt Meadows	\$ 29246.71
Maple Ridge	106645.34
Coquitlam	41856.43
Matquill	127022.80
Chilliwack, as above	242070.22

Total

To these amounts had been added the sums expended by the government in maintaining the dykes during the past four years. It was felt it would be too burdensome to pay these arrears of maintenance charges at once and it was decided to add them to capital account and spread the payment of them over the forty years. From the amount of the maintenance charges in the Chilliwack district the amount charged hereto which was spent on protection works had been deducted. This made the sums to be charged against the several districts as fixed by section 4 of the bill. The total amount proposed to be levied and assumed by the province was \$358,278.20.

Under this bill the capital charges against each district and the capital charge against each acre in each district would be as follows:

	Cap. Charge	per Acre.
Pitt Meadows	\$ 24,863	\$15.16
Maple Ridge		
High land		16.33
Coquitlam		17.92
Low land		17.40
Matquill		15.06
Chilliwack	232,306	13.28

The annual charges for interest, sinking fund and maintenance would be as follows:

	Int. and Sinking F.	Maint'nce.	T'tl.
Pitt Meadows	\$ 746	\$ 914	\$1,660
Maple Ridge			
Low land	87	564	1,431
High land	5168	564	1,082
Coquitlam	861	1,16	2,04
Matquill	753	923	1,676
Chilliwack	663	135	798

Maintenance charges were based on the experience of the past four years. Payments to be made by Chilliwack were much less than any of the other districts and less than one-half of Pitt Meadows, Coquitlam and Matquill.

The bill provided that credit would be given for payments heretofore made under previous assessments—such credits to be applied on first and succeeding assessments under capital account. It was provided that annual payments were payable on December 31 each year. If not paid by the following February no credit would be given that land would be advertised and sold on the third Monday of the following April. Old assessments were cancelled and a new beginning made.

In conclusion Hon. Mr. Green submitted a statement showing the length of dykes and the location thereof concerned in the readjustment, as follows:

Length of Dyke.	Area in Acres.
Pitt Meadows	11.54
Maple Ridge	14.39
L. L. 5769.78	
H. L. 2614.29	
Coquitlam	6.41
Matquill	7.21
Chilliwack	15.96
Total	57.11

Mr. Paterson wanted to know the value of unoccupied lands in the dyking districts.

Hon. Mr. Green said that some unoccupied lands were held at from \$5 to \$10 per acre. In the Chilliwack district they were very valuable. He mentioned that according to report Mr. Paterson had purchased lands near the Westminster bridge for \$10 per acre.

Mr. Paterson said he bought the lands at public auction.

Hon. Mr. Green remarked that he had suggested, and did not care, how they were bought. He simply mentioned the purchase as being open to comparison as to price with lands within the dyke.

Mr. Oliver moved the adjournment of the debate.

Mr. Murphy suggested that the bill should stand over for six months, remarking that it was St. Patrick's day. He moved that the House adjourn.

The Premier took the suggestion in the same humor in which it was given and intimated that in view of the natural desire of members to get through with the business of the session, adjournment might just as well be deferred until the order paper was disposed of. The debate was adjourned.

The bill to establish and protect highways passed second reading. Briefly the Act provides that roads on which money is expended shall be declared to be public highways; also that certain dams shall be constructed only upon obtaining consent of the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works. It also stipulates that irrigation works must not cause damage to public highways, and that flumes, etc., conveying water across a highway must be constructed to the satisfaction of the Chief Commissioner.

Railway Charters Pass.

The bill to amend the Queen Charlotte Islands Railway Company Act, 1901, and the bill respecting the Pacific Northern and Omnica Railway passed third reading.

The bill respecting the Kootenay, Cariboo and Pacific Railway Company was adopted on report.

The bill to incorporate the Golden Light, Power and Water Company was committed, Mr. Brown in the chair, and was reported complete without amendment; also the bill to incorporate the Fording Valley Railway Company.

The bill to amend the Supreme Court Act, providing that the security for costs of an appeal shall not exceed \$200, was further discussed in committee, Mr. Hall in the chair.

The Attorney-General had counselled against this amendment, arguing that the fixing of security should remain, as it now is, a matter for the discretion of the judge.

Mr. Brown, who moved the second reading of the bill, adduced a speech in support of it.

The leader of the opposition also said a few words in its favor, and Mr. Henderson spoke briefly in favor of the bill.

On behalf of Mr. Bowser, who had manifested lively interest in the bill, and who was unavoidably absent, Mr. Cotton suggested that the bill should be allowed to stand over. This was consented to. The committee reported progress.

The House rose.

Notes.

In moving the adjournment of the House the Premier good-naturedly advised members that their presence was desired on the campus on Monday morning, to pose for their pictures, before the camera of a photographer. He suggested that the opposition representatives should endeavor to appear as cheerful as possible on the occasion.

CHILLIWACK DYKING RATES.

The fact that the rates of assessment on the Chilliwack dyking lands have not been materially reduced as proposed in the Dyking Relief Bill now before the Legislature is not evidence of unfair treatment. We believe that, so far as possible, the equities of the case were respected having in view the conditions and special circumstances in each district. The rate in Chilliwack will be about one-half what it is in the lowest of the other districts and nearly one-third of what it will be in the highest assessed district, and no one will deny that the conditions taken altogether are not much more favorable for the payment of the rates there than in the other districts. It may be accepted without question that any person would much prefer purchasing land in the dyked area of Chilliwack with the annual charge of 79 cents an acre against it to purchasing land in the Pitt Meadows, Maple Ridge, Coquitlam, or Matquill district, with rates of \$1.66, \$1.43, \$2.04 and \$1.67, respectively, against it. It may even be assumed without stating anything prejudicial against the other districts, that, as a rule, purchasers would prefer land in Chilliwack even if the rates of assessment were equal.

From the amount of the capital charge against Chilliwack District

There had been deducted the portion of such amount spent on protection works

Leaving

In the Chilliwack district there were 19,000.68 acres of land assessable and the capital charge per acre would be \$12.72 and the annual payment per acre for interest at 5% per cent and sinking fund at 1% per cent would be \$0.630. Against the lands assessable in the other districts a capital charge of \$12.72 per

The Colonist.

TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 1905.

Provincial Legislature

The Assessment Act Considered in Committee of the Whole.

Debate on the Second Reading of the Dyking Act Continued.

Various Matters of Legislation Advanced—Select Committee Progress.

Monday, March 20.

THE House assembled at 2 o'clock and after prayers by Rev. J. H. S. Sweet, the following was the order of business:

Mr. J. A. Macdonald introduced a bill entitled the Workmen's Compensation Act; also a bill to amend the Railway Amendment Act.

The bill to amend the unrepealed provisions of the Assessment Act passed third reading.

The Land Registry Act was further considered on report and a number of amendments were introduced on motion of the Attorney-General.

Assessment Act.

The bill to amend the Assessment Act was committed, Mr. Ross in the chair.

Wild land in section 3 for the purpose of taxation is described as all land other than coal and timber land, on which improvements made do not exceed \$2.50 per acre. Mr. Evans offered an amendment to increase the exemption per acre herein specified from \$2.50 to \$5.00. The amendment was stood over for consideration.

The Finance Minister informed Mr. Paterson that it was not intended under section 4, sub-section "b", to assess timber lands held by lease or licence. The sub-section, he explained, was merely intended as a description of "wild" lands.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald raised the point that owing to the phraseology of the sub-section there was a possibility that the two per cent. tax, provided for in another part of the bill, might be construed to apply, and in order to make sure of the matter the sub-section was stood over for further review. Consideration of section 5, dealing with the taxation of occupied Dominion lands, was also deferred.

Mr. McInnes proposed to add to the farmers' exemptions permanent improvements to the value of \$1,000. In doing so he disputed the wisdom of decreasing the tax on wild lands from \$5 to \$3, as provided by the bill. He thought the improvement of property should be encouraged.

Mr. Hawthorthwaite agreed with this and suggested that on farms up to an assessed value of \$2000 the rate of taxation should be three-fifths of one per cent.

Hon. Mr. Cotton argued that the taxation as provided would in no case exceed two or three dollars, and that such an exemption would relieve many persons from taxation altogether. He did not think any hardship would be occasioned by the tax.

Mr. Oliver supported the amendment. The section was stood over for consideration.

Mr. Brown thought that the 25 cents per acre charged on coal lands was rather excessive if prospecting licences were paid.

Hon. Mr. Tatlow said that in this connection there was a reduction in former taxation.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald objected to section 21, which provides for a subsequent supplementary assessment, in cases where, after the final revision of the current year's roll is discovered, that any person has escaped assessment. He did not approve of the retroactive character of this provision.

The section passed without discussion.

Mr. Paterson called attention to the provision with reference to tax sales, suggesting that too much consideration was given therein to the original owner of the land who neglected to pay his taxes. The matter was noted.

The committee reported progress. The bill to establish and protect the public highways was committed, Mr. Hall in the chair. Progress was reported.

Dyking Act.

Mr. Oliver continued the debate on the bill to amend the dyking assessment. He said the bill favored the land speculator as against the actual settler. Some of this work was done by commission under the Dyking and Drainage Act of 1894. Examination of the works was made in 1897, and according to the report of the engineer the following items were required to complete them: Maple Ridge, \$185,000; Coquitlam, \$115,000; Pitt Meadows, \$70,000; Matsqui, \$108,000; Suislaw, \$19,000. It was practically agreed between the government and the various districts that these sums should be sufficient. It was agreed that \$157,000 should complete the dyke at Chilliwack. In Chilliwack considerable of the lands within the dyke was covered with timber, the value of which was not affected by the dyke. Much of the choice land in Chilliwack was above flood level altogether. When the dykes at Matsqui were taken over there was much work remaining to be done to make the works useful for reclamation purposes. At Maple Ridge there were areas of lands within the dyke which would not be taken as a gift. Generally with reference to all the dykes, Mr. Oliver argued that there were lands within them not properly subject to taxation therefor, as they received no advantage. He took issue with the statement he attributed to the Minister of Public Works that the people of Chilliwack should pay as long as they could pay. He intimated that some dyking lands had received favorable treatment because they were owned by land speculators. The present bill would enable these speculators to put up the price at which the land was sold. In this connection he mentioned certain lands in Coquitlam, owned by a banking corporation. The very class of lands thus singled out for favorable consideration had been valued by the government's own officials at prices ranging from \$30 per acre upwards. In Delta it had cost from \$10 to \$35 per acre for dyking expenses alone. There was no reason why taxation should be remitted in the case of Coquitlam and Maple Ridge without regard for lands on the other side of the river. Going through the list of land owners in the allegedly favored districts, he intimated that many of them were not actual settlers, mentioning the names of Judge Bole, Miss Bole, a Mr. Borman and others. He pointed out that some years ago, about 1890, acres of lands had escaped assessment altogether. The estimated cost of dyking construction had been over-run. In one case the expenditure had exceeded the estimate three times. This indicated that there had been wastefulness in this connection. There was no equitable principle in the bill as far as he could see. It being close to 6 o'clock, Mr. Oliver moved the adjournment of the debate. The House rose.

Gallery Notes.

Consequent upon discussion in the private bills committee yesterday morning, the bill to incorporate the chartered accountants of the province will be recommended to the House on condition that all accountants now in the province shall pass examination to prove their competency.

The bill to incorporate the Sumas Dyking Co. was also favorably passed upon, with an attached stipulation that the company shall put up \$75,000 as security to settlers along the Lukukuk river against damage to their property. It was further agreed that the scheme should be submitted to a vote of the residents of the district before anything was done.

A deputation of farmers from Matsqui and Chilliwack was heard by the provincial executive yesterday morning with reference to the new Dyking Act. The deputation was introduced by Mr. G. W. Munro, M. P., and received a courteous hearing. Generally the representations made looked to certain special considerations, based on peculiar conditions obtaining in the districts.

A FINANCIAL PROPOSITION.

Mr. John Houston, member for Nelson, has given notice that he will move, upon the House going into supply, the consideration of a scheme of issuing land bonds, something, by the way, which has been on his mind for some time. In view of the fact that there are 230,000,000 acres odd of vacant Crown lands in the Province yielding no returns and doing no good, he thinks that it would be an excellent plan to issue \$30,000,000 of land bonds payable at par at the rate of \$1 per acre, each holder of scrip in denominations of 40, 80, 160, 320 or 640 acres to be permitted to locate upon any unalienated or unreserved Government lands, and to own it absolutely and all that is in it or on it. The bonds, if disposed of, would furnish the Government with ample money to pay off the public debt, build schools, build or bonus railways and to do a great many other things which the possession of \$30,000,000 in cash would enable the Government to do. The proposition, while highly original, is also striking, even spectacular, and, providing the public policy involved can be defended, more practical than most persons imagine. There are periods when such a proposition would be a positive, dead failure; but there are also periods when an issue of land bonds of such a character would produce an absolute furor, when men, women and even children would fall over each other to secure them. Needless to say, the public would require to be in a speculative mood to make it a success. It is not a business proposition, that is to say, a man who wanted to make an investment would not consider the purchase of such bonds for the purpose, but people will gamble where they will not invest, and we can imagine such a condition of affairs, such an atmosphere of speculation, in which the whole of the proposed issue would go off like hot cakes. There have been many such examples in history. In fact, we have not even to go into the far off fields, which produced the South Sea bubble, or the Panama canal issues in France, or the South African lotteries in London and other memorable instances of "frenzied finance." Every new mining field affords illustrations. As soon as a rich discovery is made and a new camp struck, hundreds or thousands appear on the scene and the country for miles is staked. Though time and money are spent, it is on the chance of sharing in the Midas-like visions of wealth. This has been the experience so often in mining countries that it is merely necessary to refer to it to confirm the soundness of the possibilities of this new proposal. It is possible that the present would present such an opportunity for launching the experiment. Or it may be that it would be better a few years later, when the Grand Trunk Pacific and the Canadian Northern are at the foothills of the Rockies and entering our mountain passes—a time when, naturally, speculative fever will be at its highest. Whether now or later it requires to be at the "psychological moment"—the proper stage of the financial moon. Some risk, therefore, would attend a mistake of judgment in choosing the moment.

Obviously, provision would have to be made for the taking up of the whole of the issue at once. It would never do to hang fire at a million or two or ten or even twenty millions. That could not be ensured except by a state of widespread financial excitement sufficient to render it possible, or by an arrangement with one or more large syndicates. There will naturally arise doubts as to the ability to "bring off"

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Legislative

Prayers by the R

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Mr. Oliver asked

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The Hon. Mr. T

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"2. Chilliwack Meadows, \$19,953.63

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No. 28.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Legislative Assembly of British Columbia.

Monday, 20th March, 1905.

TWO O'CLOCK, P.M.

Prayers by the Rev. J. H. Sweet.

Mr. Garden presented a petition from the Property Owners' Association of Vancouver, re amendments to Public Schools Act.
Laid on the table.

On the motion of Mr. J. A. Macdonald, the following Bills were introduced, read a first time and Ordered to be read a second time to-morrow:—

Bill (No. 41) intituled "The Workmen's Compensation Act Amendment Act, 1905."

Bill (No. 42) intituled "An Act to amend the 'British Columbia Railway Act.'"

Mr. Oliver asked the Hon. the Minister of Finance the following questions:—

1. What is the rate of interest paid on overdraft on dyking account?
2. What is the amount of interest due to December 31st (by districts) on dyking account?

The Hon. Mr. Tatlow replied as follows:—

"1. 5 per cent. per annum.

"2. Chilliwack, \$36,380.74; Coquitlam, \$29,889.12; Maple Ridge, \$44,909; Pitt Meadows, \$19,953.63; Sumas, \$4,674.74. Total, \$135,807.23."

Bill (No. 25) intituled "An Act to amend the Unrepealed Provisions of the 'Assessment Act,'" was read a third time and passed.

The Report on Bill (No. 8) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Land Registry Act and amending Acts,'" was further considered.

The Hon. Mr. Wilson moved, in section 33, line 1, to strike out the word "said," and insert in lieu thereof the word "principal."

Carried.

The Hon. Mr. Wilson moved, in section 39, line 1, to insert after the words "Form E" the words "of the principal Act."

Carried.

The Hon. Mr. Wilson moved, in section 40, line 8, to strike out the figures "91," and insert in lieu thereof the figures "71."

Carried.

The Hon. Mr. Wilson moved, in section 41, line 1, to insert after the words "Form B" the words "of the principal Act."

Carried.

The Colonist.

TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 1905

Provincial
LegislatureThe Assessment Act Considered
in Committee of the
Whole.Debate on the Second Reading
of the Dyking Act
Continued.Various Matters of Legislation
Advanced—Select Committee
Progress.

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The bill to amend the unrepaid provisions of the Assessment Act passed third reading.

The Land Registry Act was referred to a select committee and amendments were introduced on motion of the Attorney-General.

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The bill to amend the Assessment Act was committed, Mr. Ross in the chair.

Wild land in section 3 for the purpose of taxation is described as all other than coal and timber land, which improvements made do not exceed \$250 per acre. Mr. Evans offered an amendment to increase the exemption per acre herein specified from \$250 to \$500. The amendment was stood over for consideration.

The Finance Minister informed Mr. Paterson that it was not intended in section 4, sub-section "b", to include timber lands held by lease or license. The subsection, he explained, was only intended as a description of "a" lands.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald raised the point that owing to the phraseology of sub-section there was a possibility the two per cent. tax, provided for another part of the bill, might be construed to apply, and in order to insure of the matter the sub-section stood over for further review.

Consideration of section 5, dealing with taxation of occupied Dominion land was also deferred.

Mr. McInnes proposed to add to farmers' exemptions permanent improvements to the value of \$1,000. In doing so he disputed the wisdom of decreasing the tax on wild lands from 35 to 43, provided by the bill. He thought improvement of property should be encouraged.

Mr. Hawthornthwaite agreed with this and suggested that on farms up to an assessed value of \$20,000 the rate of taxation should be three-fifths of one per cent.

Hon. Mr. Cotton argued that the taxation as provided would in no case exceed two or three dollars, and that such an exemption would relieve many persons from taxation altogether. He did not think any hardship would be occasioned by the tax.

Mr. Oliver supported the amendment. The section was stood over for consideration.

Mr. Brown thought that the 25 cents per acre charged on coal lands was rather excessive if prospecting licences were paid.

Hon. Mr. Tatlow said that in this connection there was a reduction in former taxation.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald objected to section 11, which provides for a subsequent supplementary assessment, in cases where, after the final revision of the current year's roll is discovered, that any person has escaped assessment. He did not approve of the retrospective character of this provision.

The section passed without alteration.

Mr. Paterson called attention to the provision with reference to tax sales, suggesting that too much consideration was given therein to the original owner.

A FINANCIAL PROPOSITION.

Mr. John Houston, member for New Brunswick.

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20TH MARCH.

1905

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The Hon. Mr. Wilson moved, in section 46, line 1, to strike out figures "10," and insert figure "3," and to strike out figures "1900," and insert figures "1901."

Carried.

The Hon. Mr. Wilson moved, in section 46, line 2, to strike out the words "as re-enacted by the 'Land Registry Act Amendment Act, 1901.'"

Carried.

The Hon. Mr. Wilson moved, in section 56, line 2, after the word "sections," where it first occurs, to insert the figures "21, 52"

Carried.

The further consideration of the Report was adjourned.

Bill (No. 36) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Assessment Act, 1903,'" was committed. Progress reported.

Committee to sit again to-morrow.

Bill (No. 38) intituled "An Act to Establish and Protect Highways," was committed. Progress reported.

Committee to sit again to-morrow.

The debate on the second reading of Bill (No. 39) intituled "An Act to Adjust Dyking Assessments," was resumed.

The debate was again adjourned until to-morrow.

Resolved, That the House, at its rising, do stand adjourned until two o'clock to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned at 5:59 P.M.

C. E. POOLEY, Speaker.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

On Wednesday next—

Mr. Henderson to ask leave to introduce a Bill intituled "An Act to amend the 'Supreme Court Act.'"

On Thursday next—

Mr. Clifford to ask leave to introduce a Bill intituled "An Act to amend the 'Provincial Elections Act.'"

By Mr. J. A. Macdonald—On Wednesday next—

(1.) That an Order of the House be made that correspondence relating to the pre-emption of Mr. Kirkland, of Atlin, recorded 30th June, 1904, be brought down.

2. That an Order be made that all correspondence relating to the Atlin Townsite, and the new addition to Atlin Townsite, be brought down.

By Mr. Brown—On Wednesday next—Questions of the Hon. the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works—

1. How many acres of land have the Columbia and Western Railway Company had Crown-granted to it under its Subsidy Act of 1896?

2. Is the Columbia and Western Railway Company entitled to any further acreage under its Subsidy Act of 1896?

3. If it is entitled to any further acreage, in respect of what section or sections is it so entitled, and to what quantity?

provincial executive yesterday morning with reference to the new Dyking Act. The deputation was introduced by Mr. C. W. Munro, M. P., and received a courteous hearing. Generally the representations made looked to certain special consideration, based on peculiar conditions obtaining in the districts.

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Mr. McInnes to move to amend the 'Assessment Act' (23A.) All permanent made

The Hon. Mr. W. respecting the Jurisdiction "185. This Act shall

Mr. Evans to move to amend the 'Assessment Act' In section 3, sub-section 3, and substitute the words

The Hon. Mr. Full to amend and consolidate the Act

In section 2, line 2, In section 2, lines 2, In section 2, line 2, therefor, respectively,

In section 6, proposed (b.) To enlarge the

any case where the ad-organised School District City School District."

In section 7, in the same line, after

To insert the following

"14. Where any sub-section (b) of section apply thereto, and such city, and all property in the same manner as City Municipality."

Section 16, line 1, thereof.

Line 2—Strike out hundred and twenty"

Line 3—Strike out thereof.

Line 5—After the science instructors."

Section 17, line 1, Line 2—After the science instructors."

Line 6—After the science instructors."

To insert the following

"22. It shall be the duty of the School District the ensuing year, to submit upon receipt of the report of the circumstances of such as by the said Council

To insert the following

"26. Every person who makes the following

A FINANCIAL PROPOSITION.

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3

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Mr. *McInnes* to move, in Committee of the Whole on Bill (No. 36) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Assessment Act, 1903,'" to add the following as a sub-section to section 11 :—

"(23A.) All permanent improvements up to the value of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) made on land used for agricultural purposes."

The Hon. Mr. *Wilson* to move, on third reading of Bill (No. 7) intituled "An Act respecting the Jurisdiction and Procedure of County Courts," to add as section 185 :—

"185. This Act shall come into force on the first day of July, 1905."

Mr. *Evans* to move, on consideration of the Report on Bill (No. 36) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Assessment Act, 1903,'" the following amendment :—

In section 3, sub-section (12), line 4, to strike out the words "two dollars and fifty cents," and substitute the words "five dollars" in lieu thereof.

The Hon. Mr. *Fulton* to move, in Committee of the Whole on Bill (No. 15) intituled "An Act to amend and consolidate the 'Public Schools Act,'" the following amendments :—

In section 2, line 7, strike out the words "whether male or female."

In section 2, lines 17 and 18, strike out the words "of three hundred and sixty-five days."

In section 2, line 19, strike out the words "July," "30th" and "June," and substitute therefor, respectively, "January," "31st" and "December."

In section 6, proposed new sub-section (b) :—

"(b.) To enlarge the boundaries of City School Districts, as they may deem expedient, in any case where the adjoining territory is not included within the boundaries of a regularly organised School District, so as to include any portion of such adjoining territory within the City School District."

In section 7, in the first line of sub-section (d), strike out the word "separate," and insert in the same line, after the word "school," the word "exclusively."

To insert the following as section 14 and re-number the sections following :—

"14. Where any territory has been included in a City School District in accordance with sub-section (b) of section 6, the provisions of this Act respecting Public Schools in cities shall apply thereto, and such territory for all school purposes shall be deemed to be united to such city, and all property situate in such territory shall be liable to assessment for school purposes in the same manner and to the same extent as if the same were included in the limits of the City Municipality."

Section 16, line 1—Strike out the word "fifty" and substitute the word "sixty" in lieu thereof.

Line 2—Strike out the words "three hundred and seventy-five" and substitute "four hundred and twenty" in lieu thereof.

Line 3—Strike out the word "twenty" and substitute the words "sixty-five" in lieu thereof.

Line 5—After the word "teachers" insert the words "manual training and domestic science instructors."

Section 17, line 1—Strike out the word "fifty" and substitute "eighty" in lieu thereof.

Line 2—After the word "teachers" insert the words "manual training and domestic science instructors."

Line 6—After the word "teachers" insert the words "manual training and domestic science instructors."

To insert the following as section 22 and re-number the sections following :—

"22. It shall be the duty of each Inspector to determine and report to the Superintendent what School District or Districts (if any), under his supervision may be entitled, during the ensuing year, to special aid as poor districts, and the Council of Public Instruction may, upon receipt of the report of the Inspector, and taking into consideration the position and circumstances of such District or Districts, allow to any such District such additional amount as by the said Council may be deemed necessary."

To insert the following as section 26 and re-number the sections following :—

"26. Every person who shall have been duly elected trustee shall, before taking his seat, make the following declaration before any Judge of the Supreme Court, or a Judge of any

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20TH MARCH.

1905

County Court, or before a Justice of the Peace, and shall procure from such Judge or Justice of the Peace a certificate of the same having been duly made and subscribed:—

"I, A. B., trustee elect for the Victoria (or, as the case may be) School District, do declare that I am a British subject, possessing the qualifications by law required, and that I am not in any way disqualified from holding the office of school trustee, and I have not, nor will have while holding office, any interest, directly or indirectly, in any contract or services connected with this School Board. I have not, by myself or any other person, knowingly employed any bribery, corruption or intimidation to gain my election, and I will faithfully perform the duties of my office, and I will not allow any private interest to influence my conduct in school matters."

To strike out section 47 and substitute the following therefor:—

"47. It shall be the duty of the Board of Trustees of each Rural School District forth-
with after the holding of any meeting of such district having power to vote money and at which money is voted, to furnish the Assessor of the Assessment District or of the District Municipality in which the Rural School District, or any part thereof, is situate with a list of all persons resident and non-resident who own real estate in such district, and of all residents of the district liable to be rated in respect of personal property or income, and of all corporations, firms as aforesaid, and persons, not being residents, liable as aforesaid to be rated in respect of real or personal property or income in the district, together with the nature of such property. It shall also be the duty of the Board of Trustees to furnish to such Assessor a statement of the amount determined upon at such meeting as the amount to be raised in such School District, which statement shall be certified by the Secretary of such Board."

To insert the following as section 48 and re-number the sections following:—

"48. If any Rural School District shall include within its boundaries parts of two or more adjoining Rural Municipalities, or parts of two or more adjoining Assessment Districts, it shall be the duty of the Board of Trustees of such School District to furnish the Assessors of such Rural Municipalities or Assessment Districts with a list of the persons liable to be rated for school purposes in the portions of such School District that lie within the jurisdiction of such Assessors."

Section 51, line 11—Insert after "assessment" the words "district or."

To strike out section 56 and substitute the following therefor:—

"56. It shall be the duty of each Assessor, whether Provincial or Municipal, upon being furnished by the Board of Trustees of any School District within or partly within his Assessment District or District Municipality with the list and certified statement provided for by section of this Act, and he is hereby empowered:

"(a.) To set opposite the name of each person the amount on which he is liable to be taxed under this Act; that is to say, in the case of a non-resident of the Rural School District, the taxable valuation of the real estate in the said district owned by the non-resident; and in the case of a resident of the Rural School District, the taxable valuation of real and personal property and income of such resident; and in the case of corporations, firms as aforesaid, and other persons referred to in sub-section (c) of section 44, the real and personal property and the total income for which such other person, firm, corporation or company is rated under this Act, in respect of such Rural School District; persons assessed as the owners of real estate in the Assessment District or District Municipality assessment list shall, until the filing of the next assessment list, be deemed the owners thereof for the purposes of Rural School District assessment. Each Assessor shall, also, when called upon by the Superintendent of Education, furnish to the Superintendent a certified copy of such list:

"(b.) To apportion the amount to be raised by the Rural School District in the following manner: The sum to be raised shall be levied on real and personal estate and income by a fair apportionment according to the valuation contained in the above-mentioned list, no one class of property assessed being charged a higher rate than another:

"(c.) To collect the rates to be raised in such Rural School District in the same manner, as near as may be, as other rates and taxes are collected under and by virtue of the 'Assessment Act, 1903,' or any amendment thereof:

"(d.) To remit all moneys collected by him in respect of each Rural School District, monthly, to the officer in charge of the Treasury, with a statement of the amounts so collected and of the School Districts from which the same are collected."

with reference to the new Dyking Act.
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20TH MARCH.

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A FINANCIAL PROPOSITION.
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 ich the same are collected."

Section 57, line 1—After the words "Assessment Act, 1903," add "or any amendment thereof."

To insert the following as new sections, to follow after section 57 :—

"Every person assessed in any Rural School District under the provisions of this Act shall have the same right of appeal as is provided for by the 'Assessment Act, 1903,' or any amendment thereof, or by the 'Municipal Clauses Act,' or any amendment thereof, as the case may be, according to whether such district is situate within a Provincial Assessment District or District Municipality: Provided, however, that no such appeal shall be allowed in cases where property or income is assessed at the same value or amount as in the Assessment Roll of the Assessment District or District Municipality in which such property or income is assessed."

"The Council of Public Instruction shall pay over half-yearly to the Board of School Trustees of each Rural School District the amounts collected by the Provincial or Municipal Assessor from such District under the provisions of this Act."

That section 59 be struck out and the following substituted in lieu thereof :

"59. In case of a judgment being recovered against the Trustees in their corporate capacity, they shall notify the Assessor, Provincial or Municipal, as the case may be, and he shall satisfy the same by forthwith assessing the amount of such judgment upon the rate-payers of such Rural School District in the same manner as a school rate ordered by the school meeting would be assessable, and such rate or assessment may be collected in the same manner as any school rate ordered by the school meeting may be collected."

That section 60 be struck out.

Section 67—Beginning with the word "Whereupon," in the 14th line, strike out the remainder of the section, and substitute the following :—

"Whereupon the person making such declaration shall be permitted to vote upon all questions proposed at such meeting; but if any person refuse to make such declaration, his or her vote shall be rejected; and if any person wilfully makes a false declaration of his or her right to vote, he or she shall, on a summary conviction thereof, be liable to a fine not greater than one hundred dollars."

Section 75, line 3—After the word "expire" insert the following : "and the trustee so elected shall serve for the next ensuing three years."

Strike out section 87, as printed, and substitute therefor the following :—

"87. It shall be the duty of the Rural Board of School Trustees to appoint one of themselves to be Secretary and Treasurer to the Corporation, who shall give such security as may be required by a majority of the Trustees for the correct and safe keeping and forthcoming, when called for, of the papers and money belonging to the Corporation, and for the correct keeping of a record of their proceedings in a book procured for that purpose, and for the receiving and accounting for all school moneys which shall come into his hands, and for the disbursing of such moneys, in the manner directed by a majority of the Trustees."

That section 88 be struck out.

Section 90—Strike out all the words after "provided," in line 7, down to and including the word "each," in line 11.

Sub-section (b), line 1—Strike out the words "collected from the School District" and substitute "received from the Assessor."

Sub-section (c), line 1—Strike out the word "raised" and substitute "received."

To add the following to section 97 :—

"If any person wilfully violates the provisions of this section he shall, upon a summary conviction thereof, be liable to a fine not greater than five hundred dollars."

Section 100, line 1—After the word "Governor" add "in Council."

Section 111, line 1—Strike out the word "twelve" and substitute "fourteen" in lieu thereof.

That section 117 be struck out and the following substituted in lieu thereof :—

"117. Trustees holding office at the time this Act comes into force shall continue in office and shall perform all the duties of Trustees under this Act until their successors are elected at the first meeting held for the election of Trustees in accordance with the provisions of this Act."

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The Colonist.

TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 1905

Provincial Legislature

The Assessment Act Considered
in Committee of the
Whole.

Debate on the Second Reading
of the Dyking Act
Continued.

Various Matters of Legislation
Advanced—Select Committee
Progress.

Monday, March 20

THE House assembled at 2 p.m. and after prayers by Rev. J. Sweet, the following was the order of business:

Mr. J. A. Macdonald introduced a bill entitled the Workmen's Compensation Act; also a bill to amend the way Amendment Act.

The bill to amend the unrepaid provisions of the Assessment Act was read a third time.

The Land Registry Act was considered on report and a number of amendments were introduced on the motion of the Attorney-General.

Assessment Act.

The bill to amend the Assessment Act was committed, Mr. Ross in the chair. Wild land in section 3 for the purpose of taxation is described as all other than coal and timber land, which improvements made do not exceed \$2.50 per acre. Mr. Evans offered an amendment to increase the exemption per acre herein specified from \$2.50 to \$5.00. The amendment was stood over for consideration.

The Finance Minister informed Mr. Paterson that it was not intended to amend section 4, sub-section "b", to include timber lands held by lease or license. The subsection, he explained, was only intended as a description of "b" lands.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald raised the point that owing to the phraseology of sub-section there was a possibility the two per cent. tax, provided for another part of the bill, might be construed to apply, and in order to ensure of the matter the sub-section stood over for further review.

Consideration of section 5, dealing with taxation of occupied Dominion land, was also deferred.

Mr. McInnes proposed to add to farmers' exemptions permanent improvements to the value of \$1,000. In doing so he disputed the wisdom of decreasing the tax on wild lands from 35 to 25 per cent. provided by the bill. He thought improvement of property should be encouraged.

Mr. Hawthornthwaite agreed with this and suggested that on farms up to an assessed value of \$2000 the rate of taxation should be three-fifths of one per cent.

Hon. Mr. Cotton argued that the taxation as provided would in no case exceed two or three dollars, and that as an exemption would relieve many persons from taxation altogether. He did not think any hardship would be occasioned by the tax.

Mr. Oliver supported the amendment. The section was stood over for consideration.

Mr. Brown thought that the 25 cents per acre charged on coal lands was rather excessive if prospecting licences were paid.

Hon. Mr. Tatlow said that in this connection there was a reduction in former taxation.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald objected to section 11, which provides for a subsequent supplementary assessment, in cases where, after the final revision of the current year's roll is discovered, that any person has secured assessment. He did not approve of the retrospective character of this provision.

The section passed without alteration.

Mr. Paterson called attention to the provision with reference to tax sales, suggesting that too much consideration was given therein to the original owner.

A FINANCIAL PROPOSITION.

Mr. John Houston, M.P., for the North.

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20TH MARCH.

1905

The Hon. Mr. Fulton to move, in Committee of the Whole on Bill (No. 28) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Game Protection Act, 1898,'" the following amendments:—

Section 2, line 1—Strike out the words "the said chapter 24" and insert the words "chapter 24 of the Statutes of 1898, being the 'Game Protection Act, 1898,'" in lieu thereof.

Section 3, lines 1 and 2—Strike out the words "chapter 24 of the Statutes of 1898, being the 'Game Protection Act, 1898,'" and insert the words "said Act" in lieu thereof.

Section 8, line 1—Strike out the word "the" after the word "of."

Section 17, line 2—Insert the figures "1898" after the first word "Act."

To insert the following as a new section:—

"Section 6 of chapter 21 of the Statutes of 1903-4, being the 'Game Protection Act, 1898, Amendment Act, 1904,' is hereby repealed, and the following substituted therefor:—

"6. It shall be lawful for the Lieutenant-Governor in Council, on good cause shown, by proclamation in two successive issues of the British Columbia Gazette, to declare a closed season for the animals and birds mentioned in Schedule B to the 'Game Protection Act, 1898,' or any amendment thereof, and also geese, or any one or more of same, in any portion of the Province which may be defined by such Proclamation, and for any period of time."

VICTORIA, B. C.

Printed by RICHARD WOLFENDE, L.S.O., V.D., Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty.
1905.

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Obviously, provision would have to be made for the taking up of the whole of the issue at once. It would never do to hang fire at a million or two or ten or even twenty millions. That could not be ensured except by a state of widespread financial excitement sufficient to render it possible, or by an arrangement with one or more large syndicates. There will naturally arise doubts as to the ability to "bring off"

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TUESDAY, MARCH 21,

Provincial Legislature

**The Assessment Act Considers
In Committee of the
Whole.**

Debate on the Second Reading of the Dyking Act Continued.

Various Matters of Legis Advanced—Select Comm Progress.

Monday, March

THE House assembled at 2 and after prayers by Rev. J. Sweet, the following was order of business:

Mr. J. A. Macdonald introduced a bill entitled the Workmen's Compensation Act; also a bill to amend the way Amendment Act.

The bill to amend the unrepealed provisions of the Assessment Act third reading.

The Land Registry Act was considered on report and a number of amendments were interjected on the motion of the Attorney-General.

Assessment Act

The bill to amend the Assessment was committed, Mr. Ross in the chair. Wild land in section 3 for the purposes of taxation is described as all other than coal and timber land, which improvements made do not cost \$250 per acre. Mr. Evans offered an amendment to increase the expense per acre herein specified from \$250.00. The amendment was stood over for consideration.

The Finance Minister informed Paterson that it was not intended section 4, sub-section "b", to timber lands held by lease or license. The subsection, he explained, was intended as a description of "lands."

Mr. J. A. Macdonald raised the question that owing to the phraseology of the sub-section there was a possibility that the two per cent. tax, provided for in another part of the bill, might be construed to apply, and in order to be sure of the matter the sub-section stood over for further review.

Mr. McInnes proposed to add to farmers' exemptions permanent improvements to the value of \$1,000. In so he disputed the wisdom of decreas- ing the tax on wild lands from \$5 to \$3 provided by the bill. He thought improvement of property should be encouraged.

Mr. Hawthornthwaite agreed this and suggested that on farms with an assessed value of \$2000 the tax variation should be three-fifths of one percent.

Hon. Mr. Cotton argued that the exemption as provided would in no case exceed two or three dollars, and that an exemption would relieve many persons from taxation altogether. He did not think any hardship would be occasioned by the tax.

Mr. Oliver supported the amendment. The section was stood over for consideration.

Mr. Brown thought that the 25 per acre charged on coal lands was excessive if prospecting licences

Hon. Mr. Tatlow said that in this section there was a reduction in for taxation.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald objected to section 51, which provides for a supplementary assessment, in which, after the final revision of the current year's roll is discovered, any person has escaped assessment, did not approve of the retroactive effect of the provision.

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A FINANCIAL PROPOSITION

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As to the latter, no policy would probably benefit certain class of consumers. Thirty million, with all above the way of timber and most probably be worse and in all probability arranged for; but it that portion of the F already owned, less mountain tops and less of the population to as to the practical money as suggested, equity, and if the Procure better terms for and continues to get increase the taxes, it worth considering. I however to wait a year what prospects really "First Liberal-Conservative" before announced and offering, without capitalistic fry of the small, at special cash for our assets.

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A FINANCIAL PROPOSITION.

Mr. John H. Brown, Member of the House.

the first according to programme, as speculative moods are not subject to mathematical laws of human manipulation and a Government might feel some hesitancy about undertaking to use the ordinary methods of exciting the public mind in that way and with that end in view.

As to the latter, grave objections of policy would probably be urged by a certain class of conservatively inclined persons. Thirty millions of acres of land, with all above and beneath in the way of timber and minerals, would in all probability be worth \$30,000,000 net, and in all probability, too, could be arranged for; but it would, outside of that portion of the Provincial domain already owned, leave little else but mountain tops and ravines for the rest of the population to vegetate upon. As to the practicability of raising money as suggested, we see no difficulty, and if the Province fails to secure better terms from the Dominion, and continues to get hard up and increase the taxes, it would be well worth considering. It might be well, however to wait a year or two, and see what prospects really are under the "first Liberal-Conservative administration" before announcing a bargain day and offering, without reserve, to the capitalistic fry of the world, large and small, at special cash sale, the balance of our assets.

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The Colonist.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22, 1905.

Provincial Legislature

Debate Continued on Second Reading of the Dyking Act.

Mr. Bowser Gives Notice of a Motion Respecting Autonomy Bill.

School Bill Discussed in Committee of the Whole in Local House.

Tuesday, March 21.

THE House assembled at 2 o'clock and after prayers were read by the Rev. J. H. Sweet, the following was the order of business:

Bills Introduced.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald introduced a bill to amend the B. C. Railway Act. It provides that running powers shall be open to all other lines on railways chartered by the province, upon terms to be fixed by the government.

Hon. Mr. Taylor introduced a bill relating to unpaid monies deposited in the treasury of the province.

The bill to amend and consolidate the Public Schools Act was committed, Mr. Macgowan in the chair.

A number of amendments were incorporated in the bill upon motion of the Minister of Education. One to give the government power to enlarge the boundaries of city school districts, as they may deem expedient, in any case where the adjoining territory is not included within the boundaries of a regularly organized school district, so as to include any portion of such adjoining territory within the city school district. Also that "where any territory has been included in a city school district in accordance with sub-section (b) of section 6, the provisions of this act respecting public schools in cities shall apply thereto, and such territory for all school purposes shall be deemed to be united to such city, and all property situate in such territory for all school purposes shall be deemed to be united to such city, and all property situate in such territory shall be liable to assessment for school purposes in the same manner and to the same extent as if the same were included in the limits of the city municipality."

Under the head of provincial aid, the per capita grant to cities of the first class was changed from \$350 to \$360; in cities of the second class the grant was increased from \$375 to \$420; in cities of the third class the grant was increased from \$420 to \$460. This grant as originally provided was based on the "actual number of teachers employed." This was altered to include "manual training and domestic science instruction." The per capita grant to rural schools was raised from \$450 to \$480, and the basis of payment was changed as in the case of city schools.

The following was substituted for section 22: "It shall be the duty of each inspector to determine and report to the superintendent what school district or districts (if any), under his supervision may be entitled, during the ensuing year, to special aid as poor districts, and the council of public instruction may, upon receipt of the report of the inspector, and taking into consideration the position and circumstances of such district or districts, allow to any such district such additional amount as by the said council may be deemed necessary."

The following was inserted as section 26: "26. Every person who shall have been duly elected trustee shall, before taking his seat, make the following declaration before any judge of the Supreme court, or a judge of any County court, or before a justice of the peace, and shall procure from such judge or justice of the peace a certificate of the

same having been duly made and subscribed: 'I, A. B., trustee elect for the Victoria (or, as the case may be) school district, do declare that I am a British subject, possessing the qualifications by law required, and that I am not in any way disqualified from holding the office of school trustee, and I have not, nor will have while holding office, any interest, directly or indirectly, in any contract or services connected with this school board. I have not, by myself or any other person, knowingly employed any bribery, corruption or intimidation to gain my election, and I will faithfully perform the duties of my office, and I will not allow any private interest to influence my conduct in school matters.'

Mr. Williams and Mr. Hawthornthwaite put in a plea for more liberal assistance to the poorer rural districts on the island.

Mr. Oliver passed a remark about the apparent effects of Liberal anti-school bill meetings upon the Socialist members, arguing that upon second reading they had supported the bill more unreservedly than any other members of the House.

This introduced an exchange of compliments with reference to parliamentary ethics, and the right of members to look after their own districts particularly, between these gentlemen.

Dr. Young observed that while it was commendable for members to have chief regard to their own constituencies, a wide field would be opened up if these ideas were allowed to prevail, pointing out that there were districts in the northern part of the province whose claims might supercede those of Newcastle or Nanaimo with reference to school assistance.

Mr. Hall suggested that a tuition fee for all branches of the High school curriculum, beyond a certain grade, should be provided, but after some consideration it was agreed that it was better to leave this matter to the discretion of the boards of trustees, as stipulated in the bill.

Amended section 47, imposing the duty upon trustees of supplying certain information with respect to assessable property, persons and income within their school districts, was stood over for further consideration, the idea being to avoid making any impracticable exactions upon the trustees in this regard. The amended section dealing with the duties of assessors was also stood over. The committee reported progress.

THE DYKING ACT.

Mr. Oliver continued the debate on the second reading of the Dyking Act, elaborating his point of the previous day, that the bill favored the lands held by speculators as against the actual settlers occupying the land. In the Pitt Meadows district there was a reduction, under the new bill, from \$98,000 to \$54,000. In Chilliwack the people would pay \$25 out of \$28 of the total cost of the dykes. In relation to the bill of 1898 the people would be forced to pay \$2 for every \$1 which they originally agreed to pay. At Matsqui they were asked to pay \$3 for every \$2 which they agreed to pay. At Pitt Meadows, where the land was held largely on speculation, the tax amounted to one-half of what the people agreed to pay. Maple Ridge would be taxed \$2 out of every \$3 which it agreed to pay. Pitt Meadows would pay, according to the bill, \$3 out of every \$8 expended; Maple Ridge would pay \$6 out of \$11 expended, and Coquitlam would pay \$3 out of every \$8 expended. The reduction provided for in the act worked out as follows: Chilliwack, 11 per cent; Matsqui, 44 per cent; Coquitlam, 55 per cent, and Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows about the same. These facts were adduced to prove that the assessments were not adjusted on an equitable basis. He did not see why the interests of the speculator should be considered. He charged that the Minister of Public Works had promised at Westminster Junction that the people of the dyking districts would be consulted in drafting the bill, with a view of ensuring an equitable revision.

Hon. Mr. Green said that he feared Mr. Oliver's hearing was bad.

Mr. Oliver reiterated the statement, and was elaborating it rather emphatically, saying that Mr. Robert Kennedy was one of those to whom the statement was made, when a gentleman sitting in the gallery loudly called "No." Mr. Oliver immediately directed the Speaker's attention to the interruption, and asked that the stranger be removed. The gentleman, however, would not upon invitation, for he quickly asked his hat and left the chamber before the traitor sergeant-at-arms had opportunity to reach the door.

Mr. Oliver went on to say that the contents of the present bill before its introduction were apparently understood by certain parties outside the House, and that he had reason to suppose that the gentleman who interrupted him from the gallery was one of these. He proceeded to argue that lands held for speculative purposes should not be favored in the dyking tax, but that, on the contrary, the settlement, cultivation and improvement of the land should be encouraged therein. In conclusion he moved:

That this House is of the opinion that the cost of the dyking works of this province, owing to unforeseen difficulties and the experimental nature of the undertaking, has been much in excess of their value to the district involved, and that it is expedient and advisable that a substantial reduction should be made in the amount to be charged against lands in the various dyking districts. That the present bill as introduced is unjust, unfair and inequitable in its provisions discriminating against actual bona fide settlers in favor of the land speculator. That the present bill should be withdrawn and a bill submitted that whilst giving relief to the various dyking districts, shall be so framed as to spread the balance of the burden of taxation equitably upon lands involved, discriminating in favor of the actual settler and so ensuring the settlement and cultivation of the lands in the various dyking districts.

Mr. Munro seconded the motion. In doing so he exonerated the government from any intention to deal unfairly in the adjustment of the dyking tax. At the same time he observed that the agricultural industry had no representation in the cabinet, and that their collaborations with respect to the measure might have profited from practical knowledge. He was surprised that the bill had run the gauntlet of agricultural representatives in the party caucus, so as to emerge therefrom in its present shape. He failed to discover any principle in the bill. Its guiding purpose apparently was to divide the sheep from the goats; in other words the speculator from the tiller of the land. There were three things which should have consideration in preparing such a measure: The contracted liability of parties interested; the values created by the works themselves, and the encouragement of settlement of the district. In drawing the bill these conditions had been entirely overlooked. The government had apparently followed the lines of least resistance in settling the matter. As to contracted liability the people of Chilliwack authorized an expenditure of \$155,000 for building dykes. This amount had been exceeded until the expenditure had grown to \$220,000. He challenged the statement that every dollar of this expenditure could be justified, alluding particularly to the amount of \$25,258 for engineering expenses. Work of the most reckless kind had occurred in connection with the engineering of the Chilliwack dykes. He associated with this a reference to a work called the wing dam, and read a report in which this structure was said to have been faulty, and that a large amount of money was wasted thereon. He said that the inspector of dykes had a horse and buggy at his disposal in Chilliwack paid for by the people, yet insisted upon employing a double team when he had occasion to drive over the works. A useless telephone system had been installed on the dyke at considerable expense, and other extravagances had taken place, which, while small in themselves, were scarcely justifiable from a financial point of view. The people of Chilliwack were willing to pay for their dyke, but they wanted their management reduced to a sound business basis and the assessments equitably apportioned. He mentioned the construction of a huge dredger at Matsqui, built as an experiment. It was so heavy that it had stood in the places where erected ever since. It was built on the grasshopper principle and was expected to hop along of itself. The operations of the mound builders was suggested by the appearance of some of the Matsqui dyking works. He paid a tribute to the settlers of this district, their social accomplishments and the practical work they had done, and deplored the fact that anything should be done to deter the settlement of the country. He thought the present bill would have such an effect. If it were passed he predicted that it would be repealed next year, but that much harm would be done in the meantime.

The Premier moved the adjournment of the debate.

The bill to amend the Horticultural Board Act passed second reading, after an explanation by the Minister. It prohibits the sale of fruit trees by unlicensed persons and makes certain

provisions with of a \$2000 bond

VOT

Legislative

Prayers by the

The petition for Public Schools Act.

The Hon. Mr. Governor, which re

The Lieutenant Unclaimed Money Legislative Assembly

Government House 21st March

Ordered, That Committee of the

Resolved, That Act relating to the introduction of

Report adopted Bill introduced Second reading

Bill (No. 15) again committed.

Progress report Committee to

The adjournment Dyking Assessment

Mr. Oliver n

That all the following words i

"This House to unforeseen dif

provisions with reference to the posting of a \$2000 bond for damages that may be occasioned through the work of dyking.

NO. 29.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Legislative Assembly of British Columbia.

Tuesday, 21st March, 1905.

TWO O'CLOCK, P.M.

Prayers by the Rev. J. H. Sweet.

The petition from the Property Owners' Association of Vancouver, *re* amendments to Public Schools Act, was received.

The Hon. Mr. Tallow presented to Mr. Speaker a Message from His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, which read as follows:—

H. G. JOLY DE LOTBINIÈRE,
Lieutenant-Governor.

The Lieutenant-Governor transmits herewith a Bill intituled "An Act relating to Unclaimed Money Deposits in the Treasury of the Province," and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

Government House,
21st March, 1905.

Ordered, That the said Message, and the Bill accompanying the same, be referred to a Committee of the Whole House forthwith.

(IN THE COMMITTEE.)

Resolved, That the Committee rise and report to the House a Bill (No. 43) intituled "An Act relating to Unclaimed Money Deposits in the Treasury of the Province," and recommend the introduction of the same.

Report adopted.
Bill introduced and read a first time.
Second reading to-morrow.

Bill (No. 15) intituled "An Act to amend and consolidate the 'Public Schools Act,'" was again committed.

Progress reported.
Committee to sit again to-morrow.

The adjourned debate on the second reading of Bill (No. 39) intituled "An Act to Adjust Dyking Assessments," was resumed.

Mr. Oliver moved in amendment, seconded by Mr. Munro,—

That all the words of the Resolution, after the first word "That" be struck out, and the following words inserted in lieu thereof:—

"This House is of the opinion that the cost of the dyking works of this Province, owing to unforeseen difficulties and the experimental nature of the undertaking, has been much in

Mr. Oliver went on to say that the contents of the present bill before its introduction were apparently understood by certain parties outside the House, and that he had reason to suppose that a gentleman who interrupted him from the gallery was one of these. He proceeded to argue that lands held for speculative purposes should not be favored by the dyking tax, but that, on the contrary, the settlement, cultivation and improvement of the land should be encouraged therein. In conclusion he said:

"That this House is of the opinion that the cost of the dyking works of this Province, owing to unforeseen difficulties and the experimental nature of the undertaking, has been much in excess of its value to the district involved, and that it is expedient and advisable that a substantial reduction should be made in the amount to be charged against lands in the various dyking districts. That the present bill as introduced is unjust, unfair and inequitable in its provisions discriminating against actual bona fide settlers in favor of the land speculator. That the present bill should be withdrawn and a bill submitted that whilst giving relief to the various dyking districts, shall be so framed as to spread the balance of the burden of taxation equally upon lands involved, discriminating in favor of the actual settler and ensuring the settlement and cultivation of the lands in the various dyking districts."

Mr. Munro seconded the motion. In doing so he exonerated the government in any intention to deal unfairly in adjustment of the dyking tax. At the same time he observed that the agricultural industry had no representation in the cabinet, and that their collaboration with respect to the measure might have profited from practical knowledge. He was surprised that the bill had run the gauntlet of agricultural representatives in the party caucus, so as to emerge therefrom in its present shape. He failed to discover any principle in the bill. Its guiding purpose apparently was to divide the sheep from the goats; other words the speculator from the settler of the land. There were three things which should have consideration in preparing such a measure: The connected liability of parties interested; the losses created by the works themselves; and the encouragement of settlement of a district. In drawing the bill these additions had been entirely overlooked. The government had apparently followed the lines of least resistance in settling the matter. As to contracted liability people of Chilliwack authorized an expenditure of \$155,000 for building dykes. This amount had been exceeded until the expenditure had grown to \$200,000. He challenged the statement that every dollar of this expenditure had been justified, standing particularly the amount of \$25,258 for engineering expenses. Works of the most reckless kind had occurred in connection with the dyking of the Chilliwack dykes. He associated with this a reference to a work called the wing dam, and read a list in which this structure was said to have been faulty, and that a large amount of money was wasted thereon. He said that the inspector of dykes had been corrupt and buggy at his disposal, in Chilliwack paid for by the people, yet relied upon employing a double team when he had occasion to drive over the dyke. A useless telephone system had been installed on the dyke at considerable expense, and other extravagances taken place, which, while small in themselves, were scarcely justifiable on a financial point of view. The people of Chilliwack were willing to pay for the dyke, but they wanted their management reduced to a sound business basis and the assessments equitably apportioned. He mentioned the construction of a huge dyke at Matsqui, built in experiment. It was so heavy that it stood in the place where erected since. It was built on the grassy principle and was expected to stand along of itself. The operations of the dyke builders were suggested by the appearance of some of the Matsqui dyke works. He paid a tribute to the labor of this district, their social accomplishments and the practical work they had done, and deplored the fact that anything should be done to deter settlement of the country. He thought the present bill would have such effect. If it were passed he predicted that it would be repealed next year, that much harm would be done in passing it.

The Premier moved the adjournment of the debate.
The bill to amend the Horticultural Act passed second reading, after explanation by the Finance Minister, prohibiting the sale of fruit trees by licensed persons, and making certain

The Colonist

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22,

Provincial
LegislatureDebate Continued on
Reading of the Dyking
Act.Mr. Bowser Gives Notice
Motion Respecting Auto
Bill.School Bill Discussed in
Committee of the Whole in
House.

Tuesday, March 22nd.
The House assembled at 10 o'clock and after prayers were read by the Rev. J. H. Sweet, the reading of the order of business was the order of the day.

Bills Introduced.
Mr. J. A. Macdonald introduced a Bill to amend the B. C. Railway Act, providing that running powers open to all other lines on railways operated by the province, upon terms to be fixed by the government.

Hon. Mr. Tallow introduced a Bill to amend the provisions relating to unpaid monies deposited in the treasury of the province.

The bill to amend and consolidate the Public Schools Act was committed to the committee of the whole.

A number of amendments were proposed in the bill upon motion of the Minister of Education. One amendment gave the government power to enlarge the boundaries of city school districts, and the adjoining territory is to be within the boundaries of a regularized school district, so as to include any portion of such adjoining territory within the city school district. Another amendment provided that "where any territory is included in a city school district, and with sub-section (b) of the provisions of this act respecting schools in cities shall apply to such territory for all school purposes, and all property situated in such territory shall be deemed to be within the city, and all property situated in such territory shall be liable to assessment for school purposes in the same manner and to the same extent as if the territory were included in the limits of the city."

Under the head of province per capita grant to cities, the class was changed from \$35 to \$40 in cities of the second class, and was increased from \$375 to \$400 in cities of the third class, the increase from \$420 to \$400, as originally provided was by "actual number of teachers."

This was altered to include training and domestic science. The per capita grant to schools was raised from \$44 to \$45, and the basis of payment was as in the case of city schools.

The following was substituted: "It shall be the duty of the inspector to determine and report to the superintendent what school districts (if any), under his supervision may be entitled, during the ensuing year, to special aid as poor districts, and the council of public instruction may, upon receipt of the report of the inspector, and taking into consideration the position and circumstances of such district or districts, allow to any such district such additional amount as by the said council may be deemed necessary."

The following was inserted as section 26: "26. Every person who shall have been duly elected trustee shall, before taking his seat, make the following declaration before any judge of the Supreme court, or a judge of any County court, or before a justice of the peace, and shall procure from such judge or justice of the peace a certificate of the

same having been duly made and subscribed: "I, A. B., trustee elect for the district of _____, do hereby declare that I am a resident of the said district, and that I am qualified to hold the office of trustee for the same."

Mr. Oliver went on to say that the contents of the present bill before its introduction were generally understood.

2

21ST MARCH.

1905

excess of their value to the districts involved, and that it is expedient and advisable that substantial reductions should be made in the amount to be charged against the lands in the various dyking districts. That the present Bill, as introduced, is unjust, unfair and inequitable in its provisions, discriminating against the actual bona fide settler and in favour of the land speculator. That the present Bill should be withdrawn, and a Bill submitted that whilst granting relief to the various dyking districts, should be so framed as to spread the balance of the burden of taxation equitably upon the lands involved, discriminating in favour of the actual settler, and so ensuring the settlement and cultivation of the lands included in the various dyking districts."

Debate continued on the amendment, and adjourned until to-morrow.

The Hon. Mr. Fulton presented a Return of copies of all papers and correspondence relating to an application by Mr. John Elliott, as counsel, for a fiat for a Petition of Right to try certain questions relating to the mineral claim "Pack Train."

Bill (No. 40) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Horticultural Board Act,'" was read a second time.

To be committed to-morrow.

Bill (No. 61) intituled "An Act respecting the Kootenay, Cariboo and Pacific Railway Company," was read a third time and passed.

Bill (No. 53) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the Fording Valley Railway Company," was again committed.

Progress reported.

Committee to sit again to-morrow.

Bill (No. 57) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the Stave Valley Railway Company," was read a second time.

To be committed to-morrow.

Resolved, That the House, at its rising, do stand adjourned until two o'clock to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned at 5:55 P.M.

C. E. POOLEY, Speaker.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

Mr. Hawththwaite to move, in Committee of the Whole, on Bill (No. 36) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Assessment Act, 1903,'" the following amendment:—

In section 11, sub-section (23), line 6, to add after the word "land" the following words: "and farm implements, vehicles and live stock, the property of the occupant of the farm and used for farming purposes, under the value of five hundred dollars."

By Mr. Bowser—On Friday next—

That this House regrets that in the Bill proposed to be submitted to the Dominion Parliament, granting autonomy to the North-West Territories, there is an interference with Provincial rights in regard to the provisions dealing with their school system.

VICTORIA, B. C.

Printed by RICHARD WOLFEKES, L.S.O., V.D., Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty.
1905.

view of ensuring an equitable revision. Hon. Mr. Green said that he feared Mr. Oliver's hearing was bad. Mr. Oliver reiterated the statement, and was elaborating it rather emphatically, saying that Mr. Robert Kennedy was one of those to whom the statement was made, when a gentleman sitting in the gallery loudly called "No." Mr. Oliver immediately directed the Speaker's attention to the interruption, and asked that the stranger be removed. The gentleman, however, walked out upon the platform, for he quickly seized his hat and left the chamber before the late sergeant-at-arms had opportunity to reach the place.

the appearance of some of the Matsqui dyking works. He paid a tribute to the settlers of this district, their social accomplishments and the practical work they had done, and deplored the fact that anything should be done to deter the settlement of the country. He thought the present bill would have such an effect. If it were passed he predicted that it would be repealed next year, but that much harm would be done in the meantime.

The Premier moved the adjournment of the debate. The Bill to amend the Horticultural Board Act passed second reading, after an explanation by the Finance Minister. It prohibits the sale of fruit trees by unlicensed persons, and makes certain

provisions with a view of a \$2000 bond. The bill respects the Cariboo & Pacific Railway. The House adjourned.

Mr. Bowser gives notice that he will move a motion respecting the granting of autonomy to the Territories, there is an interference with provincial rights. The speech delivered yesterday on the generally spoken, eloquent heard in the present political speaker who is at sure.

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C. E. POOLEY, *Speaker*.

OTION.

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provisions with reference to the posting
 of a \$2000 bond for damages that may
 be occasioned through the sale of infected
 stock.

The bill respecting the Kootenay, Car-
 iboo & Pacific Railway Co. passed third
 reading.

The House adjourned at 8 o'clock.

Notes.

Mr. Bowser gives notice that on Fri-
 day he will move: That this House
 regrets that in the bill proposed to be
 submitted to the Dominion Parliament,
 granting autonomy to the Northwest
 Territories, there is an interference with
 provincial rights in regard to the provi-
 sions dealing with their school system.

The speech delivered by Mr. Munro
 yesterday on the dyking question was
 generally spoken of as one of the most
 eloquent heard in the legislature during
 the present parliament. Aside from
 politics altogether, Mr. Munro is a
 speaker who is always heard with plea-
 sure.

When the Game Act was last under
 discussion, a proposal was made to pro-
 hibit shooting on Sunday. The point
 was taken that this might encroach up-
 on what has been held to be the Federal
 domain. In order to get over this, Mr.
 Tanner gives notice of an amendment
 that shooting shall not take place from
 sundown on Saturday until sunrise on
 Monday, thus avoiding the appearance
 of invading the question of Sunday ob-
 servance.

The mining committee is considering
 a number of amendments to the Placer
 Act proposed by Mr. Jones, calculated
 to encourage the prospector.

The Colonist.

THURSDAY, MARCH 23, 1905.

Provincial Legislature

Bill to Amend Assessment Act in Committee of the Whole.

Some Important Amendments Made in the Settlers' Interests.

The Premier Continues Debate on Amendment Dyking Act.

Wednesday, March 22.

THE House assembled at 2 o'clock and after prayers were read the following was the order of business:

Petitions.

Mr. Murphy presented a number of petitions asking for amendments to the Placer Mining Act.

Bills.

Mr. Henderson introduced a bill to further amend the Supreme Court Act.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald moved: That an order of the House be made that correspondence relating to the pre-emption of Mr. Kirkland, of Atlin, recorded June 30, 1904, be brought down. That an order be made that all correspondence relating to the Atlin townsite, and the new addition to Atlin townsite, be brought down.

The bill to amend the Stave Valley Railway Co. passed the committee stage.

Assessment Act.

The bill to amend the Assessment Act was committed, Mr. Ross in the chair.

Constitutionally it seems that Dominion lands are not subject to provincial taxation. Mr. J. A. Macdonald therefore questioned the propriety of section 5, which stipulated that persons occupying these lands should contribute to the local treasury. As there seemed to be something unintentionally ambiguous in the section, as the government avowed it was not intended to tax Dominion lands, whilst the section seemed to be susceptible to this construction, it was allowed to stand over for revision.

Mr. Hawthornthwaite moved to repeal the section of the old act exempting clergymen from taxation.

Hon. Mr. Tatlow saw no objection to the amendment, as all incomes up to \$1000 were exempt under the general provision in the present bill.

Mr. Tanner thought if the member for Nanaimo was in closer touch with the conditions of the clergy he would not incline toward taxing them. He thought the ministry was entitled to exemption.

Mr. Williams argued that the same justification which could be offered for relieving a clergyman of taxation would apply to a walking delegate of a trades union.

Mr. Cotton raised the point that the amendment was out of order as it involved the imposition of a tax and encroached upon a prerogative of the government.

Mr. Oliver said the tax was already imposed, and it was competent for a private member to move to amend it.

After some discussion the amendment was put and carried on a mixed vote, there being some in favor and some against on either side of the House.

Mr. Hawthornthwaite proposed to amend the section dealing with exemption of farm personality and income derived from farms by including farm implements, vehicles and live stock, the property of the occupant of the farm and used for farming purposes, under the value of \$500.

This amendment was admitted by the Finance Minister.

Mr. Oliver argued that this amendment might be construed to mean that property up to \$100.00 would be exempt and that \$500 value would be taxed for the full amount. He questioned the fairness of this.

The amendment passed.

Mr. Melness proposed to exempt farm improvements up to the value of \$1000.

Hon. Mr. Tatlow said the government proposed to reduce the tax on real estate up to \$3000 to three-fifths of one per cent. In view of this, he thought the adoption of Mr. Melness' amendment would be going too far.

Mr. Melness and Mr. Oliver construed it that the Finance Minister was constrained to a preference for suggestions from the member for Nanaimo.

Hon. Mr. Tatlow observed that this argument might be reduced to a proposition that amendments, whether good or bad, should be rejected simply because they emanated from Mr. Hawthornthwaite, and this he declined to assent to.

The amendment was defeated by a show of hands.

Mr. Hawthornthwaite moved in connection with section 14 to fix the taxation on real property up to the value of \$3000 at three-fifths of one per cent.

This amendment being consistent with the intentions of the government, as stated by the Finance Minister, was adopted.

Hon. Mr. Tatlow moved to increase the tax on wild land (as provided in the bill) from three to four per cent.

Mr. Oliver proposed to amend the motion increasing the tax to five per cent., the rate provided in the old act.

The point was taken that the amendment was out of order, on the ground that it dealt with taxation and so encroached upon a prerogative of the government.

A lengthy discussion ensued, in which parliamentary rules, precedents and Speakers' decisions were exhaustively investigated, and the writings of May, Bouvier and other authorities on procedure were introduced to elucidate the question. Finally the chairman decided that the amendment was out of order. Then the Speaker was called in, and the whole dispute was elaborately reviewed again in his presence with the result that the amendment was adjudged to be in order after all on the ground that it did not propose to increase the tax over that now obtaining on the statute books.

So the committee had the privilege of deciding the question on a vote, which resulted in the rejection of the amendment. The motion of the Finance Minister fixing the tax at four per cent. was carried.

Some changes were effected in the phraseology of the clauses dealing with the income tax and classification thereof, to remove possibility of misconstruction. A number of unimportant alterations were made in relation to the particulars to be supplied by assessors in preparing the assessment rolls. The schedules and forms attached to the act were also subject to revision in places with a view to improvement.

The bill was reported complete with amendments.

The bill to establish and protect highways passed the committee stage.

Dyking Act.

Hon. Mr. McBride continued the debate on the second reading of the bill respecting dyking assessments. He commented upon the narrow mindedness displayed by opposition members in allowing party prejudice to give color to their discussion of this question, rather than a statesmanlike desire to assist any settlement of the problem involved. This was an occasion above all others when a more generous view should obtain, for the government of the day had undertaken to grapple with a question which had been evaded in the past, and was entitled to the assistance of every member of the House. While members were specially charged, perhaps, in regard to their own constituencies first, they were none the less under obligation to dispassionately consider the interests of the province as a whole. In years gone by the legislature had voted enormous sums of money to improve conditions in the lower Fraser valley. In fact, about one-fourth of the provincial indebtedness was incurred through public works undertaken in that district. He found no fault with past governments for what they had done in this regard, believing that the money had been expended in the public interests. But they were not legislating for one section of the province only, but for the country as a whole. People who lived in the interior and in the far northern parts of the province

had claims upon their attention. The cost of dyking and improving the Fraser river valley should not be cast upon them. He recalled some speeches of Mr. Oliver, in which that gentleman had taken the broad ground that too much should not be asked of the government in fighting the settlers' battles in the Fraser valley, and that individual labor and industry should be engaged. Mr. McBride said that Mr. Oliver had pointed to his own case in support of this proposition; that he had contended, in a word, that settlers in the upper valley should fight it out as he had had to do.

Mr. Oliver maintained that his position was correctly represented in the resolution he moved the day before.

Hon. Mr. McBride insisted that he had heard the member for Delta give utterance to the sentiments expressed. He believed the member for Delta was fencing with this question, and suggested that if the leader of the opposition had had his way, no party spirit would have entered into the discussion.

It being 6 o'clock the Premier moved the adjournment of the debate.

The House rose.

Notes.

A number of suggested amendments to the Placer Act were considered by the mining committee of the provincial legislature yesterday.

The matter of the granting and cancellation of leases, it seems, is now subject to the approval of the Minister of Mines, and Dr. Young (Atlin) pointed out that this entailed a great deal of disadvantageous delay. He proposed that power to act in such cases should be vested in the gold commissioner for the district. He argued that this would be productive of increased activity in mining development, as the gold commissioner would then be in a position, where leases were forfeited by failure to work the claims, to cancel the same and throw the ground open for development by individual miners.

Mr. Houston suggested a section designed to prevent the overlapping of mineral and placer claims, and Mr. Jones proposed a number of amendments calculated to encourage practical prospecting, with special reference to the great Cariboo district.

All these various amendments were comprehensively discussed, and action thereon was deferred until the next meeting of the committee, which is subject to the call of the chairman.

A meeting of the municipal committee is called for this morning at 10 o'clock, when further consideration will be given to the details of the proposed bill to amend the Municipal Elections Act.

The agricultural committee will meet again next week.

The Supply bill is expected on Monday next, and the probabilities are that the greater part of the week will be taken up in the discussion of the Budget, and the consideration of the estimates in committee of the whole.

THE DYKING ACT.

The present Dyking Act was conceived for the purpose of relieving the settlers in the various dyking districts. The liabilities under which they at present labor on account of the various dyking schemes were not of this Government's making. There were but two courses open, either to allow the law to take its course and sell the land for the arrears and subject to the dyking charge of the future, or to submit some measure for the amelioration of the present situation by throwing off a portion of the indebtedness and apportioning the balance as equitably as possible under the circumstances. There will be individual cases of hardship and inequalities, comparing the actual settler with the speculator, but in such cases it is impossible to discriminate in an act of Parliament. The rain falls upon the just as well as upon the unjust. There are also some new settlers, principally upon Matsqui prairie, who purchased land, it is said in ignorance of the conditions as to dyking charges. If this be true, it is unfortunate, but the responsibility is upon those who sold the land and not upon the Government. On the whole, it is a very difficult matter to deal as leniently with the settlers as the Government might.

VOTES

Legislative A

Wes

Prayers by the Rev. J. A.

On the motion of Mr. H. 'Supreme Court Act,' was laid on the table.

Mr. Murphy presented a bill of Barkerville and vicinity, laid on the table.

On the motion of Mr. J. 1. That an Order of the the pre-emption of Mr. Kirkland. 2. That an Order of the Atlin Townsite, and the new

Mr. Brown asked the H questions:—

1. How many acres of Crown-granted to it under it
2. Is the Columbia and its Subsidy Act of 1896?
3. If it is entitled to a entitled, and to what quanti

The Hon. Mr. Green re

"1. 794,440 acres.

"2. Yes.

"2. In respect to section

Mr. Oliver asked the H 1. What was the total Vancouver Assizes?

2. What was the total the prosecution of Dr. Telford

The Hon. Mr. Wilson r

"1. \$549.45.

"2. \$196.45; paid to S

No. 30.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Legislative Assembly of British Columbia.

Wednesday, 22nd March, 1905.

TWO O'CLOCK, P.M.

Prayers by the Rev. J. H. Sweet.

On the motion of Mr. *Henderson*, Bill (No. 44) intituled "An Act further to amend the 'Supreme Court Act,'" was introduced, read a first time and *Ordered* to be read a second time to-morrow.

Mr. *Murphy* presented a petition from *B. A. Laselle, F. J. Tregillus* and others, residents of Barkerville and vicinity, *re* amendments to the Placer Mining Act.

Laid on the table.

On the motion of Mr. *J. A. Macdonald*, seconded by Mr. *Henderson*, it was *Resolved*,—

1. That an Order of the House be granted for copies of all correspondence relating to the pre-emption of Mr. *Kirkland*, of Atlin, recorded 30th June, 1904.

2. That an Order of the House be granted for copies of all correspondence relating to the Atlin Townsite, and the new addition to Atlin Townsite.

Mr. *Brown* asked the Hon. the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works the following questions:—

1. How many acres of land have the Columbia and Western Railway Company had Crown-granted to it under its Subsidy Act of 1896?

2. Is the Columbia and Western Railway Company entitled to any further acreage under its Subsidy Act of 1896?

3. If it is entitled to any further acreage, in respect of what section or sections is it so entitled, and to what quantity?

The Hon. Mr. *Green* replied as follows:—

"1. 794,440 acres.

"2. Yes.

"2. In respect to section 3; 808,872 acres."

Mr. *Oliver* asked the Hon. the Attorney-General the following questions:—

1. What was the total cost to the Government of the prosecution of Dr. *Telford* at the Vancouver Assizes?

2. What was the total amount paid for legal advice and legal services in connection with the prosecution of Dr. *Telford*, and to whom was this money paid?

The Hon. Mr. *Wilson* replied as follows:—

"1. \$549.45.

"2. \$196.45; paid to *Stuart Livingstone, Esq.*"

ins upon their attention. The
tying and improving the Frase
they should not be cast upon
He recalled some speeches of
rer, in which that gentleman had
he broad ground that too much
not be asked of the government
ing the settlers' battles in the
rally, and that individual labor
ustry should be engaged. Mr.
said that Mr. Oliver had point-
is own case in support of this
on; that he had contended, in a
at settlers in the upper valley
ght it out as he had had to do.
Oliver maintained that his pos-
correctly represented in the
n he moved the day before.
Mr. McBride insisted that he
rd the member for Delta give
to the sentiments expressed
ved the member for Delta was
with this question, and suggest-
if the leader of the opposition
his way, no party spirit would
ered into the discussion.
ing 6 o'clock the Premier moved
argument of the debate.
house rose.

Notes.
number of suggested amendments
acer Act were considered by the
committee of the provincial legis-
lature yesterday.

matter of the granting and can-
of leases, it seems, is now sub-
the approval of the Minister of
and Dr. Young (Atlin) pointed
this entailed a great deal of
tious delay. He proposed that
act in such cases should be
the gold commissioner for the
He argued that this would be
e of increased activity in min-
ing, as the gold commis-
ould then be in a position
ases were forfeited by failure
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r the ground open for develop-
individual miners.

ouston suggested a section de-
prevent the overlapping of
and placer claims, and Mr.
posed a number of amend-
culated to encourage practical
ing, with special reference to the
triboo district.

se various amendments were
sively discussed, and action
was deferred until the next
of the committee, which is sub-
a call of the chairman.

ing of the municipal committee
for this morning at 10 o'clock,
her consideration will be given
stalls of the proposed bill to
e Municipal Elections Act.
gricultural committee will meet
t week.

apply bill is expected on Mon-
and the probabilities are that
r part of the week will be tak-
the discussion of the Budget.
consideration of the estimates
ses of the whole.

THE DYKING ACT.

resent Dyking Act was conceiv-
se purpose of relieving the set-
he various dyking districts. Th
under which they at present
account of the various dykin
were not of this Government.
There were but two course
her to allow the law to take it
ad sell the land for the arrest
subject to the dyking charge
ture, or to submit some measur-
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throwing off a portion of the li-
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ent. On the whole, it is a re-
satter to deal as leniently with
as the Government might.

The Colonist

THURSDAY, MARCH 23, 1905

Provincial Legislature

Bill to Amend Assessment in Committee of the Whole.

Some Important Amendments Made in the Settlers' Interests.

The Premier Continues Debate on Amendment Dyking Act.

Wednesday, March 23

THE House assembled at 2 o'clock and after prayers were read following was the order of business:

Petitions.

Mr. Murphy presented a number of petitions asking for amendments to the Placer Mining Act.

Bills.

Mr. Henderson introduced a bill further amend the Supreme Court.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald moved: That an order of the House be made that the correspondence relating to the proposed amendment of Mr. Kirkland, of Atlin, recorded on 30, 1904, be brought down. That order be made that all correspondence relating to the Atlin townsite, and new addition to Atlin townsite, be brought down.

The bill to amend the Stave Valley Railway Co. passed the committee on Assessment Act.

The bill to amend the Assessment Act was committed. Mr. Ross in the course of his remarks said: Constitutionally it seems that Dominion lands are not subject to provincial taxation. Mr. J. A. Macdonald therefore questioned the propriety of section 5, which stipulated that persons occupying these lands should contribute to local treasury. As there seemed to be something unintentionally ambiguous in the section, as the government never intended to tax Dominion lands, whilst the section seemed to be open to this construction, it was moved to stand over for revision.

Mr. Hawthornthwaite moved to amend the section of the old act exempting geyms from taxation.

Hon. Mr. Tatlow saw no objection to the amendment, as all incomes over \$1000 were exempt under the present provision in the present bill.

Mr. Tassier thought if the members of the House were in closer touch with conditions of the clergy he would be able to come toward taxing them. He thought the ministry was entitled to exempt the clergy from taxation.

Mr. Williams argued that the exemption of a clergyman of taxation was a privilege which could be offered to a walking delegate of a union.

Mr. Cotton raised the point that the amendment was out of order as it involved the imposition of a tax and encroached upon a prerogative of the government.

Mr. Oliver said the tax was already imposed, and it was competent for a private member to move to amend it.

After some discussion the amendment was put and carried on a mixed vote, there being some in favor and some against on either side of the House.

Mr. Hawthornthwaite proposed to amend the section dealing with exemption of farm personalty and income derived from farms by including farm implements, vehicles and live stock, the property of the occupant of the farm and used for farming purposes, under the value of \$500.

This amendment was admitted by the Finance Minister.

Bill (No. 57) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the Stave Valley Railway Company," was committed.

Reported complete without amendment.

Report to be considered to-morrow.

Bill (No. 36) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Assessment Act, 1903,'" was again committed.

The Committee reported to Mr. Speaker that the following motion and amendment had been made in Committee:—

"The Hon. Mr. Tatlow moved to amend section 14 (which section fixed the tax on wild land), in line 10, by striking out 'three per cent.' and inserting in lieu thereof 'four per cent.'"

"Mr. Oliver moved in amendment to strike out the word 'four' and insert 'five.'"

That objection had been taken to said amendment, and the Chairman had ruled the same out of order, and that an appeal had been taken to the House.

Mr. Speaker Pooley: I think the amendment is in order. The rate on wild land, under the existing law, is five per cent. The motion of the Minister is to reduce an existing tax. The amendment is to diminish this reduction and not to impose a tax, and is therefore in order. See May, 10th ed., p. 533.

House again in Committee on the Bill.

Reported complete with amendments.

Report to be considered to-morrow.

Bill (No. 38) intituled "An Act to Establish and Protect Highways," was again committed.

Reported complete with amendments.

Report to be considered to-morrow.

The adjourned debate on the second reading of Bill (No. 39) intituled "An Act to Adjust Dyking Assessments," was resumed.

The debate continued and was adjourned until to-morrow.

Resolved, That the House, at its rising, do stand adjourned until two o'clock to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned at 6 P.M.

C. E. POOLEY, Speaker.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

By Mr. Oliver—On Friday next—Questions of the Hon. the Minister of Finance—

1. What amount of taxes was collected from each railway company operating in British Columbia under the provisions of chapter 52, 1903-4?
2. Under what heading do these collections appear in the Public Accounts?
3. What amount was collected from each railway company in British Columbia as wild land tax last year?

Mr. Oliver to move, on consideration of the Report on Bill (No. 36) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Assessment Act, 1903,'" to amend section 8 by adding the following words to the end of the section:—

"Provided that income derived from investments shall not be exempt under this section."

Mr. Hawthornthwaite to move, in Committee of the Whole on Bill (No. 30) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Provincial Elections Act,'" to add the following new section:—

"4. Section 4 of the said chapter 17 is hereby amended by inserting the words 'or female' after the word 'male' in the first line.

of the House. While members were specially charged, perhaps, in regard to their own constituencies first, they were none the less under obligation to dispassionately consider the interests of the province as a whole. In years gone by the legislature had voted enormous sums of money to improve conditions in the lower Fraser valley. In fact, about one-fourth of the provincial indebtedness was incurred through public works undertaken in that district. He found no fault with past governments for what they had done in this regard, believing that the money had been expended in the public interests. But they were not legislating for one section of the province only, but for the country as a whole. People who lived in the interior and in the far northern parts of the province

as equitably as possible under the circumstances. There will be individual cases of hardship and inequalities, comparing the actual settler with the speculator, but in such cases it is impossible to discriminate in an act of Parliament. The rain falls upon the just as well as upon the unjust. There are also some new settlers, principally upon Matsqui prairie, who purchased land, it is said in ignorance of the conditions as to dyking charges. If this be true, it is unfortunate, but the responsibility is upon those who sold the land and not upon the Government. On the whole, it is a very difficult matter to deal as leniently with the settlers as the Government might.

Mr. Oliver to move, on to amend the 'Assessment Act' where it occurs under the 1 thereof.

Mr. McInnes to move, to amend the 'Assessment Act' (23A.) All permanent made on la

Mr. Hawthornthwaite to move, to amend the 'C

To insert as the pream

"Whereas by the 'Co Acts of the Legislature of made limiting the employ hours:

"And whereas doubts Statutes of British Columbia of the said Act:

"And whereas it is e:

In section 2, line 19—thereof the letter "D."

Section 2—Strike out line 18, and substitute the

"23c. Part III, ent Columbia, chapter 138, be to the said 'Coal Mines R had formed part of the he ties shall not apply where or detained underground twenty-four hours, in cont the mine, or in endeavour

e Valley Railway Company,"

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motion and amendment had

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C. E. POOLEY, *Speaker*.

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Public Accounts?
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be exempt under this section."

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following new section:—
d by inserting the words 'or

Mr. *Oliver* to move, on consideration of the Report on Bill (No. 36) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Assessment Act, 1903,'" to amend section 14 by striking out the word "four" where it occurs under the heading "On Wild Lands," and insert the word "five" in lieu thereof.

Mr. *McInnes* to move, on consideration of the Report on Bill (No. 36) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Assessment Act, 1903,'" to add the following as a sub-section to section 11:—
"(23A.) All permanent improvements up to the value of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) made on land used for agricultural purposes."

Mr. *Hawthornthwaite* to move, in Committee of the Whole on Bill (No. 10) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Coal Mines Regulation Act,'" the following amendments:—

To insert as the preamble:—

"Whereas by the 'Coal Mines Regulation Act Amendment Act, 1903,' chapter 38 of the Acts of the Legislature of British Columbia, passed in the Session of 1903-1904, provision was made limiting the employment of persons underground to eight hours in every twenty-four hours:

"And whereas doubts have been expressed as to the application of Part III. of Revised Statutes of British Columbia, chapter 138, being the 'Coal Mines Regulation Act,' to amendments of the said Act:

"And whereas it is expedient to settle such doubts."

In section 2, line 19—Strike out the letter "E" after the figures "23," and insert in lieu thereof the letter "D."

Section 2—Strike out all the words from the word "sections," in line 3, to the end of line 18, and substitute the following:—

"23c. Part III., entitled Supplemental Penalties, of the Revised Statutes of British Columbia, chapter 138, being the 'Coal Mines Regulation Act,' shall apply to all amendments to the said 'Coal Mines Regulation Act,' in as full force and effect as if the said amendments had formed part of the hereinbefore recited original Act: Provided always, that these penalties shall not apply where any miner, mine labourer or underground worker has been employed or detained underground for a longer period than eight hours from bank to bank in any twenty-four hours, in contravention of section 23b, owing to the occurrence of an accident to the mine, or in endeavouring to save or protect human life."

VICTORIA, B. C.

Printed by RICHARD WOLFENDEN, L.S.O., V.D., Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty.
1905.

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THURSDAY, MARCH 23, 1906.

Provincial Legislature

Bill to Amend Assessment in Committee of the Whole.

Some Important Amendments Made in the Settlers' Interests.

The Premier Continues Debat on Amendment Dyking Act.

Wednesday, March 22

THE House assembled at 2 o'clock and after prayers were read following was the order of business:

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Mr. J. A. Macdonald moved: That an order of the House be made that a correspondence relating to the pre-empt of Mr. Kirkland, of Atlin, recorded July 30, 1904, be brought down. That an order be made that all correspondence relating to the Atlin townsite, and new addition to Atlin townsite, be brought down.

The bill to amend the Stave Valley Railway Co. passed the committee stage.

Assessment Act.

The bill to amend the Assessment Act was committed, Mr. Ross in the chair. Constitutionally it seems that Dominion lands are not subject to provincial taxation. Mr. J. A. Macdonald therefore questioned the propriety of section 5, which stipulated that persons occupying these lands should contribute to local treasury. As there seemed to be something unintentionally ambiguous in the section, as the government avowed it was not intended to tax Dominion lands, whilst the section seemed to be capable of this construction, it was moved to stand over for revision.

Mr. Hawthorthwaite moved to re-amend the section of the old act exempting gymnasiums from taxation.

Hon. Mr. Tatlow saw no objection to the amendment, as all incomes up to \$1000 were exempt under the present provision in the present bill.

Mr. Tanner thought if the members of the clergy he would not object to being taxed. He thought the ministry was entitled to exemption.

Mr. Williams argued that the exemption which could be offered to a clergyman of taxation was not applicable to a walking delegate of a union.

Mr. Cotton raised the point that the amendment was out of order as it involved the imposition of a tax and encroached upon a prerogative of the government.

Mr. Oliver said the tax was already imposed, and it was competent for a private member to move to amend it.

After some discussion the amendment was put and carried on a mixed vote, there being some in favor and some against on either side of the House.

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This amendment was admitted by the Finance Minister.

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circumstances. There will be individual cases of hardship and inequalities, comparing the actual settler with the speculator, but in such cases it is impossible to discriminate in an act of Parliament. The rain falls upon the just as well as upon the unjust. There are also some new settlers, principally upon Matsqui prairie, who purchased land, it is said in ignorance of the conditions as to dyking charges. If this be true, it is unfortunate, but the responsibility is upon those who sold the land and not upon the Government. On the whole, it is a very difficult matter to deal as leniently with the settlers as the Government might.

disposed to do, and at the same time fair to the rest of the Province. Certainly the former have no right to grumble at their treatment starting again with a clean slate, while the outlook for many is not too bright, the Government be reasonably expected to be of further responsibility. It is that several changes may be made when the bill reaches committee, to ensure that the disposition of the matter side of the House, at least, make the path as easy as possible for the bona fide settler, whose interests are at stake.

disposed to do, and at the same time be fair to the rest of the Province. Certainly the former have no right now to grumble at their treatment. They are starting again with a clean slate, and while the outlook for many of them is not too bright, the Government cannot be reasonably expected to relieve them of further responsibility. It is possible that several changes may be made when the bill reaches committee, and we feel sure that the disposition of the Government side of the House, at least, is to make the path as easy as may be for the bona fide settler, whose interests are at stake.

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The Colonist.

FRIDAY, MARCH 24th.

Provincial Legislature

Premier Replies to Criticisms Against Dyking Assessment Act.

Public Question Entitled to Unprejudiced Consideration of Legislature.

The Coal Mines Regulation Act and Supreme Court Bill in Committee.

Thursday, March 22.

THE House assembled at 2 o'clock, and after the customary exercises, the following was the order of business:

Petitions.

A number of petitions presented on the previous day asking for amendments to the Placer Act were received.

In Committee.

Mr. Hawthornthwaite's reconstructed bill to amend the Coal Mines Regulation Act was taken up in committee of the whole, Mr. Evans in the chair. The measure is designed to render effective the legislation of last session limiting the employment of persons underground to eight hours a day. The bill, as first introduced by the member for Nanaimo, provided certain specific penalties for infraction of the eight-hour law by workmen or employer. The reconstructed bill simply provides, or seeks to provide, that the penalties attached to the general act shall apply, as to which, according to the preamble of the act, "doubts have been expressed."

The bill was reported complete with amendments calculated to make its purpose less susceptible to misconception, following discussion by Mr. J. A. Macdonald, Mr. McInnes and others.

The bill to amend the Supreme Court Act, providing that security for costs on appeal shall not exceed \$200, was again committed, Mr. Hall in the chair.

At present the question of such security is in the discretion of the judge, and the attorney-general recorded an opinion that it should so remain.

Mr. Bowser took a similar view, observing that in Ontario the amount required for security on appeal was \$500, or rather \$400, as he took from a correction of the leader of the opposition. Generally he disapproved of the proposal to limit the security as provided in the bill. He moved that the committee rise. In other words, asked for an expression of opinion from the House on the proposition that the measure should be thrown out.

Mr. Brown argued that it was better that the amount which litigants must pay, as initial costs of appeal, should be fixed in the law, so that they would know just what security they must give in order to have their cases heard in the higher court.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald supported the bill on the ground that it was in the interests of justice. In Ontario, he said, a first appeal was provided for free of cost.

Mr. Bowser's motion was put, and lost on a show of hands, 13 to 15.

Mr. McInnes proposed to increase the deposit to \$500. He contended that this was the amount required on appeal to the Supreme court of Canada and that the expense of an appeal to the Supreme court of British Columbia was just as high.

Mr. Macdonald disputed this and opposed the amendment.

The motion was put and carried on a show of hands, but a new vote being taken on the ground that the bell had not been rung, it was defeated.

The bill was reported complete with amendment.

Second Readings.

The bill to amend the Dentistry Consolidation Act passed second reading, on motion of Mr. Bowser. It authorizes the Dental Society to collect an annual fee of five dollars to meet certain expenses connected with the functions of that organization.

The Workmen's Compensation Act passed second reading; also an act to amend the British Columbia Railway Act.

The bill to amend the Coal Tax Act passed the committee stage; also the bill to amend the Horticultural Board Act.

Dyking Act.

Mr. McBride continued the debate on the Dyking Act. He resented the insinuation of critics that in framing the Dyking Act the government was in league with land speculators. Such was not the case. He made reference to opinions formally recorded by the people of Surrey and Ladner, which were capable of interpretation as an argument that districts benefited should pay for the dyking works. In sincerity, he argued, was manifest in the stand taken with respect to the bill by the members for Chilliwack and Delta. In one breath these gentlemen protested against the expenditures on dyking works. In the next breath they commended the wisdom of these undertakings. Mr. Munro, in fact, had expressed appreciation of what the Turner government had done in this regard. The true intent of their position was discovered between the two opinions, namely, the desire to subject an important public question to the political baton in order to score advantage from a party point of view. The suggestion that discrimination should have been made in the bill in favor of certain settlers of the poorer class was impracticable. To devise any measure which would meet all the diversity of claims, in this respect which would naturally arise, would be an impossible task, and this was well known to members opposite who sought, on such an hypothesis, to attach the government with reproach. In the Fraser valley during the past seven years about six million dollars had been expended in public works, and this was a matter properly entitled to consideration in the discussion of its obligations to the country.

Close scrutiny of the assertion that land speculators were specially favored by the bill, was not favorable to that contention. The land owners assumably contemplated in this statement were far from being speculators in the sense conveyed. They were men who in days gone by had manifested their faith in the country by investing largely in the lands of the Fraser valley, and who, through long, profitless years, had maintained their holdings and paid the taxes thereon. Some of them had lost thousands of dollars through their investments, and others had expended heavily for very little return. In this connection he mentioned the name of Mr. Gallagher, of Matsqui, who had made considerable losses, and whose lands, subsequently subdivided and sold, had attracted many settlers, by making homes in the country. He also mentioned Mr. C. B. Sword, who expended \$75,000 in dyke construction in that district in order to make the lands susceptible to cultivation; Mr. Carey, mayor of New Westminster, who invested all his savings, and was forced to mortgage his holdings and finally sell them out; Mr. Donald McLean, a settler of 45 years' residence in the country, and others. Were these men not entitled to consideration? If the list of land owners in the valley were submitted to an impartial tribunal, it would be found that the term "land speculator" would not convey the sense implied in criticisms passed in reference thereto.

The premier observed that it had cost the country \$1,000,000 to settle the dyking belt, and under the measure the province would assume \$350,000 of this amount. In other words, other classes in the country, including farmers in districts less favored by nature, must contribute the deficiency. The premier remarked that the member for Chilliwack had questioned expenditures in connection with the dyking works, and yet had supported an extra vote of \$150,000 in 1902 to complete the dykes in the Chilliwack district.

Mr. Munro said he had directed no complaint against this appropriation. His point was that in adjusting the assessments a proper equilibrium was not maintained.

The premier argued that, in view of the benefits which had accrued from the construction of the dykes, the complaints of the people of Chilliwack should be tempered with moderation. He recalled the conditions which obtained in 1902, owing to prevailing high waters, in the Fraser valley, and attributed a statement to Mr. Munro that the dykes had saved a large section of the country. He asked the member for Chilliwack if this was the case.

Mr. Munro said he was not prepared to make off-hand statements.

The premier recounted his own observations in the valley in 1894, and the losses which had been occasioned through the inundation of large tracts of land, and the destruction of property consequent thereon. A great deal of expenditure in connection with dyking in Coquitlam, Pitt Meadows and Maple Ridge was occasioned by this experience, and there was surely some reason in the losses sustained by the settlers there at that time, for extending special consideration to them in the readjustment of taxation. The government was only giving them some compensation for expenditures rendered useless through the floods of 1894.

In this connection he discussed the adjustment as it bore upon the various districts, showing that in the case of Matsqui the assessment of the dyke was only \$10,000 more than the value placed upon it by the people themselves, and that this involved a reduction of \$75,000 as compared with conditions obtaining under the old act. In Maple Ridge there was a reduction of \$94,545. The sum charged against the district after deducting the cost of maintenance and operation, was \$137,396. A great deal of the land in this district was unfit for cultivation, pending the installation of a drainage system, and when this work was done the cost per acre would be much larger in that section. Yet the dyking charge against Maple Ridge was \$1.40, while in Chilliwack, one of the most fertile regions on the continent, the charge per acre was only 70 cents. He thought that fair consideration of these things would relieve the government of some of the criticism to which it had been subjected in connection with the present bill.

The present legislature, he pointed out, was not responsible for the obligations attaching to these dyking works. The expenditures were spread over a long period of years, and has been managed or mismanaged as the case might be, by past governments. As to extravagances in connection with dyke inspection, referred to by Mr. Munro, he took the ground that the member for Chilliwack should have reported his observations to the government. Before the bill passed its final stage it was the government's intention to submit some further suggestions to the House, which, he hoped, would make some of its conditions easier than they might appear at first blush.

Mr. Hawthornthwaite moved the adjournment of the debate.

The bill relating to unclaimed moneys deposited in the treasury of the province passed second reading.

The House rose.

Notes.

In the proceedings of the House reference is made to a bill relating to unclaimed money deposits in the treasury of the province.

This act authorizes the government to write off liabilities arising from monies passing into their possession in the past thirty or forty years, which had been laid into court in connection with any estate, suit or action, and remained unclaimed. These sums are of varying size, ranging from very small amounts up to several hundred dollars. The idea is to convert to the use of the province such monies which have lain unclaimed for ten years from the date of deposit thereof, the sum thus affected amounting to about \$20,000. In case of claimants subsequently turning up and proving their title, provision is made for repayment out of the public funds.

VOTES

Legislative A

Prayers by the Rev. J. A.

On the motion of Mr. C. Elections Act," was introduced to-morrow.

The petition from B. A. vicinity, re amendments to the

Mr. Ross presented the

MR. SPEAKER:

Your Select Standing Committee report as follows:—

That the preamble of Bill Accountants of British Columbia amendments.

The report was received

Bill (No. 10) intitled ' committed.

Reported complete with Report to be considered

Bill (No. 29) intitled mitted.

Reported complete with Report to be considered

The following Bills were

Bill (No. 35) intitled

Bill (No. 42) intitled

We believe that Mr. Bowser is earnest in placing upon the order paper, other circumstances we pleased to give him support, denning what is being attacked, however, is too palpable, instruction from the Dominion Parliament to be. This Province cannot afford maintenance of its dignity.

No. 31.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Legislative Assembly of British Columbia.

Thursday, 23rd March, 1905.

TWO O'CLOCK, P.M.

Prayers by the Rev. J. H. Sweet.

On the motion of Mr. Clifford, Bill (No. 45) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Provincial Elections Act,'" was introduced, read a first time and *Ordered* to be read a second time to-morrow.

The petition from B. A. Laselle, F. J. Tregillus and others, residents of Barkerville and vicinity, re amendments to the Placer Mining Act, was received.

Mr. Ross presented the Twelfth Report from the Private Bills Committee, as follows:—

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,
March 23rd, 1905.

MR. SPEAKER:

Your Select Standing Committee on Private Bills and Standing Orders beg leave to report as follows:—

That the preamble of Bill (No. 50) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the Institute of Accountants of British Columbia," has been proved, and the Bill ordered to be reported with amendments.

W. R. Ross,
Chairman.

The report was received.

Bill (No. 10) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Coal Mines Regulation Act,'" was again committed.

Reported complete with amendments.
Report to be considered to-morrow.

Bill (No. 29) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Supreme Court Act,'" was again committed.

Reported complete with amendments.
Report to be considered to-morrow.

The following Bills were read a second time and *Ordered* to be committed to-morrow:—

Bill (No. 35) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Dentistry Act.'"

Bill (No. 42) intituled "An Act to amend the 'British Columbia Railway Act.'"

Notes.

the proceedings of the House referred to a bill relating to unclaimed money deposits in the treasury of the province.

An act authorizes the government to set off liabilities arising from monies owing into their possession in the past or forty years, which had been brought into court in connection with any suit or action, and remained undischarged. These sums are of varying amounts, ranging from very small amounts to several hundred dollars. The idea is to convert to the use of the province monies which have lain unclaimed for years from the date of deposit of the sum thus affected amounting to about \$20,000. In case of claim subsequently turning up and proving valid, provision is made for repayment out of the public funds.

We believe that Mr. Bowser is thoroughly in earnest in placing his resolution upon the order paper, and in any other circumstances we should be pleased to give him support in condemning what is being attempted at Ottawa at the present time. His resolution, however, is too palpably an instruction from the Provincial to the Dominion Parliament to be accepted. This Province cannot afford, in the maintenance of its dignity in the eyes

The Colonist

FRIDAY, MARCH 24, 1905

Provincial
LegislationPremier Replies to Criticism
Against Dyking Assessment
Act.Public Question Entitled
prejudiced Consideration
Legislature.The Coal Mines Regulation
and Supreme Court Bill
Committee.

Thursday, March 23, 1905.

THE House assembled at 10 o'clock and after the customary prayers, the following was the order of business:

Petitions.

A number of petitions presented the previous day asking for amendments to the Placer Act were taken in Committee.

Mr. Hawthornthwaite's resolution to amend the Coal Mining Act was taken up in the afternoon. The measure is designed to limit the employment of underground to eight hours a day, as first introduced by the bill for Nanaimo, provided certain penalties for infraction of the law by workmen. The reconstructed bill simply or seeks to provide, that the attached to the general act as to which, according to the of the act, "doubts have been expressed."

The bill was reported with amendments calculated to purpose less susceptible to criticism, following discussion by J. A. Macdonald, Mr. McInnes, and others.

The bill to amend the Supremacy Act, providing that security on appeal shall not exceed again committed, Mr. Hall.

At present the question of security is in the discretion of the court and the attorney-general's opinion that it should be so.

Mr. Bowser took a similar position serving that in Ontario the required for security on appeal is \$500, or rather \$400, as he a correction of the leader of the opposition. Generally he disapproved the proposal to limit the security provided in the bill. He moved in committee rise, in other words for an expression of opinion in the House on the proposition that the measure should be thrown out.

Mr. Brown argued that the amount which must be paid, as initial costs, should be fixed in the law, and would give just what security they must give in order to have their cases heard in the higher court.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald supported the bill on the ground that it was in the interests of justice. In Ontario, he said, a first appeal was provided free of cost.

Mr. Bowser's motion was put, and lost on a show of hands, 13 to 15.

Mr. McInnes proposed to increase the deposit to \$500. He contended that this was the amount required on appeal to the Supreme Court of Canada and that the expense of an appeal to the Supreme Court of British Columbia was just as high.

Mr. Macdonald disputed this and opposed the amendment.

4

23RD MARCH.

1905

5 ED. 7

Bill (No. 37) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Coal Tax Act,'" was committed. Reported complete with amendments. Report to be considered to-morrow.

Bill (No. 40) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Horticultural Board Act,'" was committed. Reported complete with amendments. Report to be considered to-morrow.

The adjourned debate on Bill (No. 39) intituled "An Act to Adjust Dyking Assessments," was resumed. The debate was again adjourned until to-morrow.

The order for the second reading of Bill (No. 32) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Highway Traffic Regulation Act,'" was discharged and the Bill withdrawn.

Bill (No. 43) intituled "An Act relating to Unclaimed Money Deposits in the Treasury of the Province," was read a second time and committed. Reported complete without amendment. Report to be considered to-morrow.

Resolved, That the House, at its rising, do stand adjourned until two o'clock to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned at 5:55 P.M.

C. E. POOLEY, Speaker.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

By Mr. Henderson—On Monday next—

That an Order of the House be granted for a Return showing the names of every corporation, bank, loan company, insurance company or other company assessed and taxed under section 6 and sub-sections thereof of the "Assessment Act, 1903," with the amounts assessed and the amount of taxes levied against each company, such Return to be for the year ending 31st December, 1904.

The Hon. Mr. Wilson to move, on third reading of Bill (No. 7) intituled "An Act respecting the Jurisdiction and Procedure of County Courts," that the order for third reading be discharged and the Bill re-committed for the purpose of introducing as section 185 the following:—

"185. This Act shall come into force on the first day of July, 1905."

The Hon. Mr. Wilson to move, on consideration of the Report on Bill (No. 36) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Assessment Act, 1903,'" in section 78, line 1, to strike out all the words after the word "hereby," and insert in lieu thereof the word "repealed."

The Hon. Mr. Green to move, on consideration of the Report on Bill (No. 38) intituled "An Act to Establish and Protect Highways," to amend section 6 as follows:—
To strike out after the word "works," in line 3, the words "must be constructed," and insert "shall not be commenced without the consent of, and shall be completed."

The Hon. Mr. Green to move, on consideration of the Report on Bill (No. 38) intituled "An Act to Establish and Protect Highways," to amend section 7 as follows:—

After the number "7" insert "1" in brackets, and insert sub-section (2) as follows:—
(2.) Any person who causes damage to a public highway contrary to section 5 hereof, in addition to the fine provided by sub-section (1) hereof, shall be liable upon summary conviction

list of land owners in the valley were submitted to an impartial tribunal, it would be found that the term "land speculator" would not convey the sense implied in criticisms passed in reference thereto.

The premier observed that it had cost the country \$1,630,000 to settle the dyking belt, and under the measure the province would assume \$350,000 of this amount. In other words, other classes in the country, including farmers in districts less favored by nature, must contribute the deficiency. The premier remarked that the member for Chilliwack had questioned expenditures in connection with the dyking works, and yet had supported an extra vote of \$100,000 in 1902 to complete the dyke in the Chilliwack district.

estate, suit or action, and no claim is claimed. These sums are of varying size, ranging from very small amounts up to several hundred dollars. The idea is to convert to the use of the province such monies which have lain unclaimed for ten years from the date of deposit thereof, the sum thus affected amounting to about \$200,000. In case of claimants subsequently turning up and proving their title, provision is made for repayment out of the public funds.

We believe that Mr. Bowser is earnest in placing the burden upon the order paper, and other circumstances we are pleased to give him support denning what is being attempted at the present time. Ottawa, however, is too palpable a suggestion from the Province Dominion Parliament to be. This Province cannot afford maintenance of its dignity in

before a Justice of the Peace for said damage as may be awarded and sum awarded for damage, months."

Mr. Brown to move, on consideration of the 'Assessment Act' of section 13 of said Act:—

"(13A.) Sub-section 26 of the 'Assessment Act' by inserting after the word 'Province' or in virtue of the 'Coal Mines' "

Mr. Bowser to move, on consideration of the 'Supreme Court Act' to amend the word "five" to read "four" or "five."

The Hon. Mr. Wilson to move, on consideration of the 'Dentistry Act' to amend the words "and shall."

Printed by RICHARD

Act," was committed.

tural Board Act," was com-

Adjust Dyking Assessments,"

An Act to amend the 'High-
drawn.

Money Deposits in the Treasury

until two o'clock to-morrow.

E. POOLEY, *Speaker*.

TION.

ing the names of every corpor-
any assessed and taxed under
3," with the amounts assessed
return to be for the year ending

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that the order for third reading
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aly, 1905."

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sub-section (2) as follows:—
contrary to section 5 hereof, in
liable upon summary conviction

before a Justice of the Peace to pay to the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works such sum for said damage as may be awarded by the Justice of the Peace, and in default of such penalty and sum awarded for damage, shall be liable to imprisonment for a term not exceeding three months."

Mr. *Brown* to move, on consideration of the Report on Bill (No. 36) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Assessment Act, 1903,'" to insert the following as a new sub-section at the end of section 13 of said Act:—

"(13A.) Sub-section 26 of section 4 of the 'Assessment Act, 1903,' is hereby amended by inserting after the word 'Province,' in the second line of said sub-section, the following words: "or in virtue of the 'Coal Mines Act of this Province.'"

Mr. *Bowser* to move, on consideration of the Report on Bill (No. 29) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Supreme Court Act,'" to strike out the word "two" in the last line, and substitute therefor the word "five."

The Hon. Mr. *Wilson* to move, in Committee of the Whole on Bill (No. 35) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Dentistry Act,'" to amend section 14, line 1, by adding after the word "to" the words "and shall."

VICTORIA, B. C.

Printed by RICHARD WOLFENDEN, L.S.O., V.D., Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty.
1905.

But of course, one cannot say
1. These sums are of varying
amounts from very small amounts
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is to convert to the use of the province
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years from the date of deposit
the sum thus affected amount-
about \$20,000. In case of claim-
subsequently turning up and prov-
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lution upon the order paper, and in any
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Ottawa at the present time. His reso-
lution, however, is too palpably an in-
struction from the Provincial to the
Dominion Parliament to be accepted.
This Province cannot afford, in the
maintenance of its dignity in the eyes

MR. BOWSER'S RESOLUTION.

Mr. W. J. Bowser has placed a resolution on the order paper as follows: "That this House regrets that in the Bill proposed to be submitted to the Dominion Parliament granting autonomy to the Northwest Territories, there is an interference with Provincial rights in regard to the provisions dealing with their school system."

Regarding the sentiment of the resolution we are entirely in accord, so far as it relates to the maintenance of Provincial rights. In so far as that is concerned it might form the subject of consideration by the Legislative Assembly, provided always that the danger to the new Provinces of the Northwest Territories was of such a character as to threaten the liberties of other Provinces of the Dominion. As that, however, is not possible, we doubt the advisability or good taste of the Legislature of this Province passing resolutions having in view to influence the legislation now before the Dominion Parliament. While there is such a principle as Provincial rights, which should be respected at all hazards, there is also such a thing as Federal rights, and the Dominion Parliament is now dealing with a matter solely within its own jurisdiction. The Government, and the members of that body, are responsible to the people of Canada for the course they pursue. Members of the local Legislature would feel very indignant if a resolution were passed in the Dominion House expressing the views of that body with respect to the position this Province has taken, or should take, as to the exclusion of aliens, or the settlement of the Songhees reserve, or the building of the New Westminster bridge. It would be regarded as an intolerable interference, or attempt at interference, in our private affairs.

So the Government of Canada and the Dominion Parliament would be justified in resenting such a resolution as is proposed, as not being within the province of the Legislature to pass. In other words, it would be regarded as a matter, which, notwithstanding how deeply the individual members felt in respect to it, was no part of their business in their capacity as legislators.

We believe it is a very wholesome rule to follow for each parliament to attend strictly to its own "knitting" and not attempt to influence or proffer advice to another one upon subjects which are out of its legislative sphere. Upon the question at issue, we take as strong a position as any person possibly can; but regard it as a mistake to use the Legislative Assembly as a mill in which to thresh out Federal straw.

Whatever the effect of the passing of such a resolution would have is likely to be prejudicial rather than otherwise to the principle it affects to champion, by arousing and increasing antagonism to what, in this instance, might properly be designated as "foreign influence."

We believe that Mr. Bowser is thoroughly in earnest in placing his resolution upon the order paper, and in any other circumstances we should be pleased to give him support in condemning what is being attempted at Ottawa at the present time. His resolution, however, is too palpably an instruction from the Provincial to the Dominion Parliament to be accepted. This Province cannot afford, in the maintenance of its dignity in the eyes

of the Dominion, to be figuratively speaking, rapped over the knuckles for dabbling in affairs which do not belong to it. It is always a mistake for the Legislative Assembly to assume to dictate to the Dominion or to any other Legislative body, what its duty should be. If there were any pronounced and widespread agitation in the Northwest against the separate school clauses in the bills, it would have been perfectly proper for the Legislature to pass a resolution expressing sympathy with the people there in their demands for complete autonomy. At the present time we do not know to what extent the undoubted opposition to the measure in the Northwest has taken shape, but until it has clearly manifested itself it would be premature to take action here. The citizens of the Northwest are the people whose interests are mainly affected, and if they fail at the critical moment to assert themselves, action on the part of the Legislature of British Columbia could not but be regarded as a gratuitous contribution to the solution of the question.

These sums are of varying amount, ranging from very small amounts to several hundred dollars. The idea is to divert to the use of the province monies which have lain unclaimed for years from the date of deposit to the sum thus affected amounting about \$20,000. In case of claim, the sum is subsequently turning up and providing title, provision is made for it out of the public funds.

The Colonist.

SATURDAY, MARCH 24, 1906.

Provincial Legislature

Member for Delta Seeks to Prohibit Sunday Hunting and Shooting.

Provincial Secretary Shows Motion to Trespass Upon Dominion Authority.

Proposal Is Lost on Mixed Vote—The Dyking Act Debate Continued.

Friday, March 24, 1906.

THE House assembled at 2 o'clock and after the customary opening exercises the following was the order of business:

Bills.

The bill to establish and protect highways was adopted on report; also the bill to amend the Coal Tax Act. The bill to amend the Game Protection Act was further considered in committee.

An amendment was made on motion of Mr. Garden to exempt surveying and engineering parties from the provisions of the act, which carried after some discussion.

Mr. Oliver moved the following as a new clause: "It shall be unlawful to hunt for, kill or wound, or to shoot at, or to take by means of traps or any other device, any of the animals or birds mentioned in this act during the whole of the Lord's Day, commonly called 'Sunday,' and any violation of this section shall subject the offender to the penalty provided for killing game during the prohibited season."

Mr. Bowser objected that the amendment was out of order—as not being within the scope of the bill.

The chairman declared the amendment to be in order and Mr. Bowser took an appeal to the Speaker, who was called in to settle the question.

In the Speaker's presence Mr. Bowser elaborated his objection to the amendment, contending that it involved the question of Sunday observance as to which question existed with respect to the jurisdiction of the province.

The Speaker decided that the amendment was in order.

Mr. Hawthorthwaite suggested that there would be more reason in prohibiting shooting on any week day rather than the Sabbath, as this day was looked upon by a large number as a day of recreation and not as a day for self-abnegation and confinement.

The Provincial Secretary argued that the amendment, although not specifically directed thereto, was but an evasion of the question of Sunday observance, which he considered inadvisable for the House to interfere with, in view of a recent decision of the Supreme court of Canada in reference thereto.

Mr. Muir took the ground that every day of the week was the Lord's Day, and that an act which was wrong on one day could not be right on another. He opposed the amendment.

Mr. Oliver questioned the constitutional objection taken by the Provincial Secretary. If the House had power to legislate that game should not be killed during a certain part of the year they had the right to say that it should not be killed during a certain part of the week. Other provinces had legislated along these lines. He described Sunday shooting as a nuisance, speaking from practical experience with so-called sportsmen on the Delta.

Hon. Mr. Fulton said that the decision of the Supreme court, which had thrown the point into question, was rendered since the legislation in other provinces was passed. Therefore Mr. Oliver's point was not well taken.

Mr. Hawthorthwaite intimated that it was the principle of the thing that he objected to. Granting that a man might be compelled by legislation to desist from going shooting on Sunday, he might be obliged to attend church and eventually, it might be, a certain church on that day.

The amendment was put and lost on a show of hands. The vote was a mixed one, there being some for and some against on either side of the House.

The amendment was rejected.

Mr. Tanner then moved that it should be illegal to kill any game bird or animal protected by this act between one hour after sunset on Saturday and one hour before sunrise on Monday.

Similar objections were taken to this to those registered against Mr. Oliver's motion, and the amendment was rejected.

Mr. Brown proposed to limit the number of deer which one hunter might kill during a season to three.

Mr. Fulton thought that sufficient protection was provided in the act already on the statute books, the only difficulty in the past being the efficient enforcement thereof, and this was now provided for by the appointment of a game warden.

The amendment was rejected.

Mr. Brown offered an amendment calculated to prevent the killing of deer for the sale of their hides.

Upon suggestion of the Provincial Secretary the matter was stood over for further investigation.

Mr. Hawthorthwaite moved an amendment that game shall not be kept in cold storage at any season of the year.

This amendment passed.

The committee rose and reported progress.

Mr. Hawthorthwaite continued the debate on the bill to amend the Dyking Act. He suggested that a commission be appointed to determine the value of the dykes as they stand and that the assessments be made upon that basis. The Liberal party was professedly the friend of reform, and therefore he extended a special invitation to them to espouse the views which he expressed.

Mr. Macgowan took the ground that if public money had been dissipated in connection with the construction of the dykes in the Fraser valley, the whole people were properly chargeable therefor inasmuch as the expenditures had been sanctioned by the legislature of the country. He believed that all excess over the legitimate cost of construction of the dykes should be borne by the province.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald argued that the claims of the settlers in the dyking districts should be confined to simple justice only. On the one hand the province should not extract anything of the settlers which they might not properly be expected to pay. On the other hand the settlers should not be permitted to escape any responsibility which was justly attachable to them. He contended that the actual settler who labored to improve the land should be encouraged and that within the bounds of reason the retention of the land for purely speculative purposes should be discouraged by the government. He charged that the government had been obliged to "come to the rescue" of the settlers.

Representations presented by the members for Chilliwack and Delta.

Mr. Garden raised the point that there might be "interested parties" in the discussion, saying that he owned a number of acres in the district.

Mr. Muir said if this applied to the member for Vancouver it certainly applied to him. He therefore suggested that he and the second member for Vancouver should pair on the question, which they did.

The vote was then taken and the bill passed second reading on a party division. Mr. Wells voted with the government.

The bill to incorporate the Golden Light, Power and Water Co. passed the committee stage.

Mr. Green introduced a bill to amend the Motor Vehicles Speed Regulation Act.

On a question of privilege Mr. Green explained a statement of his with reference to Sir Charles Hibbert Tupper having applied for a fiat in connection with the application of certain parties holding South African scrip for land on Kalen Island.

The House rose.

Notes.

The Attorney-General gives notice of a bill regarding the rules governing practice and procedure in the courts of the province, also a bill to amend the Landlord and Tenant Act.

VOTES

Legislative A

Prayers by the Rev. J. L.

The Report on Bill (No. 28) considered.

The Hon. Mr. Green moved.

To strike out after the insert "shall not be commenced."

Carried.

The Hon. Mr. Green moved.

After the number "7" insert.

"(2.) Any person who committed an offence under the provisions of the act before a Justice of the Peace, for said damage as may be awarded and sum awarded for damage months."

Carried.

Report, as amended, adopted. Bill read a third time and passed.

The Report on Bill (No. 28) was adopted.

Third reading to-morrow.

Bill (No. 28) intitled "An Act to amend the Game Protection Act," committed.

The Committee reported order raised from the decision in order:—

"It shall be unlawful to trap or any other device, any of the Lord's Day, commonly called 'Sunday,' and the offender to the penalty provided."

Mr. Speaker Pooley: I think shooting on Sunday is dealt with in the Act, 1902, and I so rule.

House again in Committee.

Reported complete with Report to be considered.

a question of privilege Mr. Green
 asked a statement of his with refer-
 to Sir Charles Hibbert Tupper hav-
 applied for a flat in connection with
 application of certain parties hold-
 South African scrip for land on
 an island.
 The House rose.

Notes.
 The Attorney-General gives notice of
 regarding the rules governing prac-
 and procedure in the courts of the
 nce, also a bill to amend the Land-
 and Tenant Act.

No. 32.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Legislative Assembly of British Columbia.

Friday, 24th March, 1905.

TWO O'CLOCK, P.M.

Prayers by the Rev. J. H. Sweet.

The Report on Bill (No. 38) intituled "An Act to Establish and Protect Highways," was considered.

The Hon. Mr. Green moved to amend section 6 as follows:—

To strike out after the word "works," in line 3, the words "must be constructed," and insert "shall not be commenced without the consent of, and shall be completed."

Carried.

The Hon. Mr. Green moved to amend section 7 as follows:—

After the number "7" insert "1" in brackets, and insert sub-section (2) as follows:—

"(2.) Any person who causes damage to a public highway contrary to section 5 hereof, in addition to the fine provided by sub-section (1) hereof, shall be liable, upon summary conviction before a Justice of the Peace, to pay to the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works such sum for said damage as may be awarded by the Justice of the Peace, and in default of such penalty and sum awarded for damage, shall be liable to imprisonment for a term not exceeding three months."

Carried.

Report, as amended, adopted.

Bill read a third time and passed.

The Report on Bill (No. 40) intituled "An Act to amend the Horticultural Board Act," was adopted.

Third reading to-morrow.

Bill (No. 28) intituled "An Act to amend the Game Protection Act, 1898," was again committed.

The Committee reported to Mr. Speaker that an appeal had been taken on a point of order raised from the decision of the Chair ruling the following motion, moved by Mr. Heer, in order:—

"It shall be unlawful to hunt for, kill or wound, or to shoot at, or to take by means of traps or any other device, any of the animals or birds mentioned in this Act during the whole of the Lord's Day, commonly called 'Sunday,' and any violation of this section shall subject the offender to the penalty provided for killing game during the prohibited season."

Mr. Speaker Pooley: I think the amendment is within the title and scope of the Bill, as shooting on Sunday is dealt with by section 4 of the "Game Protection Act, 1898, Amendment Act, 1902," and I so rule.

House again in Committee on the Bill.

Reported complete with amendments.

Report to be considered to-morrow.

The Colon

SATURDAY, MARCH 25

Provincial
LegislationMember for Delta Seeks
to Prohibit Sunday Hunting
and Shooting.Provincial Secretary Shows
that it is Incompetent for the
Legislature to Trespas upon
the Authority of the Courts.Proposal is Lost on Motion
to Amend the Dyking Act
Continued.

Friday, March 25.

The House assembled at 10
and after the customary
order of business:

Bills.

The bill to establish and pro-
vide ways was adopted on report
bill to amend the Coat Tax
bill to amend the Game Pro-
was further considered in co-An amendment was made
of Mr. Garden to exempt sur-
engineering parties from the
of the act, which carried after
discussion.Mr. Oliver moved the in-
sertion of a new clause: "It shall be
illegal for any person to hunt for, kill or wound, or
to take by means of traps or
any other device, any of the animals
mentioned in this act during
of the Lord's Day, or on
'Sunday,' and any violation
thereof shall subject the offender
to the penalty provided for killing
game during the prohibited season."Mr. Bowser objected that
the amendment was out of order—
as it was within the scope of the bill.The chairman declared the
motion to be in order and
took an appeal to the Speaker
called in to settle the question.In the Speaker's presence
Mr. Bowser elaborated his objection
concerning the amendment, contending that in
question of Sunday observance
which question existed with
the jurisdiction of the province.
The Speaker decided that
the amendment was in order.Mr. Hawthornthwaite sug-
gested there would be more reason
for prohibiting shooting on any week-
day than the Sabbath, as this day
is observed by a large number
of the population and not as a day
of recreation and confinement.The Provincial Secretary
stated the amendment, although not
directed thereto, was but a
question of Sunday
which he considered inadvisable
House to interfere with, in
recent decision of the Supreme
Court in reference thereto.Mr. Oliver took the
floor and stated that on
every day of the week
Day, and that an act which was wrong
on one day could not be right on another.
He opposed the amendment.Mr. Oliver questioned the constitutional
objection taken by the Provincial Sec-
retary. If the House had power to legis-
late that game should not be killed dur-
ing a certain part of the year they had
the right to say that it should not be
killed during a certain part of the week.
Other provinces had legislated along
these lines. He described Sunday shoot-
ing as a nuisance, speaking from prac-
tical experience with so-called sportsmen
on the Delta.

The Hon. Mr. Green presented to Mr. Speaker a Message from His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, which read as follows:—

H. G. JOLY DE LOTBINIÈRE,
Lieutenant-Governor.

The Lieutenant-Governor transmits herewith a Bill intituled "An Act to amend the 'Motor Vehicles Speed Regulation Act, 1904,'" and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

Government House,
23rd March, 1905.

Ordered, That the said Message, and the Bill accompanying the same, be referred to a Committee of the Whole House forthwith.

(IN THE COMMITTEE.)

Resolved, That the Committee rise and report to the House a Bill (No. 46) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Motor Vehicles Speed Regulation Act, 1904,'" and recommend the introduction of the same.

Report adopted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Second reading on Monday next.

The adjourned debate on the second reading of Bill (No. 39) intituled "An Act to Adjust Dyking Assessments," and the amendment thereto moved by Mr. Oliver on 21st March, as follows:—

"That all the words of the Resolution after the first word 'That' be struck out, and the following words inserted in lieu thereof:—

"this House is of the opinion that the cost of the dyking works of this Province, owing to unforeseen difficulties and the experimental nature of the undertaking, has been much in excess of their value to the districts involved, and that it is expedient and advisable that substantial reductions should be made in the amount to be charged against the lands in the various dyking districts. That the present Bill as introduced, is unjust, unfair and inequitable in its provisions, discriminating against the actual bona fide settler and in favour of the land speculator. That the present Bill should be withdrawn, and a Bill submitted that whilst granting relief to the various dyking districts, should be so framed as to spread the balance of the burden of taxation equitably upon the lands involved, discriminating in favour of the actual settler, and so ensuring the settlement and cultivation of the lands included in the various dyking districts," was resumed.

Question proposed, "Shall the words proposed to be struck out stand part of the question," and Resolved in the affirmative on the following division:—

YEAS:

Messieurs

Wells,
Hawthornthwaite,
Williams,
Tatlow,
McBride,
Wilson,Cotton,
Ellison,
Clifford,
Bouwer,
Fraser,Ross,
A. McDonald,
Green,
Fulton,
Taylor,Wright,
Young,
Gifford,
Macgowan,
Shatford—21.

NAYS:

Messieurs

Drury,
King,
Brown,
Murphy,Jones,
Evans,
Tanner,Oliver,
J. A. Macdonald,
Henderson,Paterson,
Hall,
Cameron—13.

Bill read a second time.

To be committed on Monday next.

Bill (No. 59) intituled
"The Hon. Mr. Green presented to Mr. Speaker a Message from His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, which read as follows:—"

Resolved, That the Committee rise and report to the House a Bill (No. 46) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Motor Vehicles Speed Regulation Act, 1904,'" and recommend the introduction of the same.

And then the Hon.

On Monday next—
The Hon. Mr. W.
Governing Practice andOn Monday next—
The Hon. Mr. W.
Landlord and TenantBy Mr. Oliver—
Lands and Works—
1. Have the Govern-
ment Bridge?
2. If so, what areBy Mr. Oliver—
Lands and Works—
Why has not Cr
issued to M. E. OliverBy Mr. J. A. Ma-
That an Order of
correspondence relat-
ing to timber concessions.By Mr. Evans—
Section 50, sub-se-
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Day, commonly calledThe Hon. Mr. T.
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Act.

1905

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24TH MARCH.

3

message from His Honour the Lieutenant

JOLY DE LOTBINIÈRE,
Lieutenant-Governor.

Bill intituled "An Act to amend the
Commends the same to the Legislative

accompanying the same, be referred to a

the House a Bill (No. 46) intituled "An
Act, 1904," and recommend the intro-

(No. 39) intituled "An Act to Adjust
by Mr. Oliver on 21st March, as

the word 'That' be struck out, and the

dyking works of this Province, owing
the undertaking, has been much in
it is expedient and advisable that sub-
barged against the lands in the various
is unjust, unfair and inequitable in
de settler and in favour of the land
n, and a Bill submitted that whilst
so framed as to spread the balance of
ved, discriminating in favour of the
vation of the lands included in the

struck out stand part of the ques-
vision:—

ald, Wright,
Young,
Gifford,
Macgowan,
Shatford—21.

Donald, Paterson,
Hall,
Cameron—13.

Bill (No. 59) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the Golden Light, Power and Water Com-
pany, Limited," was again committed.
Reported complete with amendments.
Report to be considered on Monday next.

Resolved, That the House, at its rising, do stand adjourned until two o'clock on Monday
next.

And then the House adjourned at 5:55 P.M.

C. E. POOLEY, *Speaker*.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

On Monday next—

The Hon. Mr. *Wilson* to ask leave to introduce a Bill intituled "An Act regarding Rules
Governing Practice and Procedure in the Courts of the Province."

On Monday next—

The Hon. Mr. *Wilson* to ask leave to introduce a Bill intituled "An Act to amend the
'Landlord and Tenant Act.'"

By Mr. *Oliver*—On Monday next—Questions of the Hon. the Chief Commissioner of
Lands and Works—

1. Have the Government entered into any agreement for the use of the New Westminster
Bridge?
2. If so, what are the terms of such agreement?

By Mr. *Oliver*—On Monday next—Question of the Hon. the Chief Commissioner of
Lands and Works—

Why has not Crown Grant No. 1,951/163 for Lot 310, Range V., Coast District, been
issued to *M. E. Oliver*?

By Mr. *J. A. Macdonald*—On Monday next—

That an Order of the House be granted for a Return of copies of all papers, affidavits and
correspondence relating to the application of the Pacific Coast Paper & Pulp Company for pulp
timber concessions.

By Mr. *Evans*—On Monday next—Question of the Hon. the Attorney-General—

Section 50, sub-section (95), of the Municipal Clauses Act, chap. 144, provides that muni-
cipalities may pass a by-law to regulate "public morals, including the observance of the Lord's
Day, commonly called Sunday." Have municipalities this power?

The Hon. Mr. *Tallow* to move, on consideration of the Report on Bill (No. 43) intituled
"An Act relating to Unclaimed Money Deposits in the Treasury of the Province," the follow-
ing amendment:—

In section 5, line 8, to insert after the word "Province," "subject to section 41 of the
Supreme Court Act."

The Hon. Mr. *Tallow* to move, on consideration of the Report on Bill (No. 36) intituled
"An Act to amend the 'Assessment Act, 1903,' the following amendments:—

To strike out of section 31, line 48 thereof (being "Column 3—Assessed value of real
property"), and to substitute therefor the following words:—"Column 3—Exemption of \$500
to farmers (under sub-section (23) of section 4, as re-enacted)." And to add as a new line:—
"Column 4—Taxable assessed value." And to re-number columns 4 to 21, as printed, as
columns 5 to 22, inclusive.

The Colonist

SATURDAY, MARCH 24

Provincial
LegislationMember for Delta Seeks
to Prohibit Sunday Hunting
and Shooting.Provincial Secretary Shows
that Trespass Upon
Indian Authority.Proposal Is Lost on Motion
—The Dyking Act Discussed
Continued.

Friday, March 23

THE House assembled at 10 o'clock and after the customary exercises the following order of business was read:

The bill to establish and provide for the payment of ways was adopted on report. The bill to amend the Game Protection Act, 1898, was further considered in committee.

An amendment was made by Mr. Garden to exempt surveying parties from the provisions of the act, which carried after discussion.

Mr. Oliver moved the following new clause: "It shall be unlawful for any person to hunt for, kill or wound, or to take by means of traps or devices, any of the animals mentioned in this act during the Lord's Day, commonly known as 'Sunday,' and any violation of this clause shall be subject to the penalty provided for killing game during the prohibited season."

Mr. Bowser objected that the amendment was out of order as it was within the scope of the bill.

The chairman declared the motion to be in order and took an appeal to the Speaker called in to settle the question.

In the Speaker's presence Mr. Oliver elaborated his objection to the amendment, contending that it was a question of Sunday observance, which question existed with the jurisdiction of the province.

The Speaker decided that the amendment was in order.

Mr. Hawthornthwaite suggested that there would be more reason for prohibiting hunting on any week-day than the Sabbath, as this day is observed by a large number of people as a day of recreation and not as a day of religious observance.

The Provincial Secretary, in reply, stated that the amendment, although not directed thereto, was but an attempt to introduce the question of Sunday observance, which he considered inadvisable for the House to interfere with, in view of the recent decision of the Supreme Court in reference thereto.

Mr. Williams took the opportunity to state that every day of the week was a day of rest, and that an act which was wrong on one day could not be right on another. He opposed the amendment.

Mr. Oliver questioned the constitutional objection taken by the Provincial Secretary. If the House had power to legislate that game should not be killed during a certain part of the year they had the right to say that it should not be killed during a certain part of the week. Other provinces had legislated along these lines. He described Sunday shooting as a nuisance, speaking from practical experience with so-called sportsmen on the Delta.

To strike out of Form No. 9, in Part I. thereof, under the item "Wild Land—Tax at three per cent.," the word "three," and substitute therefor the word "four." And under Part II. of said form, immediately after the words "Personal property at two-thirds of one per cent.," to add the following words:—"Where the taxpayer is entitled to the exemption of \$500 under sub-section (23), section 4, as re-enacted, state here the actual value \$

Deduct exemption 500

Taxable value

And in the column for the tax to add the word "taxable," immediately above the words "assessed value."

The Hon. Mr. Fulton to move, on consideration of the Report on Bill (No. 28) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Game Protection Act, 1898,'" to strike out section 6 and insert in lieu thereof the following:—

"6. Section 12 of said Act is hereby amended by striking out the first paragraph thereof, and by substituting therefor the following:—

"12. The provisions of this Act shall not apply to Indians or resident farmers in unorganised districts of this Province, with regard to deer killed for their own or their families' immediate use, for food only, and not for the purpose of sale or traffic; nor shall this Act apply in unorganised districts to free miners actually engaged in placer mining or prospecting, nor to surveying or engineering parties engaged in their duties, who may kill game for food, nor to the Curator of the Provincial Museum, or his assistant, assistants, or agent (appointed by him in writing), while collecting specimens of natural history for the Provincial Museum."

By Mr. Hawthornthwaite—On Monday next—

Whereas Ralph Smith, Member of the House of Commons, Ottawa, has introduced a Bill into the said House, intituled "An Act respecting the Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway Company"; and

Whereas the said Bill contains the following clause:—

"9. Notwithstanding anything in this Act, the Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway Company shall not, for or by reason of entering into the said agreement or selling its said railway thereunder, be held, or deemed, or taken to have waived, or lost, or prejudiced, or affected in anywise howsoever any of the franchises, rights, powers, authorities, exemptions, grants and privileges held or possessed by the Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway Company at the time of entering into the said agreement and selling the said line of railway, but all such franchises, rights, powers, authorities, exemptions, grants, and privileges shall, notwithstanding the entering into of such agreement and the completion of such sale, remain, exist and continue in full force and effect, unprejudiced and unimpaired, for the benefit, profit and advantage of the Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway Company;" and

Whereas the object of this clause is to prevent this Province from exerting and exercising its power to tax the land of the Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway Company, which owing to the sale of the said railway has now become open to taxation; and

Whereas high legal opinion has doubtless been obtained by the Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway Company that this will be the effect of the passage of said legislation through the Dominion House; and

Whereas it is a matter of vital importance that the Province should preserve intact its right to tax the said Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway Land Belt;

Be it therefore Resolved, That this House urge upon the Government the necessity of taking such immediate steps as it may deem necessary in the matter to protect the rights of the people of this Province."

VICTORIA, B. C.

Printed by RICHARD WOLFENBUTER, L.S.O., V.D., Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty.
1905.

which they did.

The vote was then taken and the bill passed second reading on a party division. Mr. Wells voted with the government.

The bill to incorporate the Golden Light Power and Water Co. passed the committee stage.

Mr. Green introduced a bill to amend the Motor Vehicles Speed Regulation Act.

THE DY

The dyking bill second reading on one to thirteen.

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The Colonist.

SUNDAY, MARCH 26, 1905.

THE DYKING BILL.

The dyking bill on Friday passed its second reading on a division of twenty-one to thirteen. This may be regarded as somewhat significant from the fact that Mr. John Oliver, of Delta, and Mr. Munro, of Chilliwack, the two representatives of dyked lands of the Fraser, who, in the nature of things, ought to be the most familiar with the conditions, made very bitter attacks against the Government in connection with this legislation.

The force of these gentlemen's contentions was much minimised by the extreme and inconsistent positions which they took on the question. These inconsistencies were most admirably illustrated in the vigorous speech made by the Premier, under whose lash they spent a most uncomfortable "half hour."

The most noteworthy incident in connection with the vote was the fact that Mr. W. C. Wells, who was Chief Commissioner for a considerable portion of the time during which the expenditures on the dykes were being made, and who was at that time responsible for the same, voted against his own party. This seems to us the strongest evidence of the soundness of the position taken by the Government. If any man should be familiar with the conditions which exist in the dyking districts and should understand the situation in all its bearings, it is Mr. Wells.

We think that the Government is to be highly congratulated upon the result of the division. Just before the vote was taken, Mr. Macdonald, leader of the Opposition, had been belaboring the Premier on his partnership with the Socialist party, with the usual chances being rung upon the dictatorship of the latter. As there are but two Socialists and there was a majority of eight for the Government, the contention of the Opposition was immediately shattered by hard facts.

Upon the second reading, of course, the principle of the bill only is discussed, but we have no doubt that when it reaches the committee stage, the Government will be only too pleased to make any amendments which can be shown to be justified in the circumstances. That was clearly intimated by the Premier in his speech, and if there are any inequalities or injustices that can be shown to exist, we feel sure that they will have the best consideration of the Government and its supporters.

1905

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The Colonist.

TUESDAY, MARCH 28, 1906.

Provincial Legislature

Parliament Reaches a Conclusion as to Wearing of Wigs Etc.

Resolution Deprecating Federal Interference With Educational Matters Adopted.

Mr. Clifford's Bill to Enable the Sailors on Vessels to Exercise Franchise.

Monday, March 27, 1906.

THE House assembled at 2 o'clock, and after prayers by Rev. J. F. Vichet, the following was the order of business:

Reports

Upon recommendation of the private bills committee, the extension of time for the presentation of reports was extended to April 6.

Bills

The attorney-general introduced a bill regarding the rules of the Supreme court; also a bill to amend the Landlord and Tenant Act.

Separate Schools

Mr. Bowser moved: "That this House regrets that in the bill proposed to be submitted to the Dominion parliament, granting autonomy to the Northwest Territories, there is an interference with provincial rights in regard to the provisions dealing with their school system."

He argued that the course taken by the Dominion government, or at least by Sir Wilfrid Laurier and those advisers who sustained him, in crystallizing separate schools in the new provinces, was unconstitutional, and in this connection he cited various authorities, including the late Sir John S. D. Thompson. The Dominion government sought to set aside the terms of the constitution, which had obtained since 1867, in trying to interfere with the right of the provinces to settle educational matters for themselves. He quoted the sentiments of Sir Wilfrid Laurier speaking on the remedial bill in 1896, to show the strange contrast between the position he took then as leader of the opposition and the stand he had since taken as the leader of the government. He criticized the action of Hon. Mr. Sifton in leaving the party ostensibly on the school question and subsequently condoning the stand taken by the government in a speech made to the House. He said he had not introduced the subject through any prejudiced motive, but merely because of a desire that the new provinces should possess the same measure of liberty in such matters as was enjoyed by citizens of British Columbia. He recalled a speech of Mr. Fielding, delivered at Windsor, N. S., in 1896, in which he applauded the principle of provincial rights and observed that he wished in this far western province to go on record as being in accord with that sentiment.

The resolution passed without discussion.

Questions

Mr. Oliver asked: "1. What amount of taxes was collected from each railway company operating in British Columbia under the provisions of chapter 52, 1903-4? 2. Under what heading do these collections appear in the public accounts? 3. What amount was collected from each railway company in British Columbia as wild land tax last year?"

Hon. Mr. Tallow replied: "1. The amount of taxes collected from each railway company operating in British Columbia, under the provisions of chapter 52, 1903-4, was as follows:

Canadian Pacific railway	\$59,342.21
Esquimalt & Nanaimo railway	5,510.04
White Pass & Yukon railway	3,021.03
Red Mountain railway	965.13
Nelson & Fort Sheppard railway	5,445.90
Bedlington & Nelson railway	1,418.22
Kaslo & Slocan railway	2,745.36
Kettle Valley lines (Republic & Grand Forks Railway Company)	336.15
Vancouver, Victoria & Eastern railway	1,652.40
Crow's Nest Southern railway	4,945.53
	\$85,284.97

"2. In table No. 5, B 25, under Real Property Tax. In table No. 5, B 27, under special columns, the amounts paid by the Canadian Pacific and the Esquimalt & Nanaimo railway are shown separately. The amounts paid by the other companies are not shown separately. 3. It is impossible to give an immediate answer to this question. Each assessment roll has to be searched and the wild lands of railway companies separated from the wild lands of other taxpayers."

Mr. Oliver asked: "Why has not Crown grant No. 1,551-163 for lot 310, range V., Coast district been issued to M. E. Oliver?"

Hon. Mr. Green replied: "Being held for further consideration."

Mr. Oliver asked: "1. Have the government entered into any agreement for the use of the New Westminster bridge? 2. If so what are the terms of such agreement?"

Hon. Mr. Green replied: "1. Yes; twenty-five-year lease of running rights only, \$15,000 for first five years per annum; remainder, \$30,000."

Third Readings

The bill respecting the jurisdiction and procedure of County courts was re-committed for the purpose of adding a provision that it should come into force on the first day of July, 1906. The bill was then finally passed.

The bill to establish and protect highways passed third reading; also the bill to amend the Horticultural Board Act.

The bill to amend the Motor Vehicles Speed Regulation Act passed second reading. It simply provides for a technical omission in the legislation of last year passed on a similar subject.

The bill to incorporate the Golden Light Power and Water Company was adopted on report; also the bill to incorporate the Stave Valley Railway Company.

The bill to incorporate the Institute of accountants of British Columbia passed its second reading on motion of Mr. Macgowan, who gave a brief explanation of its terms. Generally it is for the improvement and protection of the profession. The bill, he said, was drawn on lines similar to those prevailing with respect to similar institutions in England and in other parts of Canada.

Upon consideration of the bill to amend the Supreme Court Act on report, Mr. Bowser moved to increase the amount of security required on appeal from \$300 to \$500.

Mr. Brown, the mover of the bill, opposed the amendment as being inconsistent with the object of the bill. The bill was designed to enable poor litigants to obtain an appeal to the Supreme court on reasonable terms. This was his reason for introducing the measure, to limit the security to \$300. If the amendment passed the object of the bill would be destroyed.

Mr. McInnes said that the amendment would not alter the law as it now stood that the judges should have discretion as to the matter of fixing security for costs. It did not mean that litigants would be compelled to put up \$500 before obtaining an appeal.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald opposed the amendment.

The attorney-general endorsed the view taken by the member for Nanaimo.

The amendment was rejected. Mr. McInnes being the only member of the opposition to support it. Messrs. McBride, Wright, Gifford and Dr. Young.

on the government side, voted against the motion.

The bill to amend the Dentistry Consolidation Act passed the committee stage, Dr. King in the chair; also the bill to amend the British Columbia Railway Act.

Wigs and Gowns

Mr. Henderson moved the second reading of the bill to amend the Supreme Court Act, which reads:

"The wearing or use of the customary official wigs, or of robes of any color other than black, by judges, barristers or registrars of this court, during the sitting of the court or in chambers is hereby prohibited."

"Any person violating any provision of the foregoing shall be liable on summary conviction to a penalty not exceeding twenty-five dollars and not less than ten dollars for each such offence."

He argued that the dignity of a judge's position and the soundness of his judgment were not strengthened by the apparel which he wore. According to a rule of the Supreme court adopted in this province in 1890, and which still obtained, lawyers were entitled to appear at the bar here in the same garb as any barrister in the Superior courts of Ontario and Quebec. The present bill was designed to prevent judges from going beyond their authority in enforcing the wearing of wigs. One objection to wigs was their expense. Their manufacture was confined to a certain maker in London, and the possession of one meant the expenditure of \$50. Forty wigs represented \$4,000—quite a tidy sum. Another objection was their oppressiveness. Headaches were superinduced by wearing them, as to which he testified from personal experience. Altogether he declared the practice of wig wearing an abominable custom which should be abolished.

The Attorney-General thought it ridiculous that a member of the legislature should get up in his place to promote legislation which was abolished in the days of James I., namely, legislation which prohibited individuals from wearing particular costumes. He did not believe in interfering with the liberty of the individual in such a matter. The question, he considered, was effectually disposed of by the rule referred to by the member for Yale, which left it open to barristers to wear wigs or not as they chose. He agreed that the custom, as to this feature of legal apparel, should be uniform. It appeared to him incongruous to see one lawyer wearing a certain headpiece and another differently arrayed; for instance, some lawyers wearing wig in court and a judge refraining from doing so. If the judges refrained entirely from wearing wigs, he thought the lawyers would follow the example. It was hardly courteous to the House, he thought, that their time should be taken up in discussing such legislation. It would be just as much in order to consider whether a man should appear in court in kilts or whether women should dress themselves in a particular style.

Mr. Brown said it was not a question of regulating what judges and barristers should wear, but whether the whole legal profession should be tyrannized over by the action of a few judges in sticking to a custom which had become an abomination. Wig-wearing in this sense was a relic of barbarism which dated back to the time of Queen Anne. He pointed out that the continuance of such a practice, even as an optional matter, might place a lawyer in the position of having to antagonize a judge in refusing to comply with it, and of receiving a prejudiced hearing in consequence thereof, or perhaps no hearing at all.

Mr. Bowser thought some more important question might have been selected for the consideration of the legislature. As for the wearing or non-wearing of wigs, it was a matter for individual decision. It was not for the legislature to say either that the lawyers shall or shall not wear that interesting headpiece. He thought the whole thing was ridiculous and involved an interference with the liberty of the subject.

Mr. Williams did not think that justice was assisted by any special headgear. At the same time, he did not think the legislature should step in to prevent a judge wearing any article of apparel, which he selected, so long as the laws of decency were not shocked thereby.

Mr. Stone took it that if the House were called upon to say that a lawyer shall not wear a wig, it might say perhaps that he should not wear any pants. He thought the question should be left to common sense.

Mr. Hawthornthwaite was inclined to withhold his vote altogether. If the judges decided to make fools of themselves, he did not see that the parliament of the country should step in to prevent them so doing.

VOTES A

Legislative Ass

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Prayers by the Rev. Jno. F.

Mr. Ross presented the Thirti

MR. SPEAKER:

Your Select Standing Committee report as follows:—

That an application be made of Reports to April 6th, 1906.

The report was received.

The Standing Rules and Or

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No. 33.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Legislative Assembly of British Columbia.

Monday, 27th March, 1905.

TWO O'CLOCK, P.M.

Prayers by the Rev. Jno. F. Vichert.

Mr. Ross presented the Thirteenth Report from the Private Bills Committee, as follows:—

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,
March 27th, 1905.

MR. SPEAKER:

Your Select Standing Committee on Private Bills and Standing Orders beg leave to report as follows:—

That an application be made to the House for an extension of the time for the presenta-
tion of Reports to April 6th, 1905.

W. R. Ross,
Chairman.

The report was received.
The Standing Rules and Orders were suspended and the report adopted.

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. Wilson, the following Bills were introduced, read a first
time and *Ordered* to be read a second time to-morrow:—

Bill (No. 47) intituled "An Act regarding Rules Governing Practice and Procedure in
the Courts of the Province."
Bill (No. 48) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Landlord and Tenant Act.'"

On the motion of Mr. Bowser, seconded by Mr. Hawthornthwaite, it was *Resolved*,—

That this House regrets that in the Bill proposed to be submitted to the Dominion Parlia-
ment, granting autonomy to the North-West Territories, there is an interference with Pro-
vincial rights in regard to the provisions dealing with their school system.

Mr. Oliver asked the Hon. the Minister of Finance the following questions:—

1. What amount of taxes was collected from each railway company operating in British
Columbia under the provisions of chapter 52, 1903-4?
2. Under what heading do these collections appear in the Public Accounts?
3. What amount was collected from each railway company in British Columbia as wild
land tax last year?

The Colonist

TUESDAY, MARCH 28, 1905

Provincial
LegislatureParliament Reaches a
Conclusion as to Wearing of
Wigs Etc.Resolution Depreciating
Interference With Education
Matters Adopted.Mr. Clifford's Bill to Enable
Sailors on Vessels to Exercise
Franchise.

Monday, March 27.

THE House assembled at 2 p.m.
and after prayers by Rev.
Vichert, the following was
order of business:

Reports

Upon recommendation of the
bills committee, the extension
for the presentation of reports was
extended to April 4.

Bills

The attorney-general introduced
a bill regarding the rules of the
court; also a bill to amend the
lord and Tenant Act.

Separate Schools

Mr. Bowser moved: "That this
regrets that in the bill proposed
submitted to the Dominion parliament
granting autonomy to the North
Territories, there is an interference
with provincial rights in regard
provisions dealing with their
system."

He argued that the course taken
by the Dominion government, or
by Sir Wilfrid Laurier and his
advisers who sustained him, in
insisting on separate schools in the
Northwest Territories, was unconstitutional, and
in connection he cited various authorities
including the late Sir John
Thompson. The Dominion government
sought to set aside the terms of the
constitution, which had obtained
in 1867, in trying to interfere with
the right of the provinces to set
national matters for themselves.
He quoted the sentiments of Sir
Laurier speaking on the matter
in 1896, to show the strange
position he took as leader of the
opposition and the fact that he
had since taken as the leader of
the government. He criticized the
of Hon. Mr. Sifton in leaving
openly on the school question
subsequently condoning the action
of the government in a speech
to the House. He said he had
introduced the subject through
judicious motive, but merely he
desired that the new provinces
possess the same measure of
such matters as was enjoyed by
the provinces of British Columbia.
He quoted a speech of Mr. Fielding,
delivered in Windsor, N. S., in 1896, in
which he applauded the principle of
provincial rights and observed that he
thought this far western province to
be in accord with that sentiment.

The resolution passed without discussion.

Questions

Mr. Oliver asked: "1. What amount of
taxes was collected from each railway
company operating in British Columbia
under the provisions of chapter 52,
1903-4? 2. Under what heading do
these collections appear in the public
accounts? 3. What amount was collected
from each railway company in
British Columbia as wild land tax last
year?"

2

27TH MARCH.

1905

5 ED. 7

The Hon. Mr. Tatlow replied as follows:—

"1. The amount of taxes collected from each railway company operating in British Columbia, under the provisions of chapter 52, 1903-4, was as follows:—

"Canadian Pacific Railway	\$59,343 21
Esquimalt & Nanaimo Railway	5,810 04
White Pass & Yukon Railway	3,021 03
Red Mountain Railway	968 13
Nelson & Fort Sheppard Railway	5,445 90
Bedlington & Nelson Railway	1,418 22
Kaslo & Slocan Railway	2,745 36
Kettle Valley Lines (Republic & Grand Forks Railway Co.) ..	336 15
Vancouver, Victoria & Eastern Railway	1,652 40
Crow's Nest Southern Railway	4,546 53

\$85,286 97

"2. In Table No. 3, B 23, under Real Property Tax. In Table No. 5, B 27, under special columns, the amounts paid by the Canadian Pacific Railway, and the Esquimalt & Nanaimo Railway, are shown separately. The amounts paid by the other Companies are not shown separately.

"3. It is impossible to give an immediate answer to this question. Each Assessment Roll has to be searched, and the Wild Lands of railway companies separated from the Wild Lands of other taxpayers."

Mr. Oliver asked the Hon. the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works the following question:—

Why has not Crown Grant No. 1,951/163 for Lot 310, Range V., Coast District, been issued to M. E. Oliver?

The Hon. Mr. Green replied as follows:—

"Being held for further consideration."

Mr. Oliver asked the Hon. the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works the following questions:—

1. Have the Government entered into any agreement for the use of the New Westminster Bridge?

2. If so, what are the terms of such agreement?

The Hon. Mr. Green replied as follows:—

"1. Yes; twenty-five year lease of running rights only.

"2. \$15,000 for first five years per annum; remainder, \$20,000."

On the third reading of Bill (No. 7) intitled "An Act respecting the Jurisdiction and Procedure of County Courts," the Hon. Mr. Wilson moved that the order for third reading be discharged and the Bill re-committed for the purpose of introducing as section 185 the following:—

"185. This Act shall come into force on the first day of July, 1905."

Carried.

Bill re-committed.

Reported complete with amendments.

Report adopted.

Third reading to-morrow.

Mr. Evans asked the Hon. the Attorney-General the following question:—

Section 50, sub-section (95), of the Municipal Clauses Act, chap. 144, provides that municipalities may pass a by-law to regulate "public morals, including the observance of the Lord's Day, commonly called Sunday." Have municipalities this power?

Ruled out of order, on the ground that the question asked for a legal opinion.

The following Bill
Bill (No. 38) intitled
Bill (No. 40) intitled

The Report on Bill
in the Treasury of the

The Hon. Mr. Tatlow

In section 5, line 1

Supreme Court Act."

Carried.

Report, as amended

Third reading to-morrow

Bill (No. 46) intitled

1904," was read a second

Reported complete

Report to be considered

The Report on Bill

and Water Company,"

Third reading to-morrow

The Report on (No. 46)

was adopted.

Third reading to-morrow

(No. 53) "An Act to

committed.

Reported complete

Report to be considered

Bill (No. 50) intitled

Columbia," was read a second

To be committed

The Report on Bill

Act," was adopted.

Third reading to-morrow

The Report on Bill

was considered.

Mr. Bowser moved

the word "five."

Negated.

Report adopted.

Third reading to-morrow

Bill (No. 35) intitled

Reported complete

Report to be considered

Bill (No. 42) intitled

committed.

Reported complete

Report to be considered

ment would not alter the law as it now
stood that the judges should have dis-
cretion as to the matter of fixing se-
curity for costs. It did not mean that
litigants would be compelled to put up
\$500 before obtaining an appeal.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald opposed the
amendment.

The attorney-general endorsed the
view taken by the member for Na-
naimo.

The amendment was rejected. Mr.
McInnes being the only member of the
opposition to support it. Messrs. Mc-
Bride, Wright, Gifford and Dr. Young.

was assisted by a special messenger. At
the same time, he did not think the leg-
islature should step in to prevent a judge
wearing any article of apparel, which he
selected, so long as the laws of decency
were not shocked thereby.

Mr. Ross took it that if the House were
called upon to say that a lawyer shall not
wear a wig, it might say perhaps that
he should not wear any pants. He thought
the question should be left to common
sense.

Mr. Macdonald was inclined to
withhold his vote altogether. If the judges
decided to make fools of themselves, he
did not see that the parliament of the
country should step in to prevent them so
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each railway company operating in British Columbia, was as follows:—

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Forks Railway Co.) ..	336 15
.....	1,652 40
.....	4,546 53

\$85,286 97

erty Tax. In Table No. 5, B 27, under special assessment, the Esquimalt & Nanaimo Railway, and the other Companies are not shown.

answer to this question. Each Assessment of railway companies separated from the Wild

Commissioner of Lands and Works the following for Lot 310, Range V., Coast District, been

Commissioner of Lands and Works the following

agreement for the use of the New Westminster it?

rights only.
remainder, \$20,000."

"An Act respecting the Jurisdiction and the Commission moved that the order for third reading purpose of introducing as section 185 the first day of July, 1905."

raise the following question:—

Clauses Act, chap. 144, provides that municipalities, including the observance of the Lord's day, is this power?

question asked for a legal opinion.

The following Bills were read a third time and passed:—

Bill (No. 38) intituled "An Act to Establish and Protect Highways,"
Bill (No. 40) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Horticultural Board Act,'"

The Report on Bill (No. 43) intituled "An Act relating to Unclaimed Money Deposits in the Treasury of the Province," was considered.

The Hon. Mr. Tallow moved the following amendment:—

In section 5, line 8, to insert after the word "Province," "subject to section 41 of the Supreme Court Act."

Carried.

Report, as amended, adopted.

Third reading to-morrow.

Bill (No. 46) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Motor Vehicles Speed Regulation Act, 1904,'" was read a second time and committed.

Reported complete without amendment.

Report to be considered to-morrow.

The Report on Bill (No. 59) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the Golden Light, Power and Water Company," was adopted.

Third reading to-morrow.

The Report on (No. 57) "An Act to Incorporate the Stave Valley Railway Company," was adopted.

Third reading to-morrow.

(No. 53) "An Act to Incorporate the Fording Valley Railway Company," was again committed.

Reported complete without amendment.

Report to be considered to-morrow.

Bill (No. 50) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the Institute of Accountants of British Columbia," was read a second time.

To be committed to-morrow.

The Report on Bill (No. 10) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Coal Mines Regulation Act,'" was adopted.

Third reading to-morrow.

The Report on Bill (No. 29) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Supreme Court Act,'" was considered.

Mr. Bowser moved to strike out the word "two" in the last line, and substitute therefor the word "five."

Negatived.

Report adopted.

Third reading to-morrow.

Bill (No. 35) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Dentistry Act,'" was committed.

Reported complete with amendment.

Report to be considered to-morrow.

Bill (No. 42) intituled "An Act to amend the 'British Columbia Railway Act,'" was committed.

Reported complete without amendment.

Report to be considered to-morrow.

was assumed by any special member. At the same time, he did not think the legislature should step in to prevent a judge wearing any article of apparel, which he selected, so long as the laws of decency were not shocked thereby.

Mr. How took it that if the House were called upon to say that a lawyer shall not wear a wig, it might say perhaps that he should not wear any pants. He thought the question should be left to common sense.

Mr. Hawthornthwaite was inclined to withhold his vote altogether. If the judges decided to make fools of themselves, he did not see that the parliament of the country should step in to prevent them so doing.

The Colonist

TUESDAY, MARCH 28.

Provincial
LegislationParliament Reaches a
Decision as to Wearing
Wigs Etc.Resolution Deprecating
Interference With Educa-
tional Matters Adopted.Mr. Clifford's Bill to En-
able Sailors on Vessels to En-
joy Franchise.

Monday, March 28.

THE House assembled at
10 o'clock and after prayers by
Vichert, the following
order of business:

Reports

Upon recommendation of the
bills committee, the extension
for the presentation of reports
tended to April 6.

Bills

The attorney-general intro-
duced a bill regarding the rules of the
court; also a bill to amend the
lord and Tenant Act.

Separate Schools

Mr. Bowser moved: "That the
regrets that in the bill proposed
submitted to the Dominion par-
liament granting autonomy to the
Territories, there is an inter-
ference with provincial rights in re-
gard to provisions dealing with the
system."

He argued that the course
of the Dominion government, as
by Sir Wilfrid Laurier and
others who sustained him, in
insisting separate schools in the
provinces, was unconstitutional, as
in connection he cited various
opinions of the late Sir John
Thompson. The Dominion go-
vernment sought to set aside the terms
of the constitution, which had obtained
in 1867, in trying to interfere
with the right of the provinces to se-
cure educational matters for them-
selves. He quoted the sentiments of Sir
Laurier speaking on the resolution
in 1896, to show the strange
position between the position he took
as leader of the opposition and
he had since taken as the leader
of the government. He criticized
the Hon. Mr. Sifton in leaving
openly on the school question
subsequently condoning the action
of the government in a speech
to the House. He said he had
introduced the subject through
judicious motive, but merely to
show a desire that the new province
possess the same measure of
autonomy as was enjoyed by
the provinces of British Columbia.
He then read a speech of Mr. Fielding,
of Windsor, N. S., in 1896, in
which he applauded the principle of
rights and observed that he
thought this far western province to
be in accord with that senti-
ment.

The resolution passed without dis-
cussion.

Questions

Mr. Oliver asked: "1. What amount of
taxes was collected from each railway
company operating in British Columbia
under the provisions of chapter 52,
1903-4? 2. Under what heading do
these collections appear in the public
accounts? 3. What amount was col-
lected from each railway company in
British Columbia as wild land tax last
year?"

4

27TH MARCH.

1905

Bill (No. 44) intituled "An Act further to amend the 'Supreme Court Act,'" was read a
second time on the following division:—

YEAS:

Messieurs

King,
Brown,
McNiven,
Murphy,
Evans,

Tanner,
Oliver,
Henderson,
Munro,

Paterson,
Wells,
McBride,
Clifford,

Wright,
Gifford,
Macgowan,
Shatford—17.

NAYS:

Messieurs

McInnes,
J. A. Macdonald,
Tallou,
Wilson,

Cotton,
Ellison,
Bousser,

Ross,
Green,
Fulton,

Garden,
Taylor,
Young—13.

To be committed to-morrow.

On the second reading of Bill (No. 45) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Provincial
Elections Act,'" a debate arose, which was adjourned until to-morrow.

Resolved, That the House, at its rising, do stand adjourned until two o'clock to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned at 5:25 P.M.

C. E. POOLEY, Speaker.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

Mr. Brown to move, on consideration of the Report on Bill (No. 28) intituled "An Act
to amend the 'Game Protection Act, 1898,'" the following amendment:—

To amend section 12 by adding after the word "Schedule," in the fifth line thereof, the
following: "by striking out the words 'more than ten in one season,' in the fourth column of
said Schedule, opposite the words 'Deer (buck) and Deer (doe),' in the first column of said
Schedule, and substituting the words 'more than five in one season.'"

The Hon. Mr. Wilson to move, on consideration of the Report on Bill (No. 8) intituled
"An Act to amend the 'Land Registry Act and amending Acts,'" the following amend-
ments:—

Section 33—Strike out the word "Filed," and insert in lieu thereof the word "Deposited."
Section 39—Strike out the word "Filed" in the last line, and insert in lieu thereof the
word "Deposited."

Section 51—Add at end of section "nor shall any Certificate of Indefeasible Title to same
be issued."

Section 54—Add as sub-section (3)—

"(3.) The applicant shall, at the time of his application, deposit with the Registrar all
title deeds in his custody, possession or power."

Section 55—Change present numbered section 55 to section 56, and 56 to 57.

5 ED. 7

Insert as section
Registrar on any ap-
plicant save in case registrat
when all title deeds,
applicant."

Section 57—Be

The Hon. Mr. 2
"An Act to amend

To add to sectio
ing words:—"Land
surveyed and shown

To add to sectio
after the word "pur-
fect of merchantable
sub-section (12b) the
shall furnish to the
timber land, giving
age thereof, the aver-
cash value per acre
and description of
in the event of suc-
timber land as wild

To strike out of
property"), and to s
to farmers (under s
"Column 4—Taxab
21, as printed, as co

To strike out of
three per cent., the
II. of said form, im-
cent," to add the fo
under sub-section (2
Deduct

And in the column
"assessed value."

To add as a ne
"42A. Section
first line of said sub

To add as a ne
"49A. Sub-sect
sub-section substit
"(8). Such no
Court."

To add to sect
"147B. To str
"sale," on the fift
"The Chief C

dispose of all lands
visions of this Act
Act, and on such t
and according to t
reservations contain
the 'Land Act,' or

ment would not enter the law as it now
stood that the judges should have dis-
cretion as to the matter of fixing se-
curity for costs. It did not mean that
litigants would be compelled to put up
\$500 before obtaining an appeal.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald opposed the
amendment.
The attorney-general endorsed the
view taken by the member for Na-
namo.

The amendment was rejected, Mr.
McInnes being the only member of the
opposition to support it. Messrs. Mc-
Bride, Wright, Gifford and Dr. Young.

was assisted by any special headgear. At
the same time, he did not think the leg-
islature should step in to prevent a judge
wearing any article of apparel, which he
selected, so long as the laws of decency
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called upon to say that a lawyer shall not
wear a wig, it might say perhaps that
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the question should be left to common
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Mr. Hewthornthwaite was inclined to
withhold his vote altogether. If the judges
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on, Wright,
de, Gifford,
d, Macgowan,
Shatford—17.

Garden,
Taylor,
Young—13.

d "An Act to amend the 'Provincial
until to-morrow.

adjourned until two o'clock to-morrow.

C. E. POOLEY, *Speaker*.

MOTION.

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owing amendment:—

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amending Acts," the following amend-

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e last line, and insert in lieu thereof the

y Certificate of Indefeasible Title to same

plication, deposit with the Registrar all
power."

5 to section 56, and 56 to 57.

Insert as section 55—"All title deeds, instruments and documents, deposited with the Registrar on any application or proceeding, shall remain as a perpetual deposit in his office, save in case registration be refused, under section 13, as re-enacted by section 6 of this Act, when all title deeds, instruments, documents and maps deposited shall be returned to the applicant."

Section 57—Between the figures "21" and "52," in line 2, insert the figures "51."

The Hon. Mr. Tallow to move, on consideration of the Report on Bill (No. 36) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Assessment Act, 1903," the following amendments:—

To add to section 3, sub-section (12), immediately after the last word thereof, the following words:—"Land subdivided as townsites, into lots of two acres or less in extent, regularly surveyed and shown upon a plan thereof, duly registered, shall not be assessed as wild land."

To add to section 4, sub-section (12b), upon the fifth line of said sub-section, immediately after the word "purpose," the following words: "and which averages at least five thousand feet of merchantable timber to the acre," and to add immediately after the last word of said sub-section (12b) the following words: "Provided further, that the owner of timber land shall furnish to the Assessor on or before the first day of June in each year a return of his timber land, giving in detail the legal or other well defined description of each parcel, the acreage thereof, the average number of feet of merchantable timber to the acre thereof, and the cash value per acre of each parcel, together with a plan showing the exact acreage, locality and description of the portion of such land from which timber has been cut or removed, and in the event of such return not being furnished the Assessor may assess the whole of such timber land as wild land."

To strike out of section 31, line 48 thereof (being "Column 3—Assessed value of personal property"), and to substitute therefor the following words:—"Column 3—Exemption of \$500 to farmers (under sub-section (23) of section 4, as re-enacted)." And to add as a new line:—"Column 4—Taxable assessed value of personal property." And to re-number columns 4 to 21, as printed, as columns 5 to 22, inclusive.

To strike out of Form No. 9, in Part I. thereof, under the item "Wild Land Tax at three per cent." the word "three," and substitute therefor the word "four." And under Part II. of said form, immediately after the words "Personal property at two-thirds of one per cent," to add the following words:—"Where the taxpayer is entitled to the exemption of \$500 under sub-section (23), section 4, as re-enacted, state here the actual value.....\$ 500

Deduct exemption..... 500
Taxable value

And in the column for the tax to add the word "taxable," immediately above the words "assessed value."

To add as a new section—

"42A. Section 82, sub-section (10), of said Act is hereby amended by striking out in the first line of said sub-section the word "or," and substituting therefor the word "on."

To add as a new section—

"49A. Sub-sections (8) and (9) of said section 96, are hereby repealed, and the following sub-section substituted therefor:—

"(8). Such notice shall be mailed to such address of the person as was last known to the Court."

To add to section 70 the following:—

"147B. To strike out of said section 147 all the words of said section after the word "sale," on the fifteenth line thereof, and to substitute therefor the following words:—

"The Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works is hereby authorised and empowered to dispose of all lands and mineral claims which have been forfeited to the Crown under the provisions of this Act to any person at a price not less than the price of similar lands under the 'Land Act,' and on such terms and conditions as he may consider right in the interest of the Province, and according to the descriptions in the original Crown grants thereof, and subject to the reservations contained therein, and such lands shall at no time be open for pre-emption under the 'Land Act,' or for location under the 'Mineral Act' or 'Placer Mining Act.'"

was assisted by any special headgear. At the same time, he did not think the legislature should step in to prevent a judge wearing any article of apparel, which he selected, so long as the laws of decency were not shocked thereby.

Mr. Howe took it that if the House were called upon to say that a lawyer shall not wear a wig, it might say perhaps that he should not wear any pants. He thought the question should be left to common sense.

Mr. Hawthornthwaite was inclined to withhold his vote altogether. If the judges decided to make fools of themselves, he did not see that the parliament of the country should step in to prevent them so doing.

The Colonist

TUESDAY, MARCH 28,

Provincial
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Decision as to Wearing
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Monday, March 27

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10 o'clock and after prayers by B.
Vichert, the following
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for the presentation of reports
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Bills

The attorney-general intro-
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court; also a bill to amend the
Lord and Tenant Act.

Separate Schools

Mr. Bowser moved: "That the
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submitted to the Dominion Parliament
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with provincial rights in regard to
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He argued that the course
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in connection he cited various au-
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the right of the provinces to settle
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He quoted the sentiments of Sir
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then read a speech of Mr. Fielding, deli-
vered at Windsor, N. S., in 1898, in
which the speaker applauded the principle of
provincial rights and observed that he
was in full accord with the Dominion
government.

The resolution passed without dis-
cussion.

Questions

Mr. Oliver asked: "1. What amount of
taxes was collected from each railway
company operating in British Columbia
under the provisions of chapter 52,
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these collections appear in the public
accounts? 3. What amount was col-
lected from each railway company in
British Columbia as wild land tax last
year?"

6

27TH MARCH.

1905

Mr. Hall to move, on the third reading of Bill (No. 10) intituled "An Act to amend the
'Coal Mines Regulation Act,'" that the Order for the third reading be discharged and the
Bill re-committed, for the purpose of considering the following proposed amendment:—

To add the following as a new section:—

"Section 3 of the 'Coal Mines Regulation Act Amendment Act, 1903,' is hereby repealed
and the following is substituted therefor:—

"3. 'Bank,' for the purposes of this Act, shall mean the surface entrance to a mine,
except in the case of a vertical shaft, when it shall mean the foot of the shaft."

VICTORIA, B. C.

Printed by RICHARD WOLFENDEN, L.S.O., V.D., Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty.
1905.

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Mr. J. A. Macdonald opposed the
amendment.

The attorney-general endorsed the
view taken by the member for Na-
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The amendment was rejected, Mr.
McInnes being the only member of the
opposition to support it. Messrs. Mc-
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lature should step in to prevent a judge
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withhold his vote altogether. If the judges
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The vote was then taken and the Bill
passed a second reading on the following

1. 1905

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called upon to say that a lawyer shall not
wear a wig, it might say perhaps that
he should not wear any pants. He thought
the question should be left to common
sense.

Mr. Shawcross was inclined to
withhold his vote altogether. If the judges
decided to make fools of themselves, he
did not see that the parliament of the
country should step in to prevent them so
doing.

The Colonist

TUESDAY, MARCH 28,

Provincial Legislation

Parliament Reaches a
Decision as to Wearing
Wigs Etc.

Resolution Deprecating
Interference With Educa-
tional Matters Adopted

Mr. Clifford's Bill to En-
franchise Sailors on Vessels to E

Monday, March 28.

THE House assembled at 10 o'clock and after prayers by the Rev. Mr. Vichert, the following order of business:

Reports

Upon recommendation of the bills committee, the extension for the presentation of reports was postponed to April 4.

Bills

The attorney-general introduced a bill regarding the rules of the court; also a bill to amend the Lord and Tenant Act.

Separate Schools

Mr. Bowser moved: "That I regret that in the bill proposed submitted to the Dominion parliament granting autonomy to the Territories, there is an interference with provincial rights in regard to provisions dealing with the system."

He argued that the course of the Dominion government, as shown by Sir Wilfrid Laurier and his advisers who sustained him, in favor of separate schools in the Territories, was unconstitutional, and in connection he cited various precedents including the late Sir John Thompson. The Dominion government sought to set aside the terms of the constitution, which had obtained in 1867, in trying to interfere with the right of the provinces to set aside national matters for themselves. He quoted the sentiments of Sir Wilfrid Laurier speaking on the subject in 1896, to show the strange position between the position he took as leader of the opposition and the position he had since taken as the leader of the government. He criticized the action of Hon. Mr. Sifton in leaving the school question ostensibly on the school question, but subsequently condoning the action by the government in a speech to the House. He said he had introduced the subject through a desire to show the public that the new province possessed the same measure of self-government as was enjoyed by the old provinces of British Columbia. He referred to a speech of Mr. Fielding, delivered in Windsor, N. S., in 1896, in which the principle of self-government was applauded and observed that he was in this far western province to show that he was in accord with the principle.

The resolution passed without discussion.

Questions

Mr. Oliver asked: "1. What amount of taxes was collected from each railway company operating in British Columbia under the provisions of chapter 52, 1903-4? 2. Under what heading do these collections appear in the public accounts? 3. What amount was collected from each railway company in British Columbia as wild land tax last year?"

curity for costs. It did not mean that litigants would be compelled to put up \$500 before obtaining an appeal.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald opposed the amendment. The attorney-general endorsed the view taken by the member for Nanaimo.

The amendment was rejected, Mr. McInnes being the only member of the opposition to support it. Messrs. McBride, Wright, Gifford and Dr. Young.

lature should step in to prevent a judge wearing any article of apparel, which he selected, so long as the laws of decency were not shocked thereby.

Mr. Ross took it that if the House were called upon to say that a lawyer shall not wear a wig, it might say perhaps that he should not wear any pants. He thought the question should be left to common sense.

Mr. Hawthornthwaite was inclined to withhold his vote altogether. If the judges decided to make fools of themselves, he did not see that the parliament of the country should step in to prevent them so doing.

The vote was then passed a second reading.

For—Wright, Macgowan, Brown, McNiven, Murphy, Oliver, Henderson, Munro, McBride, Clifford—18.

Against—J. A. Macdonald, son, Gifford, Cotton, Green, Fulton, Garden, 14.

The following were Drury, Grant, Davidson, Hawthornthwaite, Fraser, Hecron and Jones.

Provincial Election

The bill to amend the Elections Act passed a second reading of Mr. Clifford. It provided, in substance, that any vessel of over 100 tons may happen to be at the time to register their votes. It proposed that the master should be appointed deputy clerk.

The Attorney-General stated the general ground that abuses of the franchise had been remarked that if the proposed amendment to the Australian and Oriental Franchise Act was introduced, it would be entitled to consideration.

Hon. Mr. Cotton stated that the measure would put the franchise in a position to be pointed out the same for this measure might involve on railway employees which took them.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald stated that the measure might be applied to the vessels affected. There was more reason for it from a captain's returning officer. He stated that amendments might be made which would render it.

Mr. Henderson stated that the system obtaining in the Territories related to the time of election. He stated that the time of election was at the time of election.

The debate closed. The House rose.

The vote was then taken and the Bill passed a second reading on the following vote:

For—Wright, Macgowan, Stratford, King, Brown, McIlven, Murphy, Evans, Tanner, Oliver, Henderson, Munro, Paterson, Wells, McBride, Cliford—16.

Against—J. A. McDonald, Tatlow, Wilson, Cliford, Cotton, Ellison, Brown, Ross, Green, Fulton, Garden, Taylor, Young—14.

The following were absent: Messrs. Drury, Grant, Davidson, Williams, Hawthornthwaite, Fraser, Houston, Hall, Cameron and Jones.

Provincial Elections Act

The bill to amend the Provincial Elections Act passed second reading on motion of Mr. Cliford. Its purpose, as explained, is to enable the crews of coasting vessels of over 150 tons burden, which may happen to be at sea on election day, to register their votes. To this end, he proposed that the masters of such vessels should be appointed deputy returning officers.

The Attorney-General opposed the bill on the general ground that it might lead to abuse of the franchise. Incidentally he remarked that if the privilege were given to coasting vessels, ships engaged in the Australian and Oriental trade were equally entitled to consideration.

Hon. Mr. Cotton argued that such a measure would put the master of a vessel in a position to coerce his men. He pointed out the same argument applicable for this measure might be extended to employees on railway trains or other services which took them away from home.

Mr. J. A. McDonald thought that scrutineers might be appointed to accompany the vessels affected. He did not think there was more reason to expect unfairness from a captain than from any other returning officer. He suggested that amendments might be made in committee which would render the bill practicable.

Mr. Henderson showed that the suggestion of Mr. Cliford was in line with the system obtaining in Australia, where arrangements existed whereby electors registered in one place and residing in another at the time of election could vote.

The Premier moved the adjournment of the debate.

The House rose.

ature should step in to prevent a judge wearing any article of apparel, which he selected, so long as the laws of decency were not shocked thereby.

Mr. Ross took it that if the House were called upon to say that a lawyer shall not wear a wig, it might say perhaps that he should not wear any pants. He thought the question should be left to common sense.

Mr. Hawthornthwaite was inclined to withhold his vote altogether. If the judges decided to make fools of themselves, he did not see that the parliament of the country should step in to prevent them so doing.

The Colonist.

THURSDAY, MARCH 30, 1905.

Provincial Legislature

Anti-Wig Bill Passes Committee Stage in an Amended Form.

Bill to Reduce Amount of the Election Deposit is Discussed.

Sealers' Vote Bill Passes Second Reading—Legislation Advanced.

Wednesday, March 29.

THE House assembled at 2 o'clock and after the customary exercises the following was the order of business:

Reports

The agricultural committee reported through Mr. Ellison, the chairman, that the committee had exhaustively enquired into matters set forth in a petition referred to them, from the Nurserymen's Association, and that charges of incompetency, etc. made therein against members of the Horticultural Board had not been sustained. As regards amendments to the Horticultural Board Act suggested in the petition, in view of the fact that the large nurserymen of the province, the Fruit Growers Association, which had expressed entire satisfaction with the act and confidence in the members of the board, the committee recommended that it would not be in the interests of the fruit growing industry to amend the legislation of last session. The report was received.

Third Readings

The bill to incorporate the Golden Light, Power and Water Co., passed its third reading; also the bill to incorporate the Stave Valley Railway Co.; and the bill to incorporate the Fording Valley Railway Co.

The bill to incorporate the Institute of Chartered Accountants of British Columbia, passed the committee stage. Mr. Fraser in the chair.

The bill to amend the Land Registry Act and the bill to amend the Coal Tax Act passed third readings.

The bill to regulate the rules governing the practice and procedure in the courts of the province passed second reading, on motion of the Attorney General. He explained that its purpose was to empower the government to adopt the rules of court prepared by the commissions appointed last session for the purpose. One of the commissions, with respect to the County Court was presided over by Judge Harrison; the other dealing with the Supreme Court, was presided over by Chief Justice Hunter.

Mr. McInnes asked if the government would, under the bill, have power to make rules concerning the wearing of wigs.

The Attorney General said the question was a constitutional one which he was not prepared to answer off hand.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald considered that there were grave questions attaching to the prerogative with which the government proposed to clothe itself. For instance, might they not have power to extend their discrimination to other matters affecting practice and procedure, such as the security required for cost of appeal to the Supreme court, which had already been decided by the House, and the bill relating to wigs introduced by the member for Yale.

The motion passed after some further discussion and the bill was read a second time.

The bill to amend the Landlord and Tenant Act passed second reading. It provides that "in all cases where a landlord distrains for rent on goods in the possession of his tenant, which goods are held by the tenant under a duly filed agreement for hire, contract or conditional sale, the landlord shall sell only the interest of the tenant in such goods."

The bill to amend the Assessment Act was adopted on report.

The bill to amend the Supreme Court Act passed third reading.

The bill to amend the Dentistry Consolidation Act was adopted on report; also the bill to amend the British Columbia Railway Act.

Election Deposit

The bill introduced by Mr. Williams to reduce the amount of the deposit required of political candidates from \$200 to \$50 was further considered.

The Premier, who had moved the adjournment of the debate, following the motion for second reading of the bill, remarked that last year, when similar legislation was before the House, he had thought that the discussion was rather hurried. Generally speaking, the objections taken against the bill were that it would lead to persons offering themselves as candidates for election simply for vexatious purposes. He could not agree with this. The privilege of candidacy, he considered, was but an extension of the franchise consistent with the spirit of present day institutions. In other countries the deposit exacted of candidates was less in amount than that required in British Columbia. In New Zealand, where the deposit was \$50, no evil result had been occasioned, and in Nova Scotia the deposit was fixed at this amount. The \$200 deposit had been adopted in British Columbia at a time when the ratio of value in a dollar was much less than it was today. Nothing less than a quarter dollar was in circulation in those days, and two hundred dollars was regarded as more seriously than \$50 would be at the present time. He supported the bill.

Hon. Mr. Cotton moved the adjournment of the debate.

Workmen's Compensation

Mr. J. A. Macdonald moved the second reading of the Workmen's Compensation Act. It provides in part that in cases where claims for compensation have not been made within the time fixed by the act, the extension of the time in order to enable such claims to be heard shall be within the discretion of the judge. It further stipulated that in cases of permanent injury, a lump sum, not exceeding \$1500 may be paid, instead of a weekly allowance as at present provided for. It also abridges the time within which an appeal may be taken from an arbitrator's award to one month.

The motion passed. The Attorney General presented the annual report of Births, Deaths and Marriages.

Wigs or no Wigs

Mr. Henderson's anti-wig bill was committed. Mr. Clifford in the chair.

The Attorney General, with a view of having the bill thrown out, moved that the committee rise.

The Premier opposed the motion. He agreed that dignity and decorum should be studied in the courts of the country. At the same time Mr. Henderson's idea seemed to be to secure uniformity, and this, he thought, was right. He did not think any penal clause should attach to the bill, and suggested that there should be elimination in committee.

Hon. Mr. Tallow regretted that on this one occasion he was constrained to disagree with his leader. As a layman, while he might not approve of going to extremes in the way of keeping up the dignity of our institutions, he was equally inclined to disapprove of going to extremes in the other direction. He supported the Attorney General's motion.

Mr. Bowser objected to the bill on principle. It involved interference with the liberty of the subject. He also entertained doubts as to its constitutionality. He thought the measure was ridiculous, and that it was not tending to the dignity of the legislature that they should give it serious consideration.

Mr. Hall suggested that the wig question was due to the over abundance of lawyers in the House.

Mr. Henderson argued that the bill was calculated to remove existing abuses in the courts. The House was not asked to say that a judge who not wear a wig on the public streets or in his own

domicile. The dressing of heads, by means of queues, feathers and such like, was affected by three classes only—Chinamen, Siwashen and Hottentots. He was willing that the penal clauses should be struck out, believing that the bill would be effective without them.

Hon. Mr. Cotton rose to ask that the question be put.

Mr. Brown said it was not the legislature which was interfering with private rights. It was the judges who disregarded the statutory rule which allowed barristers their liberty in the matter. The question was whether the legislature should control the judges or whether the judges should defy the legislature. In theory a barrister might exercise his own opinion in the matter or wearing wigs, but in practice it was different. They had to do as the judge ordered.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald remarked that the Finance Minister was in the position on the question of being unable to follow his leader. He (Mr. Macdonald) was in the unfortunate position of being unable to follow his followers. He did not think the question should have been introduced into the House. As he understood it, two judges in the province were against the wearing of wigs and three were in favor. The bill proposed to compel the majority to follow the lead of the minority. As he looked at it, if a lawyer had not courage enough to insist upon the rights in the matter of costume, which the laws of the country protected him in, he had not sufficient courage to conduct a case in court.

The Attorney General observed that in his opinion there was no question as to the jurisdiction of the legislature to deal with the subject. The question in his mind was whether it was wise to do so. He read a chapter from Carlyle in which that great writer humorously discusses the question of costumery, winding up with an injunction that trousers should be tight across the hips.

The motion that the committee rise was put and lost. The opposition, with the exception of Mr. McInnes, voted against it, and on the government side it was opposed by Messrs. McBride, Clifford, Fraser, A. MacDonald and Wright.

The bill passed committee in an amended form. The penal sections were eliminated, and the prohibition was confined to "the customary or official wig."

Mr. Clifford's bill to enable the crews of coasting vessels to register their votes on election day was further discussed. The Premier expressed himself in favor of the measure, suggesting that any objections which existed thereto might be removed in committee.

The bill passed second reading, opposition thereto being confined to a part of the government following, and Mr. McInnes on the opposition side. The government members who supported it were Messrs. McBride, Garden, Grant, A. MacDonald, Fraser, Gifford, Ellison, Clifford, Young, Taylor and Wright.

The House rose.

TECHNICALLY DISQUALIFIED

Member for Atlin and One of Victoria's Representatives Violated Constitution.

Included in the gossip of the legislative lobby yesterday was a story to the effect that the discovery had been made by some of the interesting group of persons who are forever on a still hunt for technical sins on the part of the members, that Dr. Young, the member for Atlin, is in reality disqualified from representing that constituency, through an unconscionable and minute infraction of the Constitution Act.

It is asserted that his offence is in the same category as that which for a time threatened to deprive the electors of Lil-looet of representation by Mr. A. MacDonald—he is said to have drawn certain small amounts of money from the crown after accepting nomination as a member of the House.

VOTES

Legislative

Prayers by the Rev. ...

The following Bills were introduced:
Bill (No. 7) intitled ...
Courts."

Bill (No. 43) intitled ...
of the Province."

Mr. Hawthorthwaite

Whereas Ralph Smith ...
into the said House, intitu ...
pany"; and

Whereas the said Bill

"9. Notwithstanding ...
pany shall not, for or by r ...
thereunder, be held, or de ...
anywise howsoever any of ...
privileges held or possess ...
entering into the said ag ...
rights, powers, authorities ...
ing into of such agreemen ...
force and effect, unprejud ...
Esquimalt and Nanaimo I ...

Whereas the object o ...
its power to tax the land ...
the sale of the said railwa ...

Whereas high legal o ...
Railway Company that th ...
Dominion House; and

Whereas it is a matt ...
right to tax the said Esqu ...

Be it therefore Resol ...
taking such immediate ste ...
the people of this Province

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reported, that "wh ...
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No. 34.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Legislative Assembly of British Columbia.

Tuesday, 28th March, 1905.

Two o'clock, P.M.

Prayers by the Rev. Jno. F. Vichert.

The following Bills were read a third time and passed:—

Bill (No. 7) intituled "An Act respecting the Jurisdiction and Procedure of County Courts."

Bill (No. 43) intituled "An Act relating to Unclaimed Money Deposits in the Treasury of the Province."

Mr. Hawthorthwaite moved, seconded by Mr. Williams,—

Whereas Ralph Smith, Member of the House of Commons, Ottawa, has introduced a Bill into the said House, intituled "An Act respecting the Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway Company"; and

Whereas the said Bill contains the following clause:—

"9. Notwithstanding anything in this Act, the Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway Company shall not, for or by reason of entering into the said agreement or selling its said railway thereunder, be held, or deemed, or taken to have waived, or lost, or prejudiced, or affected in anywise howsoever any of the franchises, rights, powers, authorities, exemptions, grants and privileges held or possessed by the Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway Company at the time of entering into the said agreement and selling the said line of railway, but all such franchises, rights, powers, authorities, exemptions, grants, and privileges shall, notwithstanding the entering into of such agreement and the completion of such sale, remain, exist and continue in full force and effect, unprejudiced and unimpaired, for the benefit, profit and advantage of the Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway Company;" and

Whereas the object of this clause is to prevent this Province from exerting and exercising its power to tax the land of the Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway Company, which owing to the sale of the said railway has now become open to taxation; and

Whereas high legal opinion has doubtless been obtained by the Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway Company that this will be the effect of the passage of said legislation through the Dominion House; and

Whereas it is a matter of vital importance that the Province should preserve intact its right to tax the said Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway Land Belt;

Be it therefore Resolved, That this House urge upon the Government the necessity of taking such immediate steps as it may deem necessary in the matter to protect the rights of the people of this Province."

micelle. The dressing of heads, by means of queues, feathers and such like, as affected by three classes only—Finamen, Siwashas and Hottentots. He was willing that the penal clauses could be struck out, believing that the bill would be effective without them.

Hon. Mr. Cotton rose to ask that the section be put.

Mr. Brown said it was not the legislature which was interfering with private rights. It was the judges who disregarded the statutory rule which allowed barristers their liberty in the matter. The question was whether the legislature should control the judges or whether the judges should defy the legislature. A theory a barrister might exercise his own opinion in the matter of wearing wigs, but in practice it was different. They had to do as the judge ordained.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald remarked that the Finance Minister was in the position on the question of being unable to follow his leader. He (Mr. Macdonald) was in the unfortunate position of being unable to follow his followers. He did not think the question should have been introduced into the House. As he understood it, two judges in the province were against the wearing of wigs and three were in favor. The bill proposed to compel the majority to follow the lead of the minority. As he looked at it, if a lawyer had not courage enough to insist upon the rights in the matter of costume, which the laws of the country protected him in, he had not sufficient courage to conduct a case in court.

The Attorney-General observed that in his opinion there was no question as to the jurisdiction of the legislature to deal with the subject. The question in his mind was whether it was wise to do so. He read a chapter from Carlyle in which that great writer humorously discusses the question of costumery, winding up with an injunction that trousers should be tight across the hips.

The motion that the committee rise was put and lost. The opposition, with the exception of Mr. McLane, voted against it, and on the government side it was opposed by Messrs. McBride, Clifford, Fraser, A. McDonald and Wright.

The bill passed committee in an amended form. The penal sections were eliminated, and the prohibition was confined to "the customary or official wig." Mr. Clifford's bill to enable the crews of coasting vessels to register their votes on election day was further discussed. The Premier expressed himself in favor of the measure, suggesting that any objections which existed thereto might be removed in committee.

The bill passed second reading, opposition thereto being confined to a part of the government following, and Mr. McLane on the opposition side. The government members who supported it were Messrs. McBride, Garden, Grant, A. M. Donald, Fraser, Gifford, Ellison, Clifford, Young, Taylor and Wright.

The House rose.

TECHNICALLY
DISQUALIFIED

Member for Atlin and One of Victoria's Representatives Violated Constitution.

Included in the gossip of the legislative lobby yesterday was a story to the effect that the discovery had been made by some of the interesting group of persons who are forever on a still hunt for technical sins on the part of the members, that Dr. Young, the member for Atlin, is in reality disqualified from representing that constituency, through an unconscious and minute infraction of the Constitution Act.

It is asserted that his offence is in the same category as that which for a time threatened to deprive the electors of Lillooet of representation by Mr. A. McDonald—he is said to have drawn certain small amounts of money from the crown after accepting nomination as a member of the House.

the estimation of revenue, he may nevertheless succeed. In commenting upon the general situation, he said, as reported, that "whilst there were no signs of 'boom' or undue inflation, the reports, both commercial and agricultural, from all parts of the province indicated a condition of general prosperity, improving business conditions and progress. In spite of adverse comment by critics of taxation, the most encouraging reports were coming to hand from all our mining centres. They were becoming more and more accustomed to hear of 'boom' and 'boom'."

H. 1905

ended by Mr. Oliver, that all the words resolution be struck out, and the follow-

eking to have passed by the Parliament Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway Company;

Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway Com- said agreement or selling its said railway ived, or lost, or prejudiced, or affected in owers, authorities, exemptions, grants and anaimo Railway Company at the time of d line of railway, but all such franchises, privileges shall, notwithstanding the enter- ch sale, remain, exist and continue in full the benefit, profit and advantage of the

ge upon the Government the necessity of ry in the matter to protect the rights of

in place of the original motion, which was

st to amend the 'Assessment Act, 1903,'

ut the words "two dollars and fifty cents," of.

Henderson,
Cameron—11.
Macdonald,

Taylor,
Wright,
Young,
Gifford,
Macgowan,
Shatford—26.

endment :—
ely after the last word thereof, the follow-
ots of two acres or less in extent, regularly
stered, shall not be assessed as wild land."

4, sub-section (126), upon the fifth line of
pose," the following words: "and which
ble timber to the acre," and to add immedi-
the following words: "Provided further,
the Assessor on or before the first day of
ng in detail the legal or other well defined
he average number of feet of merchantable

5 ED. 7

28TH MARCH.

3

timber to the acre thereof, and the cash value per acre of each parcel, together with a plan showing the exact acreage, locality and description of the portion of such land from which timber has been cut or removed, and in the event of such return not being furnished the Assessor may assess the whole of such timber land as wild land."

Carried.

Mr. Oliver moved to amend section 8 by adding the following words to the end of the section :—

"Provided that income derived from investments shall not be exempt under this section."

Negated on the following division :—

YEAS :			
Messieurs			
McInnes,	King,	Evans,	Oliver—4.
NAYS :			
Messieurs			
Drury,	Munro,	Wilson,	Garden,
Brown,	Paterson,	Cotton,	Taylor,
McNiven,	Wells,	Bowser,	Wright,
Murphy,	Hall,	Fraser,	Young,
Jones,	Cameron,	Ross,	Gifford,
Tanner,	Hawthornthwaite,	A. McDonald,	Macgowan,
Davidson,	Williams,	Green,	Shatford,
J. A. Macdonald,	Tatlow,	Fulton,	Grant—34.
Henderson,	McBride,		

Mr. McInnes moved to add the following as a sub-section to section 11 :—

"(23A.) All permanent improvements up to the value of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) made on land used for agricultural purposes."

Negated on the following division :—

YEAS :			
Messieurs			
McInnes,	McNiven,	Tanner,	Paterson,
Drury,	Murphy,	Oliver,	Wells,
King,	Jones,	Henderson,	Hall,
Brown,	Evans,	Munro,	Cameron—16.
NAYS :			
Messieurs			
Davidson,	Cotton,	A. McDonald,	Young,
Hawthornthwaite,	Ellison,	Green,	Gifford,
Williams,	Clifford,	Fulton,	Macgowan,
Tatlow,	Bowser,	Garden,	Shatford,
McBride,	Fraser,	Taylor,	Grant—23.
Wilson,	Ross,	Wright,	

Mr. Brown moved to insert the following as a new sub-section at the end of section 13 of said Act :—

"(13A.) Sub-section 26 of section 4 of the 'Assessment Act, 1903,' is hereby amended by inserting after the word 'Act,' in the second line of said sub-section, the following words: 'or Coal Mines Act.'"

Carried.

Mr. Oliver moved to amend section 14 by striking out the word "four" where it occurs under the heading "On Wild Lands," and insert the word "five" in lieu thereof.

that the committee made by some of the interesting group of persons who are forever on a still hunt for technical aids on the part of the members, that Dr. Young, the member for Atlin, is in reality disqualifying himself by representing that constituency, through an unconscious and indirect infraction of the Constitution Act. It is asserted that his offence is in the same category as that which for a time threatened to deprive the electors of Lillooet of representation by Mr. A. McDonald—he is said to have drawn certain small amounts of money from the crown after assuming nomination as a member of the House.

the estimates of revenue, he may nevertheless succeed. In commenting upon the general situation, he said, as reported, that "what there were no signs of 'boom' or undue inflation, the reports, both commercial and agricultural, from all parts of the province indicated a condition of general prosperity, improving business conditions and progress. In spite of various commercial and agricultural conditions, the most encouraging reports were coming in from all our trading centres, where were business and some success. The loss of some of the commercial

The Colon

THURSDAY, MARCH

Provincial
LegislationAnti-Wig Bill Passes
Stage in an Amended
Form.Bill to Reduce Amount
Election Deposit
Discussed.Sellers' Vote Bill Passed
Second Reading—Legislation
Advanced.Wednesday,
The House assembled
and after the customary
business.

Reports

The agricultural committee through Mr. Ellison, the chairman, reported that the committee had exhausted into matters set forth in a report to them, from the N. Association, and that charges, etc., made therein were sustained. As regards the Horticultural Board, the committee had reported in the petition, in view of the large nurserymen, since, the Fruit Growers which had expressed entire with the act and confidence of the board, the committee recommended that it would be in the interests of the fruit grow to amend the legislation of the report was received.

Third Reading

The bill to incorporate Light, Power and Water at third reading; also the bill to amend the bill to incorporate the Stave Valley Railway Co.

The bill to incorporate of Chartered Accountants of Columbia, passed the committee, Mr. Fraser in the chair.

The bill to amend the Act and the bill to amend the Act passed third readings.

The bill to regulate the practice and procedure of the courts of the province passed second reading, on motion of the General. He explained that was to empower the government to adopt the rules of court of the commissions appointed for the purpose. One of the commissions, with respect to the courts, was provided over by Justice Hunter, who was dealing with the Court, was provided over by Justice Hunter.

Mr. Melness asked if the would, under the bill, have make rules concerning the wigs.

The Attorney General said that was a constitutional question and was not prepared to answer off hand.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald considered that there were grave questions attaching to the prerogative with which the government proposed to clothe itself. For instance, might they not have power to extend their discrimination to other matters affecting practice and procedure, such as the security required for cost of appeal to the Supreme court, which had already been decided by the House, and the bill relating to wigs introduced by the member for Yale.

The motion passed after some further discussion and the bill was read a second time.

4

28TH MARCH.

1905

Negatived on the following division:—

YEAS:

Messieurs

McInnes,
Drury,
King,
Brown,McNiven,
Murphy,
Jones,
Evans,Tanner,
Davidson,
Oliver,
J. A. Macdonald,Henderson,
Munro,
Paterson,
Cameron—16.

NAYS:

Messieurs

Wells,
Hall,
Hawthornthwaite,
Williams,
Tallow,
McBride,Wilson,
Cotton,
Ellison,
Clifford,
Bowler,
Fraser,Ross,
A. McDonald,
Green,
Fulton,
Garden,
Taylor,Wright,
Young,
Gifford,
Macgowan,
Shatford,
Grant—24.

The Hon. Mr. Tallow moved to strike out of section 31, line 48 thereof (being "Column 3—Assessed value of personal property"), and to substitute therefor the following words:—"Column 3—Exemption of \$500 to farmers (under sub-section (23) of section 4, as re-enacted)." And to add as a new line:—"Column 4—Taxable assessed value of personal property." And to re-number columns 4 to 21, as printed, as columns 5 to 22, inclusive.

Carried.

The Hon. Mr. Wilson moved, in section 78, line 1, to strike out all the words after the word "hereby," and insert in lieu thereof the word "repealed."

Carried.

The Hon. Mr. Tallow moved to add as a new section—

"42A. Section 82, sub-section (10), of said Act is hereby amended by striking out in the first line of said sub-section the word "or," and substituting therefor the word "on."

Carried.

The Hon. Mr. Tallow moved to add as a new section—

"49A. Sub-sections (8) and (9) of section 96, are hereby repealed, and the following sub-section substituted therefor:—

"(8). Such notice shall be mailed to such address of the person as was last known to the Court."

Carried.

The Hon. Mr. Tallow moved to add to section 70 the following:—

"147B. To strike out of section 147 all the words of said section after the word "sale," on the fifteenth line thereof, and to substitute therefor the following words:—

"The Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works is hereby authorised and empowered to dispose of all lands and mineral claims which have been forfeited to the Crown under the provisions of this Act to any person at a price not less than the price of similar lands under the 'Land Act,' and on such terms and conditions as he may consider right in the interest of the Province, and according to the descriptions in the original Crown grants thereof, and subject to the reservations contained therein, and such lands shall at no time be open for pre-emption under the 'Land Act,' or for location under the 'Mineral Act' or 'Placer Mining Act.'"

Carried.

The Hon. Mr. Tallow moved to strike out of Form No. 9, in Part I. thereof, under the item "Wild Land Tax at three per cent.," the word "three," and substitute therefor the word "four." And under Part II. of said form, immediately after the words "Personal property at two-thirds of one per cent.," to add the following words:—"Where the taxpayer is entitled to the exemption of \$500 under sub-section (23), section 4, as re-enacted, state here the actual value

Deduct exemption.....	\$ 800
Taxable value.....	

principle. It involved interference with the liberty of the subject. He also entertained doubts as to its constitutionality. He thought the measure was ridiculous, and that it was not leading to the dignity of the legislature that they should give it serious consideration.

Mr. Hall suggested that the wig question was due to the over abundance of lawyers in the House.

Mr. Henderson argued that the bill was calculated to remove existing abuses in the courts. The House was not asked to say that a judge shall wear a wig on the public streets or in his own

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And in the column for
"assessed value."

Carried.

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The Hon. Mr.
Lieutenant-Governor.The Lieutenant-Governor
Estimates of sun30th June, 1906,
Supplementary ISchedule A, Unp
and recommends theGovernment House
28th MarOrdered, That the
Committee of SupplyThe House proceed
The Hon. Mr. Tallow"That Mr. Speaker
A debate arose,Resolved, That the
And then the H

On Thursday ne

The Hon. Mr. Tallow
'Trustees and Execu

On Thursday ne

Mr. Hawthornthwaite
Amendment Act, 19

On Thursday ne

Mr. Hawthornthwaite
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The Hon. Mr. Tallow
Immigration into Br

Henderson,
Munro,
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Cameron—16.

Wright,
Young,
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Grant—24.

on 31, line 48 thereof (being "Column
stitute therefor the following words:—
section (23) of section 4, as re-enacted,"
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to strike out all the words after the
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on—
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the following:—
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And in the column for the tax to add the word "taxable," immediately above the words
"assessed value."

Carried.

The further consideration of the Report was adjourned.

The Hon. Mr. Tatlow presented to Mr. Speaker a Message from His Honour the
Lieutenant-Governor, which read as follows:—

HENRI G. JOLY DE LOTBINIÈRE,
Lieutenant-Governor.

The Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of British Columbia transmits herewith—
Estimates of sums required for the Service of the Province for the financial year ending
30th June, 1906,
Supplementary Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year ending 30th June, 1905,
Schedule A, Unprovided Items of Expenditure for the fiscal year ended 30th June, 1904,
and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

Government House,
28th March, 1905.

Ordered, That the said Message, and the Bill accompanying the same, be referred to the
Committee of Supply.

The House proceeded to the Orders of the Day for Committee of Supply.

The Hon. Mr. Tatlow moved, seconded by the Hon. Mr. McBride,—

"That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair."

A debate arose, which was adjourned until to-morrow.

Resolved, That the House, at its rising, do stand adjourned until two o'clock to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned at 5:25 P.M.

C. E. POOLEY, Speaker.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

On Thursday next—

The Hon. Mr. Wilson to ask leave to introduce a Bill intituled "An Act to amend the
'Trustees and Executors Act.'"

On Thursday next—

Mr. Hawthornthwaite to ask leave to introduce a Bill intituled the "Master and Servant
Amendment Act, 1905."

On Thursday next—

Mr. Hawthornthwaite to ask leave to introduce a Bill intituled the "Shops Regulation
Act Amendment Act, 1905."

On Thursday next—

The Hon. Mr. Wilson to ask leave to introduce a Bill intituled "An Act to regulate
Immigration into British Columbia."

that the meeting was held by some
of the interesting group of persons who
are forever on a still hunt for technical
data on the part of the members, that Dr.
Young, the member for Atlin, is in reality
disqualified from representing that con-
stituency, through an unconscious and
unintentional infraction of the Constitution Act.
It is asserted that his offence is in the
same category as that which for a time
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ald—he is said to have drawn certain
small amounts of money from the crown
after accepting nomination as a member
of the House.

the estimates of revenue, he may
nevertheless succeed. In commenting
upon the general situation, he said, as
reported, that "while there were no
signs of 'boom' or undue inflation, the
reports, both commercial and agricul-
tural, from all parts of the province in-
dicated a condition of general prosper-
ity, improving business conditions and
progress. In spite of adverse condi-
tions by virtue of taxation, the most
encouraging reports were coming in
from all our trading centres. There
were thousands of men and women em-
ployed in the various industries, and the
state of the treasury was such as to en-
able the government to meet its obligations."

The Colonist

THURSDAY, MARCH

Provincial
LegislationAnti-Wig Bill Passes
Stage in an Am-
Form.Bill to Reduce Amou-
Election Deposit
Discussed.Sellers' Vote Bill Pa-
cond Reading—Leg-
Advanced.

Wednesday

THE House assembled
and after the customary
business the following was
discussed:

Reports

The agricultural committee through Mr. Ellison, the chairman, reported that the committee had exhausted into matters set forth in a report to them, from the Association, and that charge, etc. made therein, had been sustained. As regards the Horticultural Board, in view of the large nurserymen, the Fruit Growers, which had expressed entire confidence with the act and confidence of the board, the committee recommended that it would be in the interests of the fruit growers to amend the legislation and the report was received.

Third Reading

The bill to incorporate Light, Power and Water Co. passed third reading; also the bill to amend the Stave Valley Railway Co. to incorporate the Stave Valley Railway Co.

The bill to incorporate of Chartered Accountants of Columbia, passed the committee. Mr. Fraser in the chair.

The bill to amend the Act and the bill to amend the Act passed third reading.

The bill to regulate the practice and procedure of the courts of the province passed second reading on motion of Mr. General. He explained that it was to empower the courts to adopt the rules of court of the commissions appointed for the purpose. One of the questions, with respect to the bill, was presided over by Judge Hunter, the other dealing with the Court, was presided over by Mr. Hunter.

Mr. McInnes asked if the bill would, under the bill, make rules concerning the wigs.

The Attorney General said that the bill was a constitutional question and was not prepared to answer on hand.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald considered that there were grave questions attaching to the prerogative with which the government proposed to clothe itself. For instance, might they not have power to extend their discrimination to other matters affecting practice and procedure, such as the security required for cost of appeal to the Supreme court, which had already been decided by the House, and the bill relating to wigs introduced by the member for Yale.

The motion passed after some further discussion and the bill was read a second time.

6

28TH MARCH.

1905

By Mr. Oliver—On Thursday next—Questions of the Hon. the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works—

1. What is the cost of the new wharf at Bella Coola?
2. What is the height of approach to wharf and the cost of the approach?
3. When was wharf completed?
4. Has the Government any information that on account of faulty construction this wharf is in danger of collapse?
5. Is it the intention of the Government to add to this wharf for the purpose of providing cattle corrals?

By Mr. McInnes—On Thursday next—Question of the Hon. the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works—

Will the Government receive and allow applications to pre-empt land located within the limits of the Quatsino Power and Pulp Company, Limited, concession?

Mr. Hawthorthwaite to move, on third reading of Bill (No. 10) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Coal Mines Regulation Act,'" the following amendments:—

To add the following as a new section—

"7. Section 8, sub-section 1, of the said Act is hereby amended by striking out the words 'exceeds forty feet in height, and,' in the fourth and fifth lines."

To add the following as a new section—

"8. Sub-section (1) of section 1 of the said Act is hereby amended by striking out the words 'fifteen hundred dollars' in the sixth line, and substituting the words 'two thousand dollars.'"

To add the following as a new sub-section—

"(9.) Sub-section 3 (b) of section 1 of the said Act is hereby amended by striking out the words 'fifteen hundred dollars' in the ninth line, and substituting the words 'two thousand dollars.'"

By Mr. Williams—On Wednesday next—Questions of the Hon. the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works—

What portion of Vote No. 150, of the Session of 1903-4, has been spent in the following Electoral Districts:—Esquimalt, Cowichan, Newcastle, Nanaimo, Alberni, Comox, respectively?

VICTORIA, B. C.

Printed by RICHARD WOLFENDEN, L.S.O., V.D., Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty.
1905.

principles. It involved interference with the liberty of the subject. He also entertained doubts as to its constitutionality. He thought the measure was ridiculous, and that it was not tending to the dignity of the legislature that they should give it serious consideration.

Mr. Hall suggested that the wig question was due to the over abundance of lawyers in the House.

Mr. Henderson argued that the bill was calculated to remove existing abuses in the courts. The House was not asked to say that a judge shall not wear a wig on the public streets or in his own

that the discovery had been made by some of the interesting group of persons who are forever on a still hunt for technical sins on the part of the members, that Dr. Young, the member for Atlin, is in reality disqualified from representing that constituency, through an unconscious and voluntary infraction of the Constitution Act.

It is asserted that his offence is in the same category as that which for a time threatened to deprive the electors of Lil-
lons of representation by Mr. A. McDon-
ald—he is said to have drawn certain
small amounts of money from the crown
after accepting nomination as a member
of the House.

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1905

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 dicated a condition of general prosper-
 ity, improving business conditions and
 progress. In spite of adverse econom-
 ical by-articles of taxation, the most
 encouraging reports were coming to
 hand from all our mining centres. They
 were becoming more and more ac-
 turned to bear of divisions based on

As is well known, the law deprives any one who is in receipt of money from the provincial treasury of the right of being a candidate for the legislature. Dr. Young is stated to have been nominated on the 18th of September, 1903, and to have received the allowance for resident physician at Atlin, amounting to \$125 a quarter, payable up to September 30. The sum total of the charge is, therefore, that the Doctor drew about \$14 from the country, as an assisted physician in an isolated district, after his nomination.

The matter will be accepted by the average citizen as too paltry to receive serious consideration, but in interested quarters it is being made the most of—together with the fact that under the strict letter of the law penalties aggregating \$30,000 have been incurred by the occupancy of the seat under the circumstances.

Should it be found necessary—and the facts of the case being as alleged—an enabling act will doubtless be passed without delay to qualify Dr. Young for the retention of his seat and relieve him of the heavy penalties incurred since his introduction as a member of the assembly.

The Colonist learned last evening on good authority that one of the Victoria members is in the same position as Dr. Young. It is understood that the member in question, Mr. Cameron, was in receipt of money for goods supplied which were paid for out of provincial government funds; and has, therefore, forfeited his seat in the legislature, and is liable to all the pains and penalties incident thereto. No doubt the full particulars will be forthcoming today which will add spice to the legislative proceedings.

clared, and advices from London indicated that capital was showing a tendency once more to seek investment in the province. But whilst, as stated, the signs of prosperity were general, there were two of the most important branches of local industry that needed careful attention at the hands of both provincial and federal authorities, viz., the fisheries and lumber.

Of course, we are well aware of the conditions which affect the fisheries and lumber industries; but it is hoped that these will prove temporary. Captain Tallow's remarks on Better Terms were decidedly opportune. Whatever may be said about the financial situation, in the final analysis the position of the Province depends upon the recognition of our claims at Ottawa for increased subventions. Without it it is impossible to adopt a "progressive" or "aggressive" railway or any other policy not within the limits of available sources of revenue. We are in no sense superior in our advantages over the Israelites of old, inasmuch as we cannot make bricks "without straw."

PROVINCIAL FINANCES.

It must be highly satisfactory to the people of this Province to know that the era of large deficits is past, for the present at least. The statement presented by Hon. R. G. Tallow, Minister of Finance, on Tuesday afternoon in the Legislative Assembly is a plain, unvarnished presentation of our financial situation. No attempt was made to over-estimate the future or disguise the facts as they are at the present time, and as such is best calculated to inspire confidence in the management of our affairs. For the first year of administration, ending June 30, 1904, there was a small surplus amounting to a little over \$27,000. During the present fiscal year another surplus is anticipated. But for the coming fiscal year, which the estimates just submitted are intended to cover, it is anticipated that a small deficit will occur. This is owing to the loss of revenue from the operations of the Chinese Restriction Act, which for the years 1903 and 1904 amounted to nearly \$500,000. There will, however, be a saving to the Province under the new Education Bill, and from several other reductions in expenditure, while substantial increases are looked forward to from land sales, land grants, timber royalties, timber leases, etc. There will, it is true, be the increase in interest charges and of expenditures for public works to offset these in a measure. The Finance Minister, therefore, although he does not at the present time see his way to making revenue quite balance expenditure, has hopes that by carrying over the surpluses for two years, and by possibly exceeding the estimates of revenue, he may nevertheless succeed. In commenting upon the general situation, he said, as reported, that "whilst there were no signs of 'boom' or undue inflation, the reports, both commercial and agricultural, from all parts of the province indicated a condition of general prosperity, improving business conditions and progress in spite of adverse commercial or better of taxation, the most encouraging reports were coming to hand from all our mining sections. They were becoming more and more numerous, and of better quality than in the past."

that the members of the House by some of the interesting group of persons who are forever on a still hunt for technical sins on the part of the members, that Dr. Young, the member for Atlin, is in reality disqualified from representing that constituency through an unconscious and minute infraction of the Constitution Act. It is averred that his offence is in the same category as that which for a time threatened to deprive the electors of Lil-looet of representation by Mr. A. McDonald—his is said to have drawn certain small amounts of money from the crown after accepting nomination as a member of the House.

The Colonist.

FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 1906.

Provincial Legislature

Coal Mines Bill Again Discussed at Third Reading—Debate Pending.

Question of Reducing Election Deposit Is Still Under Review.

Workmen's Compensation Act in Committee—Budget Debate Goes on.

Thursday, March 30.

THE House opened with the customary exercises at 2 o'clock, after which the following was the order of business:

Reports

The private bills committee, through Mr. Ross, the chairman, recommended a number of bills to the House, including bills to incorporate the Sumas Development Co., the Royal Trust Co., the General Trusts Co. and the British Columbia Securities Co. In view of the general similarity of character in all these bills, the committee recommended a model bill for the construction of such measures to the consideration of the legislature. The report was received.

A Privileged Question

The leader of the opposition wanted to know if the government had yet decided upon any legislation affecting railway construction.

The premier replied that this subject was now receiving the very best attention of the government.

Eight-hour Law

Mr. Hawthornthwaite's reconstructed bill to amend the Coal Mines Regulation Act, designed to make effective the eight-hour law of last session, was proposed for third reading.

Mr. Hall offered an amendment providing that "bank" for the purposes of the act shall mean the surface entrance to a mine, except in the case of a vertical shaft, when it shall mean the foot of the shaft. He explained that considerable time was taken up in conveying a shift of men up and down a shaft, and argued that this time should not be included in the day's work under the act. In view of the competition existing in the coal mining industry, he contended that the legislature should not impose upon it any vexatious conditions which might result disadvantageously to the industry in this province. The amendment he proposed would be an advantage to the men as well as to the operators of the mines, and would remove a condition from the bill which might lead to the closing down of coal mining operations.

Mr. Williams did not think Mr. Hall knew very much about coal mining matters. Three-fourths of the coal mines in the state of Washington were working eight hours a day at present, and, as a matter of fact, the eight-hour day had obtained in the Nanaimo collieries for the past fifteen years. The present bill was calculated simply to continue the system effectively.

Mr. McInnes said the bill of last year was passed with the understanding that it would not interfere with the collieries of Vancouver Island. They now found that it would very materially disturb two of the Island mines. If the House passed the present bill the law of last session would have full force and effect with respect to the Fernie mines. It would also disadvantageously affect the mines of Vancouver Island inasmuch as it would cut fifty minutes from the day's work of the operatives, thus reducing their earning power. He agreed with Mr. Hall also that the condition imposed might militate against the competing power of the local industry as against the coal mines on the other side of the line. The conditions of labor in the coal mines of the Island were excellent, and were so considered by miners who came from collieries in other parts of the world. What reason was there for disturbing the industry, and interjecting into it the possibility of trouble both for the operators and the men?

Mr. Wright moved the adjournment of the debate.

Third Readings

The bill to amend the Dentistry Consolidation Act passed third reading; also the bill to amend the British Columbia Railway Act.

Election Deposit

Mr. Williams' bill to reduce the amount of the election deposit from \$200 to \$50 was further considered on the motion for second reading.

Hon. Mr. Cotton, upon whose motion the debate was adjourned on the previous day, took occasion to express himself briefly on the proposal. In a word, his position was that the \$200 deposit was not an obstacle which militated unfairly in the working out of the political system. If it was wrong in principle, then let it be removed altogether. If there was to be a deposit at all, he saw no reason for the reduction proposed.

The debate was again adjourned on motion of Mr. Bowser, after an objection from Mr. Hawthornthwaite on the ground that private members had only certain days for the advancement of legislation and that their opportunities should not be encroached upon.

Workmen's Insurance

The Workmen's Compensation Act was further considered in committee.

Mr. Hawthornthwaite offered an amendment to allow claims for compensation in cases where men are killed or injured on buildings of less than forty feet in height, the act as it stood debarring claims unless the buildings were over that height, which he considered a manifest absurdity.

The amendment passed.

Mr. Hawthornthwaite proposed to enlarge the amount of compensation obtainable under the act from \$1,500 to \$2,000.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald disputed the wisdom of this proposal. He argued that the act was practically an insurance for workmen, and he thought it might be going too far to increase the amount as suggested, especially in view of industrial conditions in the province, and the desirability of avoiding anything calculated to discourage the investment of capital.

Mr. Paterson thought the act was essentially wrong. Its principle was indefensible. If employers were made liable only in cases where men were injured through their negligence, it would be proper. It was not fair or reasonable that they should be liable for accidents due to carelessness of the men employed, or at least to causes over which the employer had no control. If the amendment passed it would have a serious effect on many industries which were struggling to keep their heads above water.

Mr. Oliver objected that the motion was out of order on the ground that it was a substantive proposition and not an amendment in the proper sense of the term. The objection was overruled.

Mr. Paterson attributed a pronouncement to Mr. Hawthornthwaite that the policy of his party was to wreck the industries of the province, and he (Mr. Paterson) thought members should be advised of this and guide themselves accordingly.

Mr. Hawthornthwaite said that in making such a statement, Mr. Paterson was deliberately saying what he knew to be untrue.

Mr. Brown argued that injured workmen might recover more than the indemnity provided by the present amendment at common law or under the Employers' Liability Act. The workmen were, however, better satisfied with an assurance of a certain specified sum. He thought Mr. Hawthornthwaite's proposal was a reasonable one.

Mr. Davidson and Mr. Williams supported the motion. The latter argued that the proposed enlargement in the rate of insurance to workmen was consistent with risks obtaining in the country.

Mr. Paterson said he had been a workman all his life, and knew more in ten minutes about the conditions obtaining amongst them than the Socialist members could compass in a lifetime. He advanced the statement that the honest workmen of the province were not in favor of the measure before the House.

Mr. Hawthornthwaite observed that he was perhaps deserving of Mr. Paterson's rebuke. The present legislation was not Socialist. It emanated from the trades unions, who had found men among the Liberal party willing to introduce it in the legislature. It was argued that the bill was calculated to embarrass the small capitalist. Personally, he could not oppose it on that ground, as the smaller capitalist was being driven out naturally through the economic evolution now taking place. There was nothing radical about the present legislation. It had been adopted by the most conservative countries in the world. Even in Russia laws existed for the compensation of workmen injured in accident, and the dependents of those who were killed.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald pointed out that there were three courses open to workmen or their dependents suffering through accident. At common law they might lay claim for an unlimited amount; under the Workmen's Compensation Act they might claim up to the amount of their wages for three years; and by the present bill they could claim compensation up to the extent of \$1,500. He did not think, in view of the nature of the indemnity, that the amount should be increased.

Mr. Hawthornthwaite's amendment to increase the compensation to \$2,000 was put and carried on a mixed vote. This amendment applied to cases where death ensued as a result of injuries received.

Mr. Hawthornthwaite proposed the same increase in the compensation in case of injuries which are not followed by death. The amendment was rejected, a number of those who supported the first amendment not being in their seats.

The bill was reported complete with amendments.

The Color Question

Upon consideration of the bill to amend the Supreme Court Act, on report, Mr. Hawthornthwaite proposed to qualify the prohibition against the wearing in court of "official or customary wigs" by adding a provision "that the wearing of red wigs should be permissible."

The amendment was rejected.

Budget Debate

Mr. Murphy continued the debate on the motion for supply. He prefaced his remarks by a disavowal of any personal pretensions to the position of financial critic of his party or to a seat in the cabinet. Having in the past given support in the political arena to those who were not associated with the treasury benches, he felt quite at home on the opposition side. At the same time he predicted that there would be a change of administration in the not distant future. Turning to those questions which had been exposed in the statement of the finance minister, he took the ground that any prosperity which had come to the industries of British Columbia of late years was due, not to the administration of local affairs, but to the generous and progressive policy of the Dominion government. Viewing certain matters which had transpired in connection with the formation of the present government, he expressed the opinion that Mr. Houston had been treated unfairly, and humorously discussed the various suggestions which had been floated as to cabinet possibilities before the government had been finally evolved. For instance, the member for Skeena had claims which were not recognized. He moved the adjournment of a debate on one occasion "until the government's railway policy had brought down." The railway policy had not yet transpired, and the member for Skeena was still outside the cabinet ranks. While willing to congratulate the government upon being able to form a cabinet at all, he could not congratulate them upon the selections which were made. The president of

the council was in a... None was more persua... member for Richmond... an absolute fa...

VOTE

Legislative

Prayers by Rev. J.

The following Bills
Bill (No. 59) intit...
Company, Limited.

Bill (No. 57) intit...

The Report on Bill...
way Company," was ad...
Third reading to-m...

Bill (No. 50) intit...
Columbia," was commit...
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The Hon. Mr. Wil...
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Carried.

The Hon. Mr. Wil...
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Carried.

The Hon. Mr. Wil...
"(3.) The applican...
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Carried.
The Hon. Mr. Wil...
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Carried.

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Mr. Davidson and Mr. Williams supported the motion. The latter argued that the proposed enlargement in the rate of insurance to workmen was consistent with risks obtaining in the country.

Mr. Paterson said he had been a workman all his life, and knew more in ten minutes about the conditions obtaining amongst them than the Socialist members could compass in a lifetime. He advanced the statement that the honest workmen of the province were not in favor of the measure before the House.

Mr. Hawthorthwaite observed that he was perhaps deserving of Mr. Paterson's rebuke. The present legislation was not Socialistic. It emanated from the trades unions, who had found men among the Liberal party willing to introduce it in the legislature. It was argued that the bill was calculated to embarrass the small capitalist. Personally, he could not oppose it on that ground, as the smaller capitalist was being driven out naturally through the economic evolution now taking place. There was nothing radical about the present legislation. It had been adopted by the most conservative countries in the world. Even in Russia laws existed for the compensation of workmen injured in accident, and the dependents of those who were killed.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald pointed out that there were three courses open to workmen or their dependents suffering through accident. At common law they might lay claim for an unlimited amount; under the Workmen's Compensation Act they might claim up to the amount of their wages for three years; and by the present bill they could claim compensation up to the extent of \$1,500. He did not think, in view of the nature of the indemnity, that the amount should be increased.

Mr. Hawthorthwaite's amendment to increase the compensation to \$2,000 was put and carried on a mixed vote. This amendment applied to cases where death ensued as a result of injuries received.

Mr. Hawthorthwaite proposed the same increase in the compensation in case of injuries which are not followed by death. The amendment was rejected, a number of those who supported the first amendment not being in their seats.

The bill was reported complete with amendments.

The Color Question

Upon consideration of the bill to amend the Supreme Court Act, on report, Mr. Hawthorthwaite proposed to qualify the prohibition against the wearing in court of "official or customary wigs" by adding a provision "that the wearing of red wigs should be permissible."

The amendment was rejected.

Budget Debate

Mr. Murphy continued the debate on the motion for supply. He prefaced his remarks by a disavowal of any personal pretensions to the position of financial critic of his party or to a seat in the cabinet. Having in the past given support in the political arena to those who were not associated with the treasury benches, he felt quite at home on the opposition side. At the same time he predicted that there would be a change of administration in the not distant future. Turning to those questions which had been exposed in the statement of the finance minister, he took the ground that any prosperity which had come to the industries of British Columbia of late years was due, not to the administration of local affairs, but to the generous and progressive policy of the Dominion government. Viewing certain matters which had transpired in connection with the formation of the present government, he expressed the opinion that Mr. Houston had been treated unfairly, and humorously discussed the various suggestions which had been floated as to cabinet possibilities before the government had been finally evolved. For instance, the member for Skeena had claims which were not recognized. He moved the adjournment of a debate on one occasion "until the government's railway policy had brought down." The railway policy had not yet transpired, and the member for Skeena was still outside the cabinet ranks. While willing to congratulate the government upon being able to form a cabinet at all, he could not congratulate them upon the selections which were made. The president of

the council was in a unique position. None was more persuaded than the member for Richmond that party politics was an absolute farce. True it

conduct of affairs last year had been so strenuous that he had to take a holiday afterwards. At this stage there were nine members present on the government side and seven on the opposition side. Mr.

No. 35

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Legislative Assembly of British Columbia.

Wednesday, 29th March, 1905.

TWO O'CLOCK, P.M.

Prayers by Rev. Jno. F. Vichert.

The following Bills were read a third time and passed:—

Bill (No. 59) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the Golden Light, Power and Water Company, Limited.

Bill (No. 57) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the Stave Valley Railway Company."

The Report on Bill (No. 53) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the Fording Valley Railway Company," was adopted.

Third reading to-morrow.

Bill (No. 50) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the Institute of Accountants of British Columbia," was committed.

Reported complete with amendments.

Report to be considered to-morrow.

The Report on Bill (No. 8) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Land Registry Act and amending Acts,'" was further considered.

The Hon. Mr. Wilson moved to strike out the word "Filed," in the last line of section 33, and insert in lieu thereof the word "Deposited."

Carried.

The Hon. Mr. Wilson moved to strike out the word "Filed," in the last line of section 39, and insert in lieu thereof the word "Deposited."

Carried.

The Hon. Mr. Wilson moved to add at end of section 51 the words "nor shall any Certificate of Indefeasible Title to same be issued."

Carried.

The Hon. Mr. Wilson moved to add as sub-section (3) of section 54 the following—

"(3.) The applicant shall, at the time of his application, deposit with the Registrar all title deeds in his custody, possession or power."

Carried.

The Hon. Mr. Wilson moved to change present numbered section 55 to section 56, and 56 to 57.

Carried.

provision to prevent such a case from occurring. He made comparisons between expenditure in this province and in New Brunswick, under various heads, such as printing and stationery, postage and expressage, telephones and other services to support a suggestion of economy. The salary paid to the secretary of the Board of Health, he thought, was too large, and the cost of administration of justice was unnecessary to retrenchment. He alleged that out of the rooms in the Government House, about 200 were employees of the government. He talked along in a conventional way, pointing up little odds and ends for comment. During one of these remarks he made the statement that he was a member of the

The Colonist

FRIDAY, MARCH 11

Provincial Legislature

Coal Mines Bill Again at Third Reading Pending.

Question of Reduction of Deposit Is Still Under Review.

Workmen's Compensation Bill Committee Debate Goes On

Thursday

THE House opened its ordinary exercises after which the order of business was read.

The private bills committee, Mr. Ross, the chairman, has a number of bills to the order of business, including bills to incorporate the Development Co., the Royal General Trusts Co., and the Columbia Securities Co. The general similarity of all these bills, the committee recommended a model bill for the consideration of the legislature was received.

A Privileged Question. The leader of the opposition asked to know if the government intended upon any legislative railway construction.

The premier replied that the subject was now receiving the attention of the government.

Eight-hour Law. Mr. Hawthornthwaite's bill to amend the Coal Mines Act, designed to introduce the eight-hour law of last year proposed for third reading.

Mr. Hall offered an amendment providing that "bank" for the purpose of this act shall mean the distance to a mine, except of a vertical shaft, when the foot of the shaft is at the mine, and the distance to the shaft, when the shaft is at the mine. Mr. Hall argued that considerable time was lost in conveying a shift of coal down a shaft, and argued that time should not be lost in conveying a shift of coal down a shaft. He argued that the competition existing in the mining industry, he contended, should not be in any way disadvantageous to the miners. He contended that the legislature should not, in any way, disadvantage the miners. He contended that the legislature should not, in any way, disadvantage the miners. He contended that the legislature should not, in any way, disadvantage the miners.

Mr. Williams did not know very much about the matter. Three-fourths of the mines in the state of Washington were working eight hours a day, and, as a matter of fact, four days had obtained in the collieries for the past five years. The present bill was calculated simply to continue the system effectively.

Mr. McInnes said the bill of last year was passed with the understanding that it would not interfere with the collieries of Vancouver Island. They now found that it would very materially disturb two of the island mines. If the House passed the present bill the law of last session would have full force and effect with respect to the Pacific mines. It would also disadvantageously affect the mines of Vancouver Island inasmuch as it would cut fifty minutes from the day's work of the operatives, thus reducing their wages. He agreed with Mr. Davidson and Mr. Williams supported the motion. The latter argued that the proposed enlargement in the rate of insurance in Vancouver was considerable. The council was in a unique position. None was more persuaded than the member for Richmond that party politics was an absolute farce. True

2

MARCH 29TH.

1905

The Hon. Mr. Wilson moved to insert as section 55—"All title deeds, instruments and documents, deposited with the Registrar on any application or proceeding, shall remain as a perpetual deposit in his office, save in case registration be refused, under section 13, as re-enacted by section 6 of this Act, when all title deeds, instruments, documents and maps deposited shall be returned to the applicant."

Carried.

The Hon. Mr. Wilson moved to insert the figures "51" between the figures "21" and "52," in line 2 of section 57.

Carried.

The further consideration of the Report was adjourned.

The Report on Bill (No. 37) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Coal Tax Act,' was adopted.

Bill read a third time and passed.

The Report on Bill (No. 46) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Motor Vehicles Speed Regulation Act, 1904,' was adopted.

Bill read a third time and passed.

Bill (No. 47) intituled "An Act regarding Rules Governing Practice and Procedure in the Courts of the Province," was read a second time and committed.

Reported complete with amendments.

Report to be considered to-morrow.

Bill (No. 48) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Landlord and Tenant Act,' was read a second time and committed.

Reported complete without amendment.

Report to be considered to-morrow.

The Report on Bill (No. 36) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Assessment Act, 1903,' was adopted.

Third reading to-morrow.

Bill (No. 29) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Supreme Court Act,' was read a third time and passed.

The Report on Bill (No. 35) intituled "An Act to amend the Dentistry Act," was adopted.

Third reading to-morrow.

The Report on Bill (No. 42) intituled "An Act to amend the British Columbia Railway Act," was adopted.

Third reading to-morrow.

The adjourned debate on the second reading of Bill (No. 30) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Provincial Elections Act,' was resumed.

The debate was further adjourned.

Bill (No. 41) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Workmen's Compensation Act, 1902,' was read a second time.

To be committed to-morrow.

The Hon. Mr. Wilson presented the Thirty-second Annual Report of the Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages of the Province—Abstract of 1904.

son was deliberately saying what he knew to be untrue.

Mr. Brown argued that injured workmen might recover more than the indemnity provided by the present amendment at common law or under the 'Employers' Liability Act.' The workmen were, however, better satisfied with an assurance of a certain specified sum. He thought Mr. Hawthornthwaite's proposal was a reasonable one.

For instance, the member for Skeena had claims which were not recognized. He moved the adjournment of a debate on one occasion until the government's railway policy was brought down. The railway policy had not yet transpired, and the member for Skeena was still outside the cabinet ranks. While willing to congratulate the government upon being able to form a cabinet at all, he could not congratulate them upon the selections which were made. The president of

Mr. Ellison presented the petition, as follows:—

MR. SPEAKER:

Your Select Standing Com

In reference to a petition in behalf of the British Columbia Agricultural Committee, your into the charges made against me of the Committee that these charges were

As regards the amendments nurserymen of the Province, a entire satisfaction with the work of the Horticultural Board.

Therefore your Committee large and important fruit industry suggested by the petition.

Your Committee herewith inquiry, with a recommendation All of which is respectfully

The report was received.

Bill (No. 44) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Provincial Elections Act,' was read a second time and committed.

Reported complete with amendments.

Report to be considered to-morrow.

The adjourned debate on the second reading of Bill (No. 30) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Provincial Elections Act,' was resumed.

Bill read a second time and passed.

McInnes, Oliver, Drury, Brown, Hender, McNiven, Munro, Murphy, Paterson, Jones, Wells, Evans, Hall, Tanner, Cameron

Tatlow, Cotton, Wilson, Bowser

To be continued to-morrow.

Resolved, That the House

And then the House adjourned.

1905

5 ED. 7

MARCH 29TH.

3

Mr. Ellison presented the Third Report from the Select Standing Committee on Agriculture, as follows:—

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,
March 28th, 1905.

MR. SPEAKER:

Your Select Standing Committee on Agriculture beg leave to report as follows:—

In reference to a petition presented to this House on March 1st, signed by A. Ohlson, on behalf of the British Columbia Nurserymen's Association, and referred by the House to the Agricultural Committee, your Committee beg leave to report that after an exhaustive inquiry into the charges made against members of the Horticultural Board, it is the unanimous opinion of the Committee that these charges have not been sustained.

As regards the amendments suggested in said petition, in view of the fact that the large nurserymen of the Province, also the Fruit-Growers' Association, etc., have expressed their entire satisfaction with the working of the Act, as well as their confidence in the members of the Horticultural Board.

Therefore your Committee recommends that it would not be in the best interests of the large and important fruit industry of this Province to amend the Act of last Session, as suggested by the petition.

Your Committee herewith submit evidence and all correspondence pertaining to said inquiry, with a recommendation that the same be not printed, but kept on file for reference.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

PRICE ELLISON,
Chairman.

The report was received.

Bill (No. 44) intituled "An Act further to amend the 'Supreme Court Act,'" was committed.

Reported complete with amendments.

Report to be considered to-morrow.

The adjourned debate on the second reading of Bill (No. 45) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Provincial Elections Act,'" was resumed.

Bill read a second time on the following division:—

YEAS:

Messieurs

McInnes,	Davidson,	Hawthornthwaite,	A. McDonald,
Drury,	Oliver,	Williams,	Garden,
Brown,	Henderson,	McBride,	Taylor,
McNiven,	Munro,	Ellison,	Wright,
Murphy,	Paterson,	Clifford,	Young,
Jones,	Wells,	Fraser,	Gifford,
Evans,	Hall,	Ross,	Grant—30.
Tanner,	Cameron,		

NAYS:

Messieurs

Tallow,	Cotton,	Green,	Fulton—6.
Wilson,	Bowser,		

To be continued to-morrow.

Resolved, That the House, at its rising, do stand adjourned until two o'clock to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned at 5:15 P.M.

C. E. POOLEY, Speaker.

the council was in a unique position. None was more persuaded than the member for Richmond that party politics was an absolute farce. True it

conduct of affairs last year had been so strenuous that he had to take a holiday afterwards. At this stage there were nine members present on the government side and eleven on the opposition side.

overdraft as another mark of bad business management. He made comparisons between expenditures in this province and in New Brunswick, under various heads, such as printing and stationery, postage and expressage, telephones and other services to support a suggestion of extravagance. The salary paid to the secretary of the Board of Health, he thought, was too large, and the cost of administration of justice was susceptible to retrenchment. He alleged that out of 800 voters in Lillooet at the late election, about 500 were employees of the government. He talked along in a conversational way, picking up little odds and ends for comment. During one of these remarks he noted the Attorney-General up with a remark that his

The Colonist

FRIDAY, MARCH

Provincial
LegislationCoal Mines Bill Again
at Third Reading
PendingQuestion of Reducing
Deposit Is Still
Review.Workmen's Compensation
in Committee—Bill
Late Goes

Thursday

THE House opened
tomorrow exercises
after which the
the order of business

Reports

The private bills committee, Mr. Ross, the chairman, a number of bills to the order of business, including bills to incorporate the Development Co., the Royal Columbia Securities Co. and the Columbia Securities Co. The general similarity of all these bills, the committee spent a model bill for the formation of such measures, and the order of business was received.

A Privileged Question

The leader of the opposition, Mr. Brown, asked the government to know if the government intended to pass any legislation regarding the railway construction.

The premier replied that the subject was now receiving the attention of the government.

Eight-hour Law

Mr. Hawthornthwaite's bill to amend the Coal Mines Act, designed to enforce the eight-hour law of last year, was proposed for third reading.

Mr. Hall offered an amendment providing that "bank" for the purpose of this act shall mean the distance to a mine, except of a vertical shaft, when the foot of the shaft is that considerable time in conveying a shift of down a shaft, and argue time should not be the day's work under the act. The competition existing in the mining industry, he contended, the legislature should not in any vexatious conditions result disadvantageously in this province. The bill proposed would be an improvement as well as to the miners, and would result from the bill which the closing down of coal mines.

Mr. Williams did not know very much about the matter. Three-fourths of the mines in the state of Washington were working eight hours a day, and as a matter of fact, the day had obtained in the mines for the past five years. The present bill was calculated simply to continue the system effectively.

Mr. McInnes said the bill of last year was passed with the understanding that it would not interfere with the coalminers of Vancouver Island. They now found that it would very materially disturb two of the Island mines. If the House passed the present bill the law of last session would have full force and effect with respect to the Fernie mines. It would also disad-

vantageously affect the mines of Vancouver Island inasmuch as it would cut fifty minutes from the day's work of the operatives, thus reducing their wages. He agreed with Mr. McInnes.

Mr. Davidson and Mr. Williams supported the motion. The latter argued that the proposed amendment in the rate of insurance to be paid was com-

4

MARCH 29TH.

1905

NOTICES OF MOTION.

On Friday next—

Mr. Young to ask leave to introduce a Bill intituled "An Act to amend the 'Medical Act.'"

On Friday next—

The Hon. Mr. Fulton to ask leave to introduce a Bill intituled "An Act to amend the 'Royal Columbian Hospital Act, 1901.'"

On Friday next—

Mr. J. A. Macdonald to ask leave to introduce a Bill intituled "An Act to amend the 'Coal Mines Act.'"

VICTORIA, B. C.

Printed by RICHARD WOLFENDEN, L.S.O., V.D., Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty.
1905.

the council was in a union. None was more persuaded member for Richmond that this was an absolute fact. home to the present government they had done nothing addressed some humorous the attorney-general's industry in improving the country. In the past the of public lands had been abuse. The present government nothing to give. So the exchange of lands (in asylum farm site) and let get the best of it. The last election afforded little on either side. The Liberal due to the influence of minister of public works, valley. That gentleman sent back a report from there briefer than Caesar saw; I conquered." The public works might have report to the statement conquered. He saw one settled it. All the glory belonged to him. after election the governor to have died. The next they were wandering in of the earth like the ancient Greeks. In his vision to the old country general had done a work unique among legal. He had obtained leave to the Privy Council. might have been just covered by writing a lettered the glorification in the support of the bers, and in this compressed briefly on the reaching the conclusion chalist members wanted world. It was well and their views were not encourage the investment without which the Cariboo would continue die. He discussed special statement, taking it was dishonest of the assume that a surplus the balance was real side. The people were to applaud such surplus to see expenditure, ment of industry in the income derived by the pointed to collect revenue was almost as much expended in the dis works. He described the two Socialist in support the government holy alliance.

At 5:45 o'clock the

Evening

Mr. Henderson continued when the House resumed upon what he considered an enthusiastic delivery. Finance, which he a pressing nature of the he had to deal. Owing the legislature had during the present session.

Mr. Ross—What about

Mr. Henderson said only sensible thing. He scrutinized the questioned some of the ed as assets of the connection he mentioned Sloan Railway mor wap & Otago as claimed, not having years. He made a statement of the dying that the administration had not been adduced an argument Assessment Act had when the government owing to alleged the collection very realized about \$18, would have been of course. He pointed ment of 3 per cent overdraft as about new management. between expanding in New Brunswick such as printing, and expenditure, to votes to support a cause. The salary the head of Health large, and the constitution was some. He alleged that a forest the late employees of the along in a certain bill, and had a long way of doing a career.

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1905

MOTION.

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to the King's Most Excellent Majesty.

the council was in a unique position. None was more persuaded than the member for Richmond that party politics was an absolute farce. True it was that no scandals could be brought home to the present government. For they had done nothing at all. He admitted some humorous references to the attorney-general's persistence in the country in improving the laws of the country. In the past the saving away of public lands had been carried to an abuse. The present government had nothing to give. So they made an exchange of lands (in acquiring the asylum farm site) and let their friends get the best of it. The results of the last election afforded little to boast of on either side. The Liberal defeat was due to the influence of one man, the minister of public works, in the Fraser valley. That gentleman might have sent back a report from his mission there bristling with Caesar's message from Gaul. Caesar said: "I came; I saw; I conquered." The minister of public works might have restricted his report to the statement that he saw and conquered. He saw one man and that settled it. All the glory of the victory belonged to him. For some time after election the government seemed to have died. The next heard of them they were wandering in various parts of the earth like the shades of the ancient Greeks. In his wonderful mission to the old country the attorney-general had done a work which stood unique among legal accomplishments. He had obtained leave to appeal a case to the Privy Council, a matter which might have been just as effectively covered by writing a letter. He questioned the glorification of the premier in the support of the Socialist members, and in this connection philosophized briefly on the economic problem, reaching the conclusion that if the Socialist members wanted to reform the world it was well and good, but that their views were not calculated to encourage the investment of capital, without which the great district of Cariboo would continue to decline and die. He discussed shortly the financial statement, taking the ground that it was dishonest of the government to assume that a surplus existed whereas the balance was really on the wrong side. The people were not prepared to applaud such surpluses. They wanted to see expenditure, and the development of industry in the province. The income derived by the gentleman appointed to collect revenues in Cariboo was almost as much as the amount expended in the district for public works. He described the condition that the two Socialist members see fit to support the government as "an unholy alliance."

At 5:45 o'clock the House rose, to resume at 8:30 in the evening.

Evening Session

Mr. Henderson continued the debate when the House reassembled. He remarked upon what he conceived to be the unenthusiastic delivery of the Minister of Finance, which he attributed to the depressing nature of the material with which he had to deal. Owing to the government the legislature had accomplished nothing during the present session.

Mr. Ross—What about the wig bill?

Mr. Henderson said the wig bill was the only sensible thing which had happened. He scrutinized the public accounts and questioned some of the items therein stated as assets of the province. In this connection he mentioned the Nakusp & Slocan Railway mortgage, and the Shuswap & Okanagan account, the latter, he claimed, not having been audited for ten years. He made an exhaustive examination of the cycling charges to indicate that the administration of that department had not been up to the mark. He adduced an argument to show that if the Assessment Act had remained as it was when the government acceded to office, owing to allegedly lax administration of the collection service, they would have realized about \$18,000 less than what would have been obtained by their predecessors. He pointed to the continued payment of 3 per cent. interest on the bank overdraft as another mark of bad business management. He made comparisons between expenditure in the province and in New Brunswick, under various heads, such as printing and stationery, postage and expressage, telephones and other services to support a suggestion of extravagance. The salary paid to the secretary of the Board of Health, he thought, was too large, and the cost of administration of justice was excessive. He mentioned that he alleged that out of his voice in Lillooet at the late election, about 50 were employees of the government. He talked along in a conversational way, picking up little odds and ends for comment. During one of these digressions he was the discoverer of a small mark on his

conduct of affairs last year had been so strenuous that he had to take a holiday afterwards. At this stage there were nine members present on the government side and eleven empty chairs opposite. Mr. Henderson apparently discovering a possibility of being left alone to address the chair, resumed his seat.

The Attorney-General replied briefly, beginning with a devout aspiration that the province would never be ornamented with the member for Yale as finance minister. He compared Mr. Henderson's critique on public finance with the lead pencil crusade of Mr. Cory Rider. Enthusiasm was noticeably absent during the honorable gentleman's speech, no less than three oppositionists being fast asleep during his delivery. He contested a statement of the member for Yale that the surplus was a matter of departmental arrangement, and resented a suggestion which attached thereto, that the accounts were cooked to produce it. Adverting to references to legislation introduced by himself, he observed that the reason for their easy passage through the House was attributable to the course which he had adopted in soliciting co-operation in perfecting them before submitting them to the legislature. As to the Shuswap & Okanagan and Nakusp & Slocan railway finances, the present government was not responsible for the contracts made, and were not fairly subject to criticism in that regard. The present government was no more responsible for the errors of past administrations than was the present Liberal government at Ottawa. If there were any weaknesses in the method of keeping provincial accounts, as to which certain suggestions were thrown out by the member for Yale, the attention of the legislature should be formally directed to the matter. He denied the assertion that the beneficent rule of the Ottawa government was responsible for any stimulation which had come to British Columbia industries. As for the creation of a market for timber through the settlement of the Northwest, the Liberal government could not claim any exclusive credit for those conditions. The country would have developed just the same if that government had not existed at all. While on this subject he introduced an opinion that the best trade arrangements which Canada could obtain would be in the consummation of the scheme promulgated by Mr. Chamberlain. He rated Mr. Henderson's speech as a matter of petty bookkeeping, devoid of any serious or statesmanlike utterance.

The House rose at 11:15 o'clock.

ed. For instance, the member for Skeena had claims which were not recognized. He moved the adjournment of a debate on one occasion "until the government's railway policy was brought down." The railway policy had not yet transpired, and the member for Skeena was still outside the cabinet ranks. While willing to congratulate the government upon being able to form a cabinet at all, he could not congratulate them upon the selections which were made. The president of

because as a matter of fact it was impossible for the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works to examine every document that passed through that department. As soon as the matter was

INVESTIGATION THREATENED.

Mr. John Oliver is at it again. In his speech in the Budget debate yesterday

No. 36.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Legislative Assembly of British Columbia.

Thursday, 30th March, 1905.

Two O'CLOCK, P.M.

Prayers by the Rev. Jno. F. Vichert.

On the third reading of Bill (No. 10) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Coal Mines Regulation Act,'" Mr. Hall moved that the order for the third reading of the Bill be discharged and the Bill re-committed for the purpose of considering the following amendment:—

To add the following as a new section:—

"Section 3 of the 'Coal Mines Regulation Act Amendment Act, 1903,' is hereby repealed and the following is substituted therefor:—

"3. 'Bank,' for the purposes of this Act, shall mean the surface entrance to a mine, except in the case of a vertical shaft, when it shall mean the foot of the shaft."

A debate arose, which was adjourned until to-morrow.

The adjourned debate on the second reading of Bill (No. 30) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Provincial Elections Act,'" was resumed.

The debate was further adjourned until to-morrow.

Bill (No. 41) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Workmen's Compensation Act, 1902,'" was committed.

Reported complete with amendments.

Report to be considered to-morrow.

The Report on Bill (No. 44) intituled "An Act further to amend the 'Supreme Court Act,'" was considered.

Mr. Hawthornthwaite moved to add the following words to section 2 at the end of the fifth line: "Provided that the colour of the said wig be other than red."

Negatived on the following division:—

YEAS:

Messieurs

McInnes,
Hawthornthwaite,
Tallow,
Wilson,

Cotton;
Ellison,
Bowser,
Ross,

Green,
Fullton,
Garden,
Taylor,

Gifford,
Macgowan,
Grant—15.

of the government to cancel said lease? If not, why not?

Mr. Oliver on Monday next will move that a select committee of five members of this House, consisting of Messrs. Macgowan, Gifford, Ross, Brown and the mover, be appointed to inquire into all matters pertaining to the issuing of Crown grants Nos. 1915-195, 1917-195, 1783-147, 1816-155, 1843-155, 1918-155, 1951-163, 1944-155, and all matters in reference to pending applications, with power to call for persons, papers and documents and to take evidence under oath, and to report the evidence and their findings to the House.

estate. He suggested, too, that experts who valued these lands for province had reported in conformity preconceived policy. In connection with land matters at Kitimaat, he said there was occasion for enquiry, time to time during past years. Applications had appeared in the Provincial Gazette by persons intending to acquire lands in this region. All these applications were consistently refused. The government issued a reserve of the lands in question on either side of Kitimaat arm and river. Nevertheless the government had issued grants for lands in the vicinity of Kitimaat despite the statute law of the province. These lands today had prospective value, and consequently were eagerly sought for. The government for the purpose of dealing with had revived applications, which refused and disposed of years ago. He asserted that a Crown grant had issued for some 127 acres of these lands, but not to the person who originally applied for them. In order to have the whole matter gone into carefully, he moved his intention to move for a vote of enquiry.

Minister Replies

Mr. Green rose and intimated desire to make an explanation with reference to matters affecting his department.

Speaker said he would forfeit his right to speak on the budget debate by doing so.

Mr. Green said he was willing to respect to depend upon the judgment of the House. In regard to the suggestion by the member for the government had nothing to say. They had already laid before the House practically all the information available in the matter. It was true day or two before the opening session he had been informed that irregularities had been going on in the department of Lands and Works.

As soon as this intimation reached him he had issued instructions to prevent recurrence of such irregularities, and of a purely departmental nature, and investigation. To this end he directed that everything in the correspondence and explanations should therewith be laid before him, though the matter had not yet thoroughly gone into, owing to the want of sessional work, the matter was now on his desk, preparatory to being taken up. While it seemed that person in the department had been instructed, the government had to fear in connection with it. As a member of the government he was willing, if it was thought that investigation were necessary, to let honorable gentlemen opposite to the matter thoroughly explored by a committee of the House in any way in which the Legislature desired.

reference to the map spoken of, is a matter which could be very explained. As the hon. gentleman (Mr. Oliver) must know perfectly well, it is impossible to furnish an official copy of unsurveyed property. In the case of no such thing. Surveys are made for timber licences. As it made for the complaint it did not cause of the complaint it did not early attach to his administration, something which had been going on for years. One of the civil servants in keeping a map, which was in the official, on which he indicated the location of lands held by timber or lands affected by applications, was contained. He did this in his own hours. While it might be wise that an official should do this in no way official. However, he thought that some question might arise in this matter, he had issued instructions that no official should work over time unless so ordered by the head of the department, and information which could not be obtained from official records must come from a deputy minister, and that if officials were entitled to remuneration in connection therewith it must be through the department in the ordinary way. He challenged Mr. Oliver to the department and search it out, and to the other. The government was prepared to clear itself of any charge of wilful error in regard to the matter in question.

the lands at Kitimaat he was prepared to admit that error seemed probable. He would not say that it was so. He would not say that it was in the department had been committed it had not been in the fault of the government.

Colonist.

APRIL 2, 1905.

IN PRACTICE.

Some questions arose in the House, which bear on the same up in the House in. It appears that counsel from the Bench are seated. This seems to be the first of one of the judges early strong on matters of brings into consideration. It is noted in the House when the Bill to prohibit wigs in court came up. That a man's rights were not if he did not comply with the court practice, there should be a statute. Mr. Bowser and the Opposition both held that would have moral courage and upon his legal rights behind an Act of Parliament we agree. It is possible, simple men, like the rest of the Legislature seeking against abuses which arise in conditions.

The Colonist.

SATURDAY, APRIL 1, 1905.

Provincial Legislature

Budget Debate Continues to Engage Attention of the Members.

Oliver Wants Enquiry Into Suspicious Kitimaat Land Transaction.

Minister Invites Investigation—Shows Suspensions Were Unwarranted.

Friday, March 31.

THE House opened at 2 o'clock with the customary exercises after which the order of business was as follows:

Questions of Privilege.

Mr. Cameron directed attention to a newspaper report that he had been disqualified through a breach of the independence of Parliament Act, saying that he had taken legal advice on the subject and that such was not the case. He had had no transaction with the government in any shape or form in the way of supplying goods or receiving emolument. His dealings had been with the city of Victoria, the supplies provided being for the Darcy island station, as to which he understood the city had since been recompensed by the government.

Dr. Young observed that newspaper reports had also credited him with being disqualified. Having consulted a competent authority he was in a position to say that such was not the case. His services with the government terminated previous to his nomination.

Mr. Oliver suggested a discussion by questioning whether Dr. Young had not received pay for time extending beyond nomination day, but was called to order by the Premier, who pointed out that the matter, being one of privilege, was not debatable.

New Bills Introduced

The Attorney-General introduced a bill to amend the Trustees and Executors Act, also an act to regulate immigration into British Columbia.

Dr. Young introduced a bill to amend the Medical Act.

Hon. Mr. Fulton introduced a bill to amend the Royal Columbian Hospital Act.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald introduced a bill to amend the Coal Mines Act.

Questions and Answers

Mr. Williams asked: What portion of vote No. 150, of the session of 1903-4, has been spent in the following electoral districts: Esquimalt, Cowichan, Newcastle, Nanaimo, Alberni, and Comox respectively?

Hon. Mr. Green replied: Esquimalt division, \$571.52; Cowichan division, \$795.85; Newcastle division, \$42.25; Nanaimo division, \$1,175.72; Alberni division, \$445.07; Comox division, \$794.24.

Mr. McInnes asked: Will the government receive and allow applications to pre-empt land located within the limits of the Quatsino Power and Pulp Co., Ltd., concession?

Hon. Mr. Green replied: "Yes, if the written consent of the company is obtained by the applicant."

Mr. Oliver asked: 1. What is the cost of the new wharf at Bella Coola? 2. What is the height of approach to wharf and the cost of the approach? 3. When was the wharf completed? 4. Has the government any information that on account of faulty construction this wharf is in danger of collapse? 5. Is it the intention of the government to add to this wharf for the purpose of providing cattle corrals?

Hon. Mr. Green replied: 1. \$1,200. 2. Five (5) feet above high water; \$10-013.33; 3. August, 1903. 4. No. 3. No.

The Budget Debate.

of real estate. He suggested, too, that the experts who valued these lands for the province had reported in conformity to a preconceived policy. In connection with land matters.

because as a matter of fact it is possible for the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works to examine every report that passed through that department. As soon as the matter

2

30TH MARCH.

1905

5 ED. 7

NAYS:
Messieurs

Drury,	Jones,	Henderson,	Cameron,
King,	Evans,	Munro,	McBride,
Brown,	Tanner,	Fraser,	Fraser,
McNiven,	Oliver,	Wells,	Wright,
Murphy,	J. A. Macdonald,	Hall,	Young—20.

Mr. McInnes moved to add the following words to section 2: "in any Court in this Province."

Carried.

Report, as amended, adopted.

Third reading to-morrow.

The following Bills were read a third time and passed:—

Bill (No. 35) intituled "An Act to amend the Dentistry Act."

Bill (No. 42) intituled "An Act to amend the British Columbia Railway Act."

Mr. Ross presented the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Reports from the Private Bills Committee, as follows:—

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,
March 30th, 1905.

MR. SPEAKER:

Your Select Standing Committee on Private Bills and Standing Orders beg leave to report as follows:—

That the preamble of the following Bills has been proved and the Bills ordered to be reported as amended:—

1. Bill No. 54, "An Act authorising the Royal Trust Company to carry on business in the Province of British Columbia."

2. Bill No. 58, "An Act to Incorporate the General Trusts Company."

3. Bill No. 52, "An Act to Incorporate the British Columbia Securities Company."

In considering these Bills, your Committee decided, as the Bills presented to the House were of the same nature, a form of general Model Bill should be adopted.

This resolution was carried out, and the original Bills as presented to the House are submitted herewith, together with re-printed copies of the same, containing such amendments as the Committee approved in each case, and complying with the above-mentioned Model Bill adopted by the Committee,

The report was received.

W. R. Ross,
Chairman.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,
March 30th, 1905.

MR. SPEAKER:

Your Select Standing Committee on Private Bills and Standing Orders beg leave to report as follows:—

That the preamble of Bill (No. 62) intituled "An Act respecting the Sumas Development Company, Limited," is proved, and the Bill is hereby recommended to the House as amended.

WM. R. Ross,
Chairman.

The report was received.

Pursuant to Order, the adjourned debate on the motion "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair for the purpose of going into Committee of Supply," was resumed.

Mr. Speaker left the Chair at 6 o'clock, to resume it again at 8:30 P.M.

the lands obtained in this deal from the government had been disposed of for \$6,500. They were most advantageously situated and were valuable from many points of view. This was made apparent through newspaper notices since the lands passed into possession of a real estate broker. He coupled with his reference to this matter a suggestion that, in order to discover the value of the provincial domain it might be advantageous if all their lands were owned by brokers.

From the government was prepared to clear itself of any suggestion of wilful error in regard to the matter in question. As to the lands at Kitimaat he was quite prepared to admit that error seemed probable. He would not say that this was so. He would not say that any official in the department had exceeded his instructions. But if any wrong had been committed it had not been in any way the fault of the government.

of the government to cancel it, if not, why not? Mr. Oliver on Monday next a select committee of five of the House, consisting of Mr. Gifford, Ross, Brown, and two others, be appointed to inquire into matters pertaining to the Crown grants Nos. 1915-15, 1789-147, 1916-155, 1843-35, 1951-163, 1844-155, and all reference to pending applications power to call for persons, documents and to take evidence, and to report the same to the House.

NOT

Debate resumed, and ad

Resolved, That the Hou

And then the House ad

On Monday next—

Mr. Macgowan to ask l
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On Monday next—

Mr. Macgowan to ask l
pal Clauses Act."

On Monday next—

Mr. Ross to ask leave t
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On Monday next—

The Hon. Mr. Wilson
Special Surveys Act, 1899

Mr. Hawthornthwaite
"An Act to amend the 'W
sub-section:—

"(9.) Sub-section 3 (b)
amended by striking out th
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INVESTIGATION THREATENED.
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1905

5 ED. 7

30TH MARCH.

3

Cameron,
McBride,
Fraser,
Wright,
Young—20.

section 2: "in any Court in this

HALF-PAST EIGHT O'CLOCK, P.M.

Debate resumed, and adjourned until to-morrow.

Resolved, That the House, at its rising, do stand adjourned until two o'clock to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned at 11:10 P.M.

C. E. POOLEY, *Speaker*.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

On Monday next—

Mr. Macgowan to ask leave to introduce a Bill intituled "An Act to amend the Municipal Elections Act."

On Monday next—

Mr. Macgowan to ask leave to introduce a Bill intituled "An Act to amend the Municipal Clauses Act."

On Monday next—

Mr. Ross to ask leave to introduce a Bill intituled "An Act to amend the 'Woodman's Lien for Wages Act.'"

On Monday next—

The Hon. Mr. Wilson to ask leave to introduce a Bill intituled "An Act to amend the 'Special Surveys Act, 1899.'"

Mr. Hawthornthwaite to move, on consideration of the Report on Bill (No. 41) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Workmen's Compensation Act, 1902,'" to add the following as a new sub-section:—

"(9.) Sub-section 3 (b) of section 1 (a) of the first Schedule to the said Act is hereby amended by striking out the words 'fifteen hundred dollars' in the ninth line, and substituting the words 'two thousand dollars.'"

W. R. ROSS,
Chairman.

IVE COMMITTEE ROOM,
March 30th, 1905.

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reby recommended to the House as

WM. R. ROSS,
Chairman.

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VICTORIA, B. C.
Printed by RICHARD WOLFENDEN, L.S.O., V.D., Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty.
1905.

Colonist.

DAY, APRIL 2, 1905.

COURT PRACTICE.

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to make the rights of litigants
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matters pertaining to the issuing of
Crown grants Nos. 1915-1955, 1917-1955,
1788-147, 1916-1955, 1848-1955, 1919-1955,
1951-1955, 1844-1955, and all matters in
reference to pending applications, with
power to call for persons, papers and
documents and to take evidence under
oath, and to report the evidence and
their findings to the House.

The Colonist.

SATURDAY, APRIL 1, 1905.

Provincial Legislature

Budget Debate Continues to Engage Attention of the Members.

Oliver Wants Enquiry Into Suspicious Kitimaat Land Transaction.

Minister Invites Investigation Shows Suspicion Were Unwarranted.

Friday, March 31.

THE House opened at 2 o'clock with the customary exercises after which the order of business was as follows:

Questions of Privilege

Mr. Cameron directed attention to a newspaper report that he had been disqualified through a breach of the Independence of Parliament Act, saying that he had taken legal advice on the subject and that such was not the case. He had had no transaction with the government in any shape or form in the way of supplying goods or receiving emolument. His dealings had been with the city of Victoria, the supplies provided being for the Darcy island station, as to which he understood the city had since been recouped by the government.

Dr. Young observed that newspaper reports had also credited him with being disqualified. Having consulted a competent authority he was in a position to say that such was not the case. His services with the government terminated previous to his nomination.

Mr. Oliver suggested a discussion by questioning whether Dr. Young had not received pay for time extending beyond nomination day, but was called to order by the Premier, who pointed out that the matter, being one of privilege, was not debatable.

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The Attorney-General introduced a bill to amend the Trustees and Executors Act, also an act to regulate immigration into British Columbia.

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Hon. Mr. Green replied: "Yes, if the written consent of the company is obtained by the applicant."

Mr. Oliver asked: 1. What is the cost of the new wharf at Bella Coola? 2. What is the height of approach to wharf and the cost of the approach? 3. When was the wharf completed? 4. Has the government any information that on account of faulty construction this wharf is in danger of collapse? 5. Is it the intention of the government to add to this wharf for the purpose of providing cattle corrals?

Hon. Mr. Green replied: 1. \$1,500. 2. Five (5) feet above high water; \$10,013.36; 3. August, 1903. 4. No. 5. No.

of real estate. He suggested, too, that the experts who valued these lands for the province had reported in conformity to a preconceived policy. In connection with land matters.

because as a matter of fact it was possible for the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works to examine every document that passed through that department. As soon as the matter was brought to their attention immediate steps were taken to probe it to the bottom, and this would have been done, and be done, without regard to opinion which might emanate from member for Delta with reference thereto. Adverting to the suggestion of proper considerations in regard to purchase of lands for an asylum for the absurdity of judging of land value by a real estate broker's prospectus, stating that Mr. Oliver himself had been deceived by a prospectus dealing with the Olalla scheme. He pointed out that the government had advice of expert valuers in making his purchase, and that it was a gross proposition in every sense from the province's point of view.

Commenting upon Mr. Henderson's remark about a large proportion of the employees of the government, he observed that there was no point in unless the suggestion were made they were politically subject to government influence. This was not, however, insinuated, and if it had been the province would certainly have had occasion for offence. He dismissed the opposition statements as to the Ottawa government had done this province. For instance the industry was unprotected despite the appeals for relief carried by provincial governments to the federal capital. Mr. Wells said that one of these matters at least, of which he was a member, had met with an encouraging result.

Hon. Mr. Green hoped the encouragement would go further than the province. As for the lead bounty, this was a solution of the problems surrounding the development of the industry.

Mr. Brown argued that the only manifest in the government's financial statement was the ability to balance accounts. It contained no suggestion of statesmanship, nothing to induce power to grapple successfully with matters which attach to the development of the province. The government conceived nothing in line with statesmanship. All its legislation was of a depressive rather than an aggressive type. He hoped something would be done this session to assist the industry. The present government had lived up to the platform on which they were committed to power. Two per cent. mineral tax had not been changed. Their avowal in favor of government ownership of telephone had not been observed. The coal industry of the province had not been reassured in the pre-election program. They had adopted a scheme of compulsory arbitration for the settlement of labor disputes. In a word the government had only regarded one blank of the programme it submitted to the people. Referring to the case of Southeast Kootenay, he said many locators on these lands had sold their licences before the act was passed, raising the fee from \$50 to \$100, and such he thought receive their licences on the terms of the old act. In connection with the location of the Columbia & Western grant, he said that settlers located these lands were obliged to pay fees to the company. This he considered was wrong as the cancellation of the grant obliterated all the contracts in these lands.

Mr. Macgowan moved the adjournment of the debate.

The House adjourned till Monday.

Notices for Monday

Mr. Murphy on Monday next has a pulp lease been granted to Quatsino Power and Pulp Co. 2. If so, what is the lease, the acreage covered and the rental on same? 3. If the terms of said lease that a paper mill shall be erected on the premises and operated so many years? 4. Has any such been erected? 5. If not, is it the intention of the government to cancel same? 6. If not, why not?

Mr. Oliver on Monday next has a select committee of five on this House, consisting of Messrs. Gifford, Ross, Brown, and two others, to inquire into matters pertaining to the Crown grants Nos. 1915-195, 1788-147, 1916-155, 1843-155, 1951-163, 1844-155, and all in reference to pending applications for power to call for persons, documents and to take evidence, and to report the results of their findings to the House.

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Commenting upon Mr. Henderson's remark about a large proportion of the voters of Lillooet during the recent election being employees of the government, he observed that there was no point in this unless the suggestion were made that they were politically subject to government influence. This was not, however, insinuated, and if it had been the people of Lillooet would certainly have had serious occasion for offence. He disputed the opposition statements as to what the Ottawa government had done for this province. For instance the lumber industry was unprotected despite the appeals for relief carried by provincial deputations to the federal capital.

Mr. Wells said that one of these deputations at least, of which he was a member, had met with an encouraging reception.

Hon. Mr. Green hoped the encouragement would go further than the reception. As for the lead bounty, this was no solution of the problems surrounding the development of the industry.

Mr. Brown argued that the only ability manifest in the government's financial statement was the ability to balance accounts. It contained no suggestion of statesmanship, nothing to indicate a power to grapple successfully with those matters which attach to the development of the province. The government had conceived nothing in line with sagacious administration. All its legislation was of a depressive rather than an aggressive type. He hoped something would be done this session to assist the lumber industry. The present government had not lived up to the platform on which they were committed to power. The two per cent. mineral tax had not been changed. Their avowal in favor of government ownership of telephones had not been observed. The coal lands of the province had not been reserved as proposed in the pre-election programme, nor had they adopted a scheme of compulsory arbitration for the settlement of labor disputes. In a word the government had only regarded one or two planks of the programme it submitted to the people. Referring to the coal lands of Southeast Kootenay, he said that many locators on these lands had obtained their licences before the act of last year was passed, raising the fee from \$50 to \$100, and such he thought should receive their licences on the terms of the old act. In connection with the cancellation of the Columbia & Western land grant, he said that settlers locating on these lands were obliged to pay timber fees to the company. This he conceived was wrong as the cancellation of the grant obliterated all the company's rights in these lands.

Mr. Macgowan moved the adjournment of the debate.

The House adjourned till Monday.

Notices for Monday

Mr. Murphy on Monday next will ask: 1. Has a pulp lease been granted to the Lusho Power and Pulp Co. of Victoria? 2. If so, what is the date of said lease, the acreage covered by same, and the rental on same? 3. Is one of the terms of said lease that a pulp or paper mill shall be erected on the leased premises and operated so many months each year? 4. Has any such mill been erected? 5. If not, is it the intention of the government to cancel said lease? 6. If not, why not?

Mr. Oliver on Monday next will move that a select committee of five members of this House, consisting of Messrs. Macgowan, Gifford, Ross, Brown and the mover, be appointed to inquire into all matters pertaining to the leasing of Crown grants Nos. 1915-195, 1917-195, 1788-147, 1916-135, 1843-155, 1919-155, 1951-163, 1844-155, and all matters in reference to pending applications, with power to call for persons, papers and documents and to take evidence under oath, and to report the evidence and their findings to the House.

INVESTIGATION THREATENED.

Mr. John Oliver is at it again. In his speech in the Budget debate yesterday he unearthed another scandal. This time it is in connection with certain Crown grants of land within the Klitimaat railway reserve, which have been issued by the present Government. Judging by the oratorical frenzy with which the charges were made, they must appear to him to be very serious, and, in the circumstances, it was surprising that the occupants of the Treasury benches remained so unmoved under the thunderous attack. However, the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works was not slow to accept the challenge for a committee of investigation. So far as an enquiry into certain circumstances, which might point to officials having exceeded instructions, he was able promptly to announce that he had already forestalled Mr. Oliver. The matter had had his attention, and in respect to an investigation into wrongdoing on the part of the Government, Hon. Mr. Green said he would afford every facility in order to have it probed to the bottom. It was stated by him that the Opposition could search the records of the Land Office from end to end for evidence of malfeasance in office and the members would have every assistance so far as the Government was concerned. The latter, he said, had nothing to conceal. Everyone interested in the honest departmental administration was pleased to see the position taken by the Chief Commissioner, who has evidently nothing to fear from any fishing expedition that may be undertaken.

PROSPECTS OF RAILWAY POLICY.

Mr. Murphy, of Cariboo, in his speech on the Budget debate clearly established himself as the wit of the House. His sallies were enjoyed equally by the members on both sides of the Speaker. Later in the evening, it is not necessary to be exact as to the place or time, he added to his newly acquired reputation at the expense of a gentleman, who has been prominent in promoting a measure of railway assistance. The latter was quietly enjoying a "snack" which is provided gratuitously as an accessory to liquid refreshments. Mr. Murphy approached him solemnly and remarked: "It doesn't seem to augur well for the prospects of a government railway policy when promoters are driven to patronise free lunch counters." The gentleman so addressed found it incumbent upon him, in the interests of the Government to square himself with the crowd.

The Colonist.

SUNDAY, APRIL 2, 1905.

COURT PRACTICE.

Yesterday some questions arose in court as to ethics, which bear on the subject which came up in the House in respect to wigs. It appears that counsel answered questions from the Bench while remaining seated. This seems to have aroused the ire of one of the judges who is particularly strong on matters of form. This brings into consideration the subject debated in the House when the second reading of the Bill to prohibit the wearing of wigs in court came up. It was held that a man's rights were prejudiced in court if he did not comply with the traditions as to court practice; and, therefore, there should be a statutory regulation. Mr. Bowser and the leader of the Opposition both held that a barrister should have moral courage enough to stand upon his legal rights without getting behind an Act of Parliament. In this we agree. It is possible to have judges, simple men, like the rest of us, so puffed up by their position as to make the rights of litigants subject to the observance of certain conventionalities and thus travesty justice. In such circumstances it is not surprising, however absurd it may appear, to find members of the Legislature seeking to provide against abuses which arise out of present conditions.

The Colonist.

TUESDAY, APRIL 4, 1905.

Provincial Legislature

Budget Debaters Rise to the Occasion—Oratory in Full.

Opposition Leader on Absence of Governmental Railway Policy.

Government the Subject of Criticism and Applause—Democratic Filibusters.

Monday, April 3.

THE House assembled at 2 o'clock with the customary exercises, after which the following was the order of business:

Petitions

Mr. Macgowan presented a petition from T. C. Livingston and others for leave to introduce a bill to incorporate the Royal Canadian Life Insurance Co.

Bills

Mr. Ross introduced a bill to amend the Woodman's Lien for Wages Act. The Attorney-General introduced a bill to amend the Special Surveys Act, 1899.

Select Committee Appointed

Upon motion of Mr. Oliver, seconded by Mr. Brown, it was resolved that a select committee of five members of this House, consisting of Messrs. Macgowan, Gifford, Bowser, Brown and the mover, be appointed to inquire into all matters pertaining to the issuing of Crown grants Nos. 1915-155, 1917-155, 1788-147, 1916-155, 1843-155, 1919-155, 1951-163, 1844-155, and also all matters in reference to pending applications, with power to call for persons, papers and documents and to take evidence under oath, and to report the evidence and their findings to the House.

Budget Debate

Mr. Macgowan continued the debate on the Supply Bill. He opened with a compliment to the Minister of Finance upon his able presentation of the financial statement. Liberal critics seemingly found nothing else to direct attention to in criticism of the government than a very ill defined assertion that all the goods things which had come to the province were due to the Liberal government at Ottawa. They failed, however, to distinguish in any appreciable way the particulars of British Columbia's indebtedness to the federal administration. As for the present financial position of the province in relation to works, wise or otherwise, which had been carried on, and consequent responsibilities entailed upon the government of British Columbia, this had nothing to do with the present administration. So far as they were concerned the care of these accounts was a simple matter of bookkeeping. They had to take care of the obligations contracted by past governments. It was to the Conservative party, he claimed, that the development of the great West was attributable, and the markets which had been created, in consequence, for the lumber products of this province. He showed by statistics that Canada was the second best customer the United States had for lumber, and that the industries of this province were not fairly considered in this connection in the consideration of trade questions between the two countries at Ottawa. He interjected a plea for the preservation of the forests against fires, pointing out the great destruction attributable to this source, and suggesting the system obtaining in connection with Dominion lands as worthy of emulation. He also suggested that school books should be provided for pupils at cost. The Alexandra Orphanage and other worthy charitable institutions he commended to the government's generous consideration. In the

adjustment of the dyking question he thought the bona fide settler was entitled to first consideration, and believed that the government was fairly impressed with this view. He thought the government would be justified in contributing to make the Dominion exhibition, to be held at New Westminster this summer, a success. Among the people to the South the advantage of such exhibitions, on the scale proposed, was keenly realized, and they received large assistance from the state. British Columbia, he thought, could with advantage follow their example. He congratulated the government upon the stand they had taken in appointing the assessment commission, and especially upon having adopted the report submitted by that body. He had every faith in the development of the province, and believed the government was disposed to encourage any legitimate enterprise to facilitate such development. He expressed himself as a firm believer in the case for better terms advanced on behalf of the province. The justice of the claims made was apparent in a comparison of the cost of maintenance of government services as between the different provinces. Unfair discrimination against British Columbia was specially noticeable in the federal contributions for wharves and bridges. In this connection he commented on the fact that the great New Westminster bridge had been constructed at enormous expense without assistance from the Dominion, and that in other parts of Canada it was customary to support such undertakings from the federal treasury. He pointed to the contract made by the Dominion with the Canadian Pacific Railway Co. as an over generous bargain from the country's point of view. The company not only received a very large grant in land, but the lands were exempt from taxation. He condemned this contract as he was ready to condemn all such other undertakings where the public domain was tied up in such a way for the benefit of a corporation.

Mr. Cameron went into the circumstances attending the appointment of the assessment commission, showing that the opposition had agreed with the course taken in that regard. He disagreed, however, with the personnel of that commission. It was, in his view, he thought, that the government should have been represented thereon. The commission should have been confined to representatives of the various industries concerned in the questions at stake. While the commission had resulted in some good, better results would have been derived from a more judicious selection of its membership. He admitted that a change in the school system was necessary, but questioned whether the best method of reform had been selected by the government. He thought a more favorable disposition could be made of provincial finances in relation to borrowed monies and the interest paid thereon.

Mr. Ross expressed appreciation of the public abilities of the Finance Minister and of the courtesies always met with in his department by the younger members of the House. He alluded to the old sore, the Fernald ballot box question, and elicited an observation from the leader of the opposition that he had agreed to avoid dragging this subject into the House. Making an examination of opposition charges that the Conservative party had failed to observe its platform undertakings, he showed that the opposition had practically no platform at all, its pre-election declarations being largely of a denunciatory character. And their subsequent conduct in the House was the highest and noblest of undertakings he rated that of agriculture, and he entertained the greatest respect for all those who followed that profession. At the same time the agriculturists as a statesman had his faults. In Mr. Oliver there was a tendency toward profligate expression. In those particulars in which it was not simply denunciatory, the Liberal platform embraced an enunciation of certain principles connected with the granting of subsidies and the building of railways. Therefore they might look for some sign of the fructification of these views in the Liberal representatives of the House. As a matter of fact, in the legislation which had emanated from that party, there was a noticeable absence of great ideas. There had been essays made on such subjects as "wages" and "bulls" and "tomatoes." But those aspirations seem to stop at that. The way in which the government had dealt with the school question he considered worthy of approbation. Discussing matters pertaining to the transportation question, he expressed the view that a certain share of responsibility rested upon the government in this connection in

encouraging the development of the country. At the same time there were serious matters sometimes involved in effecting practical contracts, and the government might be justified in going slowly in the matter. Referring to the Grand Trunk Pacific scheme, he suggested that the feeling of prejudice created by the political associations connected with that undertaking had perhaps prevented that serious consideration of the project from a British Columbia point of view to which it was entitled. The statement accredited to Mr. Hay was enunciated at a time when it could not be taken as an intended influence in the elections. The Dominion contract with that company was not a contract with this province. As a result of action which he thought might have been overhasty, he feared that British Columbia would not receive the advantage it might have from that enterprise. Personally he believed that it was not an altogether rational proposition that the province might have induced the early expenditure of some \$20,000,000 within its borders. He expressed some surprise that this important matter had been allowed to pass without some comment from the opposition party in the House. While the road was, according to contract, to be completed by 1911, there was a possibility that an extension of time might become necessary although personally he hoped it would not. He believed that negotiations might profitably be carried on with the Grand Trunk Pacific Co. looking to the early commencement of building operations on this coast and in this province, and the inauguration of all the important commercial consequences to the country attendant thereon. He remarked upon the fact that all the various places in the east were showing themselves to be alive to their opportunities in connection with this enterprise and were endeavoring to secure commercial advantage from its advancement. He denied that he was in any personal way interested in the Grand Trunk scheme. The only brief he held was on behalf of the people of the province, in whose interest he conceived it to be his duty to draw attention to this important matter, which he believed was at least worthy of serious consideration.

Mr. Jones observed that in the financial provisions made in the estimates, in the case of Cariboo, there was reason for complaint, comparing its appropriation with that provided for districts in any way corresponding thereto. For instance Lillooet was to receive \$10,000 for public works, whereas Cariboo only got \$8,000. This was reversing the position which should obtain if the monies were fairly apportioned for Cariboo contributed \$50,000 to the revenue last year, whereas Lillooet only paid \$30,000 into the provincial treasury. He observed that Cariboo was not yet a dead district. A number of very important mining enterprises were going on there, and there was an immense field of unexplored territory. While individual miners and small parties were doing something in placer exploitation, there was room for a tremendous extension of operations in this regard. He suggested that the placer laws were susceptible to some improvement looking to the encouragement of prospecting. The country was so large and the difficulties of practical exploration so great that it was desirable to make things as easy as possible for the pioneers who went out into the wilderness and discovered the gold. He had no fault to find with the government in fact was rather interested in it. The government was weak and he always had sympathy for anything weak.

Hon. Mr. Tallow pointed out that Mr. Jones was wrong in his appreciation of the appropriations for Cariboo. In addition to the \$8,000 to which he had referred, there was \$22,000 for the Cariboo wagon road.

Mr. Hall argued that there would have been no occasion for the government's legislation with respect to assessment if the taxes assessable under the old act had been fully collected. For the conditions which obtained with respect to the lumber trade in the Northwest he thought the lumbermen themselves somewhat to blame. They had allowed the trade there to fall into the hands of a combine, which exacted its own prices from the consumer. The government had done nothing but amend the amendments to statutes which had been amended before. They were simply making work for a committee of revision to make the statutes comprehensible to ordinary intelligence.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald said the presentation of the Finance Minister reminded him of the liquidator of a bankrupt estate making his report to the shareholders.

For this the minister was not really responsible. The government had been in office for two years. What had they done? If the Finance Minister

VOTES

Legislative A

Prayers by the Rev. J. M.

The following Bills were introduced at the next sitting of the House:
By the Hon. Mr. Wilson: Executors Act."

By the Hon. Mr. Wilson: British Columbia."

By Mr. Young—Bill (N)

By the Hon. Mr. Ferguson: Columbian Hospital Act, 1905.

By Mr. J. A. Macdonald: Act."

Mr. Williams asked the following question:—

What portion of Vote 1 Electoral Districts:—Esquimalt Division, \$42.25; Nanaimo Division, \$

The Hon. Mr. Green replied:—

"Esquimalt Division, \$42.25; Nanaimo Division, \$

Mr. McInnes asked the following question:—

Will the Government revise the limits of the Quatsino Power?

The Hon. Mr. Green replied:—

"Yes, if the written conditions are met."

Mr. Oliver asked the following questions:—

1. What is the cost of the

2. What is the height of

Green that there had been grave mistakes in his department.

Hon. Mr. Green observed that he had made such a statement.

Mr. Macdonald proceeded to state the suggestion that the government had accomplished nothing, mentioning the fact of past years being a source of complaint that there had been no legislation of the sort which would have been of great value in the past. He said that the government had been in office for two years, and that the people were entitled to know what they had accomplished.

For this the minister was not personally responsible. The government had been in office for two years. What had they done? If the Finance Minister

development of railway legislation as promised last session by the Premier. Without committing himself to the form of the assistance given to the railways to which he had referred, he emphasized

have had some influence in leading the Dominion government up to this state of mind. He pictured some of the humorous results which might flow from the fulfillment of Dominion government promises in this regard. The Minister of

was so much abused by critics was the first minister at position who had been a surplus to the House. In railway development, it was never to dream on the opposite or to suggest in a remote way possibilities of action. It was easy for men to prepare to attack the commissions of the government that something should be done ready to attack the and grants or to agree that were impracticable. At the children crying for there was no sincerity in

He assured the opposition would be built in British. Even admitting that there construction this year, they built and built on a business added a word about the moral party in Ontario, and record as a warning to in the provincial legislature government had come serious difficulties before had succeeded as it were chaos, and had restored order addition of things which had unbearable. Their record one which they could be their administration prompt and assured progress to

ard said he desired to add a transportation question. He prepared to urge upon the the importance of opening

comment the great Similkameen by the construction of a

the Coast to the Boundary ist mineral riches were con-

territory. Some develop- from any part thereof, and paid in respect of the coal

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s, the amount of said taxes s so paid shall be ascertain-

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at this classification shall not s that are being used for any

er than the mining of coal, e was reported complete and

i reading. Registry Act passed its final- so the bill regarding rules

practice and procedure in the he province, also the bill to

Landlord and Tenant Act. rney-General introduced a

and the Companies Act, also end the Investment and Loan

ct. se rose at 11:30 o'clock.

No. 37.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Legislative Assembly of British Columbia.

Friday, 31st March, 1905.

TWO O'CLOCK, P.M.

Prayers by the Rev. Jno. F. Vichert.

The following Bills were introduced, read a first time and *Ordered* to be read a second time at the next sitting of the House:—

By the Hon. Mr. Wilson—Bill (No. 49) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Trustees and Executors Act.'"

By the Hon. Mr. Wilson—Bill (No. 67) intituled "An Act to regulate Immigration into British Columbia."

By Mr. Young—Bill (No. 63) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Medical Act.'"

By the Hon. Mr. Fulton—Bill (No. 64) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Royal Columbian Hospital Act, 1901.'"

By Mr. J. A. Macdonald—Bill (No. 68) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Coal Mines Act.'"

Mr. Williams asked the Hon. the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works the following question:—

What portion of Vote No. 150, of the Session of 1903-4, has been spent in the following Electoral Districts:—Esquimalt, Cowichan, Newcastle, Nanaimo, Alberni, Comox, respectively?

The Hon. Mr. Green replied as follows:—

"Esquimalt Division, \$571.52; Cowichan Division, \$795.35; Newcastle Division, \$42.25; Nanaimo Division, \$1,175.72; Alberni Division, \$445.07; Comox Division, \$794.24."

Mr. McInnes asked the Hon. the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works the following question:—

Will the Government receive and allow applications to pre-empt land located within the limits of the Quatsino Power and Pulp Company, Limited, concession?

The Hon. Mr. Green replied as follows:—

"Yes, if the written consent of the Company is obtained by the applicant."

Mr. Oliver asked the Hon. the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works the following questions:—

1. What is the cost of the new wharf at Bella Coola?
2. What is the height of approach to wharf and the cost of the approach?

green that there had been grave irregularities in his department.

Hon. Mr. Green observed that he had not made such a statement.

Mr. Macdonald proceeded to elaborate the suggestion that the government had accomplished nothing, remarking that in the end of past years there was a sense of complaint that there had been too much

operating of the past with which it had failed. He then went on to say that the government had not been

not spoken against and to remark that Mr. Bowser remarked that the leader of the opposition had argued generally that railways should be assisted. If he had any new ideas on the subject they were not disclosed to the House. Discussing matters connected with the relations between the Federal and provincial authorities respecting the immigration and franchise laws, he read from an opinion of the Minister of Justice from which he adduced the statement that the Dominion government was in favor of giving Chinamen and Japanese a vote. He humorously suggested that Mr. Hall, a prospective canneryman, and Mr. Paterson, an employer of labor, might

encouraging the development of the country. At the same time there were serious matters sometimes involved in affecting practical contracts, and the government might be justified in pausing in the matter. Referring to the Grand Trunk Pacific scheme, he stated that the feeling of prejudice created by the political associations connected with that undertaking had perhaps prevented that serious consideration of the project from British Columbia. The statement accredited to Mr. Hall was enunciated at a time when it could not be taken as an intended influence in the elections. The Dominion contract with that company was not a contract with this province. As a result of action which he thought might have been overhasty, he feared that British Columbia could not receive the advantage it might from that enterprise. Personally he believed that it was not an altogether rational proposition that the province might have induced the early expenditure of some \$20,000,000 within its borders. He expressed some surprise that an important matter had been allowed to pass without some comment from the opposition party in the House. While the road was, according to contract, to be completed by 1911, there was a possibility that an extension of time might be necessary although personally he hoped it would not. He believed that negotiations might profitably be carried on with the Grand Trunk Pacific Company to the early commencement of building operations on this coast and in the province, and the inauguration of the important commercial consequences to the country attendant thereon, remarked upon the fact that all the busy places in the east were showing themselves to be alive to their opportunities in connection with this enterprise were endeavoring to secure commercial advantage from its advancement. He denied that he was in any personal interest in the Grand Trunk Pacific. The only brief he held was on behalf of the people of the province, whose interest he conceived it to be his duty to draw attention to this important matter, which he believed was most worthy of serious consideration. Mr. Jones observed that in the financial provision made in the estimates, in case of Cariboo, there was reason for complaint, comparing its appropriation that provided for districts in any corresponding thereto. For instance, Lillooet was to receive \$10,000 public works, whereas Cariboo only \$8,000. This was revealing the position which should obtain if the money was fairly apportioned for Cariboo could be \$50,000 to the revenue last year, as Lillooet only paid \$30,000 into provincial treasury. He observed Cariboo was not yet a dead district. A number of very important enterprises were going on there, and there was an immense field of unexplored territory. While individual mind and small parties were doing some in placer exploitation, there was for a tremendous extension of operations in this regard. He suggested that placer laws were susceptible to some amendment looking to the encouragement of prospecting. The country was large and the difficulties of practical operation so great that it was desirable to do things as easy as possible for miners who went out into the wilderness and discovered the gold. He was fault to find with the government. He was rather interested in it. The moment was weak and he always had sympathy for anything weak. Mr. Tallow pointed out that Mr. Jones was wrong in his appreciation of appropriations for Cariboo. In addition to the \$8,000 to which he had referred there was \$22,000 for the Cariboo road.

Hall argued that there would be no occasion for the government's legislation with respect to assessment of the taxes assessable under the had been fully collected. For the time which obtained with respect to lumber trade in the Northwest he thought the lumbermen themselves somewhat to blame. They had allowed the taxes to fall into the hands of a middleman, which exacted its own price from the consumer. The government was doing nothing but amend the assessment statutes which had been amended. They were simply making a committee of revision to make statutes comprehensible to ordinary people.

A. Macdonald said the present Finance Minister reminded him of a liquidator of a bankrupt estate. His report to the shareholders

The Colonist.

TUESDAY, APRIL 4, 1905

Provincial
LegislationBudget Debaters Rise
Occasion—Oratory
Full.Opposition Leader on
of Governmental Rail
Policy.Government the Subject
of Cism and Applause—
osthetic Flights.

Monday, A

THE House assembled at
with the customary exer
ter which the following
order of business:

Petitions

Mr. Macgowan presented a
from T. C. Livingston and o
leave to introduce a bill to inc
the Royal Canadian Life Insur

Bills

Mr. Ross introduced a bill to
the Woodman's Lien for Wage
The Attorney-General introduc
to amend the Special Surveys A

Select Committee Appoint

Upon motion of Mr. Oliver, i
by Mr. Brown, it was resolved
select committee of five members
House, consisting of Messrs. Ma
Gifford, Bowers, Brown and the
be appointed to inquire into all
pertaining to the issuing of Crow
Nos. 1910-1953, 1917-1953, 1788-19
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sonally responsible. The government
had been in office for two years. What
had they done? If the Finance Minis-

2

31ST MARCH.

1905

5 Ed. 7

3. When was wharf completed?
4. Has the Government any information that on account of faulty construction this wharf is in danger of collapse?
5. Is it the intention of the Government to add to this wharf for the purpose of providing cattle corrals?

The Hon. Mr. Green replied as follows:—

- "1. \$1,300.
- "2. Five (5) feet above high water; \$10,013.36.
- "3. August, 1903.
- "4. No.
- "5. No."

Pursuant to Order, the adjourned debate on the motion "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair for the purpose of going into Committee of Supply," was resumed, and adjourned until the next sitting of the House.

Resolved, That the House, at its rising, do stand adjourned until two o'clock on Monday next.

And then the House adjourned at 5:45 P.M.

C. E. POOLEY, Speaker.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

By Mr. Murphy—On Monday next—Questions of the Hon. the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works—

1. Has a pulp lease been granted to the Quatsino Power and Pulp Company, of Victoria?
2. If so, what is the date of said lease, the acreage covered by same, the rental on same?
3. Is one of the terms of said lease that a pulp or paper mill shall be erected on the leased premises and operated so many months each year?
4. Has any such mill been erected?
5. If not, is it the intention of the Government to cancel said lease?
6. If not, why not?

By Mr. Oliver—On Monday next—

That a Select Committee of five Members of this House, consisting of Messrs. Macgowan, Gifford, Ross, Brown and the mover, be appointed to inquire into all matters pertaining to the issuing of Crown Grants Nos. 1910, 1917, 1788, 1918, 1843, 1919, 1953, 1844, and also all matters in reference to pending applications, with power to call for persons, papers and documents and to take evidence under oath, and to report the evidence and their findings to the House.

The Hon. Mr. Tallow to move, on the Third Reading of Bill (No. 36) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Assessment Act, 1903,'" to amend section 4 by striking out the words beginning with "Class A," on line 8, and ending with the word "acre," on line 13, and inserting in lieu thereof the following:—

"CLASS A.—Land from which coal is being mined, the area of which shall be determined as follows:—Where the owner, lessee or licensee of any coal lands is mining coal from any part thereof, and shall have paid in respect of the coal mined taxes and royalties to the Crown on the said coal and on the coke produced therefrom, the amount of said taxes and royalties so paid shall be ascertained for the year ending the thirtieth day of June preceeding, and the area which shall be classed to the owner, lessee or licensee as the land from which coal is being mined shall be so many

in the legislature which had emanated from that party, there was a noticeable absence of great ideas. There had been essays, made on such subjects as "wigs" and "bills" and "tomatoes." But their aspirations seem to stop at that. The way in which the government had dealt with the school question he considered worthy of approbation. Discussing matters appertaining to the transportation question, he expressed the view that a certain share of responsibility rested upon the government in this connection in

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Mr. J. A. Macdonald to move
"An Act to amend the 'Work
to substitute therefor the following
"5. In any case falling withi
Workmen's Compensation Act, 1
or infant children of the decease
two thousand dollars."

Also in amendment to section
line 5, and insert in lieu thereof t
said line 5, and insert in lieu ther

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1905

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31ST MARCH.

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of faulty construction this
for the purpose of providing

acres of the lands so owned, leased or licensed from which coal is actually being mined, or land adjoining said land from which coal is actually being mined, as the amount paid for taxes and royalties as aforesaid would pay for at the rate of twenty-five cents per acre: Provided, however, that this classification shall not include lands that are being used for any purpose other than the mining of coal."

Mr. J. A. Macdonald to move, on consideration of the Report on Bill (No. 41) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Workmen's Compensation Act, 1902,'" to strike out section 5 and to substitute therefor the following section:—

"5. In any case falling within sub-section (1) of clause (a) 1 of the First Schedule to said Workmen's Compensation Act, 1902, where the defendants are the widow and infant child or infant children of the deceased workman, compensation may be allowed up to the sum of two thousand dollars."

Also in amendment to section 8 of said Bill (No. 41) to strike out the word "filing," in line 5, and insert in lieu thereof the word "giving," and to strike out the word "award," in said line 5, and insert in lieu thereof the word "decision."

at Mr. Speaker do now leave
was resumed, and adjourned
until two o'clock on Monday

E. POOLEY, *Speaker.*

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Pulp Company, of Victoria!
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VICTORIA, B. C.

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Hon. Mr. Green observed that he had not made such a statement.

Mr. Macdonald proceeded to elaborate the suggestion that the government had accompanied nothing, remarking that it had of past years been a source of complaint that there had been too much legislation of the sort with which it had burdened itself. He then endeavored to show that the opposition had not been perfecting legislation which the government in its wisdom had rejected. He then stated that the government had not had much to say about it.

not spoken against an to railways.

Mr. Bowser remarked that the leader of the opposition had argued generally that railways should be assisted. If he had any new ideas on the subject they were not disclosed to the House. Discussing matters connected with the relations between the Federal and provincial authorities respecting the immigration and franchise laws, he read from an opinion of the Minister of Justice from which he adduced the statement that the Dominion government was in favor of giving Chinamen and Japanese a vote. He humorously suggested that Mr. Hall, a prospective canneryman, and Mr. Patterson, an employer of labor, might

The Colonist.

TUESDAY, APRIL 4, 1911

Provincial Legislation

**Budget Debaters Rise
Occasion—Oratory
Full.**

**Opposition Leader on
of Governmental Re-
Policy.**

**Government the Subject
of Praise and Applause—
osthetic Flights**

Monday.

THE House assembled at 10 o'clock with the customary order of business:

Petitions

Mr. Macgowan presented from T. C. Livingston and leave to introduce a bill to the Royal Canadian Life Insurance Company.

Bills

Mr. Ross introduced a bill to amend the Special Surveys Act. The Attorney-General introduced a bill to amend the Special Surveys Act.

Select Committee Appointed

Upon motion of Mr. Oliver, a select committee of five members was appointed to inquire into the matter of the issuing of Certificates of Title Nos. 1214-1255, 1217-1255, 1255, 1243-1255, 1219-1255, 1255, and also all matters in connection with the pending applications, with power to take evidence under oath, and to report the evidence and their conclusions to the House.

Budget Debate

Mr. Macgowan continued on the Supply Bill. He opened with a compliment to the Minister of Finance upon his able presentation of the budget. Liberal criticism found nothing else to direct to in criticism of the government's financial policy. He found a very ill defined assertion of goods things which had come to the province were due to the Liberal government at Ottawa. They failed to distinguish in any appreciation of the particulars of British Columbia's financial position. As for the present financial position of the province in relation to the federal government, which had been and consequent responsibility upon the government of British Columbia, this had nothing to do with the present administration. So far as concerned the care of these accounts, a simple matter of bookkeeping had to take care of the obligations of the past governments. The Conservative party, he claimed, the development of the great resources of the province, and the markets had been created, and the consequent lumber products of this province showed by statistics that British Columbia was the second best customer of the United States for lumber, and the industries of this province were considered in this connection in the consideration of trade questions between the two countries at Ottawa. He interjected a plea for the preservation of the forests against fires, pointing out the great destruction attributable to this source, and suggesting the system obtaining in connection with Dominion lands as worthy of emulation. He also suggested that school books should be provided for pupils at cost. The Alexandra Orphanage and other worthy charitable institutions he commended to the government's generous consideration. In the

adjustment of the dyking question he thought the bona fide settler was entitled to first consideration, and believed that the government was fairly impressed with this view. He thought the government

encouraging the development of the country. At the same time there were serious matters sometimes involved in effecting practical contracts, and the government might

For this the minister was not personally responsible. The government had been in office for two years. What had they done? If the Finance Minister had gone over the country and taken the estimates he submitted to the House, might have been much more satisfactory.

Instead of meeting opposition in the government sought to draw attention by turning to a discussion of union politics, and finding fault with the Liberal government. The Minister, about which so much was said, taken off by the Hon. G. E. Foster, Conservative Finance Minister. The government did nothing for the lumber industry of the province, the government was doing less. As to the Fernie ballot box question, contributed the silence of the opposition in this subject this session to the consciousness that, after failing to get as the result of continued agitation, as the result of continued agitation, last year, further discussion was not the majority but the minority people of Fernie. The position by Mr. Ross with reference to the Trunk Pacific he made the subject of a remark, observing that while he held a brief for the people, he nevertheless submitted an argument for subsidizing that company.

Ross explained that he had introduced the granting of a subsidy. The part of his remarks was that the company of getting the company to construct early construction in this province receive serious consideration.

J. A. Macdonald adverted to the enunciation of Mr. Ross on the subject to indicate that he favored the company terminal facilities and other concessions. In respect to the Grand Trunk scheme, the government was committed to the development of railway policy. It was noted that as an engrossing subject of legislative consideration by the editor of the Advertiser. The Premier had taken to convene the House special session for this purpose. A summer session was called. But the session never came, nothing was done. He characterized this unfulfilled undertaking of the Premier as a gold brick, handed out to the people. The people would require the sanction of the Premier for his failure to observe his promise in this regard.

The Premier took the position that there were some twenty schemes for the government none of which would necessarily be considered unless railway construction was ensue. Did this mean that the C.P.R. and other concerns which had proposed before the government merited serious consideration. In this connection he observed that out of the total revenue of the province Kootenay contributed \$340,000 or something like that of the whole. Yale contributed provincial revenues about \$180,000, Kootenay \$50,000, Lillooet \$30,000, and the E. & N. railway belt contributed \$40,000. He adduced these comparisons to show that the greatest revenue received from districts developed always, which more than compensated the province for any grant made in connection therewith. To strengthen his still farther, he showed that the water part of the revenue from the railway construction, and that the revenue from the Granby, contributed one-eighth of the total receipts of the Canadian Pacific.

At 6 o'clock the House rose.

Evening Session

Mr. Macdonald continued his remarks when the House resumed at 8:30 o'clock. He proceeded to argue that instead of making a practical programme for the consideration of the legislature, members of the government had spent a considerable part of the session in gratifying their desires for recreation and change of air. In reference to administrative matters, he attributed a confusion to Hon. Green that there had been grave irregularities in his department.

Hon. Mr. Green observed that he had not made such a statement.

Mr. Macdonald proceeded to state the suggestion that the government had accomplished nothing, remarking that had of past years been a source of complaint that there had been too much legislation of the sort which he was now making. He then referred to the fact that the government had been perfecting legislation which had been in the works for some time.

in the legislation which had emanated from that party, there was a noticeable absence of great ideas. There had been essays, made on such subjects as "wigs" and "bulls" and "tomcats." But their aspirations seem to stop at that. The way in which the government had dealt with the school question he considered worthy of approbation. Discussing matters appertaining to the transportation question, he expressed the view that a certain share of responsibility rested upon the government in this connection in

from the consumer. The government had done nothing but amend the amendments to statutes which had been amended before. They were simply making work for a committee of revision to make the statutes comprehensible to ordinary intelligence.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald said the presentation of the Finance Minister reminded him of the liquidator of a bankrupt estate making his report to the shareholders.

encouraging the development of the country. At the same time there were various matters sometimes involved in settling practical contracts, and the government might

For this the minister was not personally responsible. The government had been in office for two years. What had they done? If the Finance Minister had gone over the country and taken the estimates he submitted to the House, might have been much more satisfactory. Instead of meeting opposition in the government sought to divert attention by turning to a discussion of union politics, and finding fault with the Liberal government. The summary, about which so much was said, taken off by the Hon. G. E. Foster, Conservative Finance Minister. If the government did nothing for the lumber industry of the province, the government was doing less. As to the Fernie ballot box question, the silence of the opposition on this subject this session to get the business that, after failing to get as the result of continuous agitation last year, further discussion was futile. He claimed that Mr. Ross represented the majority but the minority people of Fernie. The position by Mr. Ross with reference to the Trunk Pacific he made the subject of a remark, observing that while he held a brief for the people he nevertheless submitted an argument for subsidizing that company.

Ross explained that he had not asked the granting of a subsidy. The point of his remarks was that the question of getting the company to commence early construction in this province would receive serious consideration.

J. A. Macdonald adverted to a previous enunciation of Mr. Ross on this subject to indicate that he favored giving the company terminal facilities and other concessions. Irrespective of the Grand Trunk scheme, the government was committed to the development of railway policy. It was noted last as an engrossing subject of legislative consideration by the editor of the Advertiser. The Premier had undertaken to convene the House specially for this purpose. A summer session was called. But the session never came. Nothing was done. He characterized this unfulfilled undertaking of the Premier as a gold brick, handed out to the House. The people would require an assurance of the Premier for his failure to observe his promise in this regard. The Premier took the position that although there were some twenty schemes before the government none of them would necessarily be considered unless railway construction was ensured. Did this mean that the C. P. and other concerns which had proposed before the government merited no consideration. In this connection he observed that out of the total revenue collected last year from the various districts of the province Kootenay contributed \$380,000 or something like one-third of the whole. Yale contributed provincial revenues about \$180,000, Kootenay \$50,000, Lillooet \$30,000, and the southern part of Vancouver Island, within the E. & N. railway belt over \$100,000. He adduced these comparisons to show that the greatest revenues were received from districts developed by railways, which more than compensated the province for any grant made in connection therewith. To strengthen this point still farther, he showed that the water part of the revenue from Yale came from one section which was opened by railway construction, and that one section in this district, the Granby, contributed one-eighth of the total freight receipts of the Canadian Pacific Railway. At 6 o'clock the House rose.

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owned. The government nothing but amend the amendments which had been amended. They were simply making a committee of revision to make a comprehensible to ordinary

Macdonald said the present Finance Minister reminded him of a bankrupt liquidator of a bankrupted

development of railway legislation as promised last session by the Premier. Without committing himself to the form of the assistance given to the railways to which he had referred, he emphasized the position he took in reference thereto, namely that there was sufficient material benefit resultant from railway development to recoup the province for the assistance necessary to bring about their construction. The opposition did not pretend to know the terms of the railway propositions which were now before the government. They had no communication with the promoters from whom they came. They could not, therefore, be fairly asked, as they had been from the government side, what they would do if they were in the government's place. This was the attitude taken by the government with respect to all the measures it had submitted to the House, and he was happy to think that this party had been able to offer some suggestions and amendments of value, which the government had seen fit to accept. With respect to the questions of better terms and the lumber duties, he remarked that the opposition had joined in the memorial prepared in the one case and had actually framed the resolution adopted in the other. It was apparent, therefore, that no special credit attached to the government in connection with these matters. He suggested that aspirations of members of the government in relation to railway development would be satisfied in empty discussion of matters having no relation to the public questions of the day.

Mr. Shatford: No.

Mr. Macdonald suggested that the position of members on this subject would be tested by the motion which he had to offer, namely that: "Whereas the Premier, at the last session of this Legislature, intimated that his government would submit to this House proposals of a definite character on railway matters:

"And whereas, failing to submit such proposals, the Premier subsequently stated on the floor of this House that a summer session would be held to deal exclusively with railway and transportation matters in this province:

"And whereas said session was not held as promised:

"And whereas the government has as yet submitted to this House no proposals during the present session looking to better transportation facilities:

"Therefore this House regrets the inaction of the government and its repeated failures to deal with an urgent public question."

Mr. Bowser called attention to the anomalous position which the opposition occupied with reference to the question in debate. From the formidable suggestion which had come from that party as to the weaknesses of the government's financial pronouncement they might have expected some powerful arraignment of the administration. Instead of this they had had the spectacle of the member for Yale arising as financial critic of his party and delivering an address scarcely paralleled for weakness and incoherence in the annals of parliament. He showed the childishness of the aspersions upon the Attorney-General and Finance Minister in connection with their journey to the Old Country, and observed that the opposition was driven to these frivolous pretenses to discover any excuse whatever for an attack upon the government. If discussion were in order on this theme oppositionists might find more fitting subjects in the Federal arena, where private cars and yachts were common as ministerial conveyances and little jaunts to the Old Country and Europe were of not infrequent occurrence. The remarks of the leader of the opposition were reducible to an argument in favor of bonussing railways. In fact no other conclusion could be drawn therefrom. Yet evidences were not wanting from the utterances of members of the opposition, that to say the least there was no unanimity on this question. The member for Alberni had spoken against the granting of aid to railways in Kootenay.

Mr. McInnes said he had spoken against the form which aid to railways there had taken in the past, but he had not spoken against aid to railways.

Mr. Bowser remarked that the leader of the opposition had argued generally that railways should be assisted. If he had any new ideas on the subject they were not disclosed to the House. Discussing matters connected with the relations between the Federal and provincial authorities respecting the immigration and franchise laws, he read from an opinion of the Minister of Justice from which he adduced the statement that the Dominion government was in favor of giving Chinamen and Japanese a vote. He humorously suggested that Mr. Hall, a prospective canneryman, and Mr. Peterson, an employer of labor, might

have had some influence in leading the Dominion government up to this state of mind. He pictured some of the humorous results which might flow from the fulfillment of Dominion government promises in this regard. The Minister of Finance, who was so much abused by opposition critics, was the first minister occupying that position who had been able to report a surplus to the House. In regard to railway development, it was an easy matter to dream on the opposition benches or to suggest in a remote and undefined way possibilities of accomplishment. It was easy for men who sat aloof prepared to attack the omissions or commissions of the government to say that something should be done. They were ready to attack the principle of land grants or to agree that money grants were impracticable. At the same time they were clamoring for railways like children crying for the moon. But there was no sincerity in their clamor. He assured the opposition that railways would be built in British Columbia. Even admitting that there might be no construction this year, they would be built and built on a business basis. He added a word about the morale of the Liberal party in Ontario, and exposed their record as a warning to their cousins in the provincial legislature. The present government had come to office with serious difficulties before them. They had succeeded as it were a period of chaos, and had restored order out of a condition of things which had become almost unbearable. Their record thus far was one which they could be proud of, and their administration promised a steady and assured progress to the province.

Mr. Shatford said he desired to add a word on the transportation question. He was there prepared to urge upon the government the importance of opening up to development the great Similkameen district, by the construction of a railway from the Coast to the Boundary country. Vast mineral riches were contained in this territory. Some development of coal from any part thereof, and shall have paid in respect of the coal mined taxes and royalties to the Crown on the said coal and on the coke produced therefrom, the amount of said taxes and royalties so paid shall be ascertained for the year ending the thirtieth day of June preceding, and the area which shall be classed to the owner, lessee or licensee as the land from which coal is being mined shall be so many acres of the lands so owned, leased or licensed from which coal is actually being mined, or land adjoining said land from which coal is actually being mined, as the amount paid for taxes and royalties as afore said would pay for at the rate of twenty-five cents per acre. Provided, however, that this classification shall not include lands that are being used for any purpose other than the mining of coal.

The bill was reported complete and passed third reading.

The Land Registry Act passed its final stage; also the bill regarding rules governing practice and procedure in the courts of the province, also the bill to amend the Landlord and Tenant Act.

The Attorney-General introduced a bill to amend the Companies Act, also a bill to amend the Investment and Loan Societies Act.

The House rose at 11:30 o'clock.

A SATISFACTORY FINDING.

Some little time ago a petition was presented to the House by A. Ohlson on behalf of the British Columbia Nurserymen's Association, and was referred to the agricultural committee. In the petition and at a meeting of the committee, charges were made against the members of the Horticultural Board that they were incompetent and did not attend to their duties. As some prominence was given in the Colonist to the matter on that occasion, and perhaps sufficient justice was not done to the members of the Horticultural Board, we have pleasure in referring to the report that was subsequently presented to the House by the committee. The report says that, after an exhaustive enquiry into the charges made, it was the unanimous opinion of the committee that these had not been sustained. It is, moreover, pointed out that the gentlemen who had made the complaint do not represent either the large nurserymen of the Province or the Fruit Growers' Association, who have expressed their entire satisfaction with the working of the Act, passed last session, as well as their confidence in the members of the Horticultural Board.

The petition referred to represented an attempt to alter the law regarding the importation of nursery stock into the Province, and we are glad to know that, in the light of the evidence adduced, that it did not succeed. British Columbia today enjoys splendid immunity from pests and diseases which have affected fruit so seriously in other parts of America, and that fact is due to the vigilance of the Board of Horticulture in recommending and enforcing stringent regulations.

In the destruction of fruit trees, or the rejection of nursery stock which are blemished or infected with disease, particularly with the San Jose scale, the individual losses experienced are not to be compared with the losses to the industry which their admission into the country would entail. Fruit-growing has been making splendid progress of late years, and the people of British Columbia in general, realising its importance, will uphold the Legislature and the members of the Horticultural Board in continuing that vigilance to which its success has in a large measure been due.

VOTES

Legislative A

Prayers by the Rev. J.

Mr. Macgowan presented a petition for a Private Bill Received.

The following Bills were time to-morrow:—

By Mr. Ross—Bill (No. 1) Act.

By the Hon. Mr. Wilson—Act, 1899."

On the motion of Mr.

That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into the Gifford, Bowser, Brown and issuing of Crown Grants matters in reference to permits and to take evidence in House.

Pursuant to order the Chair for the purpose of

Mr. Speaker left the Chair

Debate resumed.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald after the word "Chair" the

"But whereas the Government would submit

Mr. J. A. Macdonald, Henderson, Paterson, Hall, Cameron—Government: Davidson, Williams, McBride, Wilson, Cotton, Blair, Fraser, Ross, A. McDevitt, Fulton, Gordon, Taylor, W. Gifford, Macgowan, Shaw—21.

Committee of Supply The House accordingly went into Committee of Supply, Mr. Ellison in the Chair, and the estimates were taken into consideration.