

**J A N**

**1893**

## THE OPENING CEREMONIES.

A Much Larger Attendance Than Ever  
Before on the Floor of the  
Legislature.

Great Interest Taken in the Event  
—Hon. Mr. Dewdney's First Gubernatorial Speech in B. C.

The opening ceremonies of the Provincial Legislature yesterday, created more interest and were attended by a larger audience than ever before in the history of the Province. There were two reasons for this, first that it was the first occasion of the kind in British Columbia at which the present Lieut.-Governor, Hon. Mr. Dewdney, officiated, and second, because a good many were looking forward with expectancy to what the speech from the Throne would contain.

The hour fixed for the formal opening was 3 o'clock, but by 2 o'clock the guests had begun to arrive, and long before the hour had gone there was no standing room, and many were turned away. Seats were reserved on the floor of the House, for a large number of invited ladies and gentlemen, the members' desks having been placed close together to make more room. The galleries were also crowded and likewise the committee rooms at the sides and the lobby behind the Speaker's chair.

At 3 o'clock sharp, Mr. Speaker Higgins took the chair, the Sergeant-at-Arms placing the mace on the table. Then he took it away again, and Mr. Dewdney left the chair, while Hon. Mr. Dewdney, the Lieut.-Governor, in official uniform, read his speech to the Legislature.

The speech concluded, Hon. Mr. Higgins resumed the occupancy of his chair and the audience waited patiently while formal resolutions were moved, seconded and carried. There was a short speech from Hon. Mr. Beaven and a still shorter but more pointed one from Hon. Mr. Davie, and then the House adjourned to meet again on Monday at 2 o'clock.

This was all those inside the building saw, but outside there was a pleasing sight which attracted a large number—the Guard of Honor under the command of Capt. P. E. Irving and Lieut. Sargison, with C Battery Band leading the way with military music. The "soldier boys" were drawn up behind the Treasury building and saluted when the Lieut.-Governor drove past each way. There was then another march, back to the barracks at the Market Hall, and the "guard" dispersed.

The day, so far as weather was concerned, was not by any means as desirable as might have been. It was cold, very cold, so said the ladies who had to sit in the draught at the Legislature or walk across James Bay bridge, where they could feel the full force of the winter wind. But the sun was shining brightly and the frost made people move all the more quickly.

There is no change in the seating of the Legislature since last session except that Dr. Watt, the new member for Cariboo, has taken Hon. Col. Baker's old seat, the latter moving over to where Hon. Jno. Robson formerly sat. There were five absentees yesterday, Messrs. Nason, Stoddart, Sword, Martin and Keith.

## PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.

Third Session of the Sixth Parliament.

### FIRST DAY.

Thursday, Jan. 26, 1893.

The Speaker took the Chair at 3 o'clock.

#### SPEECH FROM THE THRONE.

His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor was pleased to attend and addressed the House as follows:—

"Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly:

"It affords me much pleasure to meet you, in this, the first year of my term of office as Lieutenant-Governor.

"The revenue continues to show healthy expansion, and the credit of the Province abroad occupies a high standard.

"The industry of mining for precious metals has been greatly stimulated by new discoveries, and there is every prospect that the great mineral wealth of the Province will be rapidly developed.

"The agricultural interests of the Province are in a thriving state, and the increasing attention given to the cultivation of fruits will add to the importance of that industry.

"Exploratory and other surveys have been carried on in different parts of the Province during the past year, and it is satisfactory to know that the information obtained fully justifies the liberal appropriations which you wisely provided at your last Session.

"Care has been taken that the productions of the Province shall be adequately represented at the Chicago World's Fair and at the Imperial Institute. You will be asked to provide the funds which must necessarily be expended for this purpose.

"The attention of the Government of Canada has been called by my Ministers to its responsibilities in quarantine matters, and it is, so far, satisfactory to be able to announce that the Federal Government has undertaken to immediately equip and maintain a suitable Quarantine Station at Williams Head.

"The changes in the Public School system as applied to cities, which you adopted last Session, are working satisfactorily, and amendments will be submitted to you with the object of placing the control of the City Schools more completely in the hands of local governing bodies.

"The boundaries of the Twenty-Mile Belt on each side of the Canadian Pacific Railway remain undefined, notwithstanding the endeavors by my Ministers to arrive at an adjustment of the question with the Dominion Government. In the meantime the Government of Canada, claiming a boundary largely, as the Province maintains, in excess of a just limitation of the

Railway Belt, are assuming the status of a freeholder by issuing grants in Her Majesty's name for lands in the disputed boundary, as well as for lands admittedly within the Belt. You will be asked to provide the necessary moneys for upholding the rights of the Province before the proper tribunals.

"The time has arrived when the altered conditions of the Province demand a change in the method of popular representation in the Legislative Assembly, and a measure of redistribution will, therefore, be submitted to you.

"Acting under the authority of the 'Deep Sea Fisheries Act' of last Session, I have extended the time for the formation of the Commercial Company named in the Act to the 31st day of December, 1893, but, in so doing, I have taken care that the settlement of those portions of the Province affected by the Act shall not be retarded.

"The condition of the laboring classes, and the relations between capital and labor, demand your serious attention, especially with a view to the prevention of strikes, with their disastrous consequences, not only to the parties directly in conflict, but also to the community at large. A Bill will be submitted to you, with a view to meet the objects desired, by the establishment of a Labor Bureau, and also of Boards of Conciliation and of Arbitration for the settlement of disputes between employer and employee.

"You will be asked to consider a more perfect system of registering titles to real estate, and a Bill will be introduced which the methods of dealing with land will be simplified and the titles thereto will be guaranteed by the Government.

"Bills will also be introduced to provide for the better protection of the public health, the establishment and maintenance of a Provincial Home for destitute persons, to regulate pawnbrokers, for the amendment of the 'Insane Asylum Act,' and to make certain provisions with respect to arbitration.

"The estimates of revenue and expenditure for the ensuing year will be laid before you at an early date.

"I now leave you to your deliberations, fully persuaded that an earnest determination to advance the best interests of the Province will characterize your proceedings."

His Honor having concluded his speech, Mr. Speaker took the chair.

Prayers by Rt. Rev. Bishop Cridge.

#### ELECTION OF NEW MEMBERS.

Mr. Speaker announced that since the last session of the Legislature two vacancies had occurred, viz.: in East Kootenay by the resignation of Hon. Colonel Baker, and in Cariboo by the death of Hon. John Robson.

The vacancies were filled by the election of Hon. Colonel Baker for East Kootenay, and Hugh Watt, Esq., M.D., for Cariboo.

#### INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS.

Hon. Mr. Davie and Hon. Mr. Pooley introduced Hon. Colonel Baker.

Hon. Mr. Turner and Mr. Rogers introduced Mr. Watt.

#### ROUTINE BUSINESS.

Hon. Mr. DAVIE moved, seconded by Hon. Mr. Vernon, routine resolutions re printing votes and proceedings of the House and appointment of select standing committees.

Hon. COL. BAKER moved, seconded by Hon. Mr. Turner, routine resolution re election of members and punishment of bribery and corruption.

#### BIRTHS, ETC., REGISTRATION ACT AMENDMENT.

Hon. Mr. DAVIE asked leave to introduce a bill to amend the registration of births, deaths and marriages act. Bill introduced and read a first time. Second reading Monday.

#### CONSIDERATION OF SPEECH FROM THRONE.

Hon. Mr. DAVIE moved, seconded by Hon. Mr. Vernon, that the Speech of His Honor the Lieut.-Governor be taken into consideration on Monday next.

Hon. Mr. BEAVEN said he could not see the utility of having the House called together on a Thursday as had been customary for some time, and was now growing to be regarded as the practice. It was generally understood, he said, that no business was to be transacted until the first of the following week. He thought it was time the House was called together for the dispatch of business and not to trifle away the time of the members. He complained that there was a tendency on the part of the Government to delay the important legislation until nearly the close of the session, when all the members were tired and wanted to get away. Then it was passed without due consideration. He hoped there would now be a general expression of opinion on the subject and that the present would be the last session when this course would be pursued.

Hon. Mr. DAVIE said he was sorry he could not congratulate the hon. leader of the Opposition either on his good taste or his good judgment in bringing up a matter of the kind on such an occasion. The fact was that the usual practice had been adhered to. At all events, the present was not the time to make a complaint which could be made to the House on any ordinary occasion.

The motion was carried.

#### RETURNS PRESENTED.

Hon. COL. BAKER presented a return of rules, orders and regulations issued by the Lieut.-Governor-in-Council, under the authority of the Health Act, with an account of all sums expended in connection therewith.

Hon. Mr. TURNER presented the Public Accounts for the fiscal year ending 30th June, 1892.

Hon. COL. BAKER presented a return of papers in relation to representations made to the Dominion Government respecting quarantine matters.

The House adjourned at 4 o'clock until 2 o'clock on Monday next.

#### NOTICE OF MOTION.

By Mr. HUNTER: That whereas, by the terms of the Union, the management of the Indian reserves of the Province was assumed by the Dominion Government in trust for the use and benefit of the Indians; and whereas, section 119, Equivalents district, on Victoria harbor, lying within the limits of the city of Victoria, is one of such reserves, and is the residence of the Songhees tribe of Indians, now few in number, and the temporary residence of large numbers of Indians from other tribes; and whereas the position of the said tribe of Songhees should be removed to some suitable locality, and the control of the reserve, assumed by the Provincial Government; be it therefore resolved, that a respectful address be presented to His Honor the Lieut.-Governor to take whatever steps may be necessary to press upon the Dominion Government the desirability of carrying out the above object.

"You will be asked to consider a more perfect system of registering titles to real estate, and a Bill will be introduced under which the methods of dealing with land will be simplified and the titles thereto will be guaranteed by the Government.

"Bills will also be introduced to provide for the better protection of the public health, the establishment and maintenance of a Provincial Home for destitute persons, to regulate pawnbrokers, for the amendment of the 'Insane Asylum Act,' and to make certain provisions with respect to arbitration.

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one of such reserves, and is the residence of the Songhees tribe of Indians, now few in number, and the temporary residence of large numbers of Indians from other tribes; and whereas the position of the said reserve renders it unsuitable as a place of residence for the Songhees tribe of Indians or as a temporary residence for Indians from other tribes, and tends greatly to the demoralization of said Indians, and to prevent the progress and prosperity of Victoria city, and makes it expedient that the said tribe of Songhees should be removed to some suitable locality, and the control of the reserve, assumed by the Provincial Government; be it therefore resolved, that a respectful address be presented to His Honor the Lieut.-Governor to take whatever steps may be necessary to press upon the Dominion Government the desirability of carrying out the above object.

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## PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.

Third Session of the Sixth Parliament.

### SECOND DAY.

Monday, Jan. 27, 1893.

The Speaker took the chair at 10 o'clock.

#### MINISTERIAL EXPLANATION.

Hon. Mr. DAVIE said: Being to the ordinary business of the House was last in session for the purpose of business, as all are aware, I have assumed the reins of former Government, of which Robson was the head, ceased the death of that gifted and able man in the midst of a usefulness to the Province, when he was personally engaged in questions of great moment with the Government of Queen Victoria. He had been England, at the instance of Government, to arrange the questions I have alluded to before, as far as I am aware, any Provincial Premier; a lamented death his memory of Her Majesty herself, honor services in St. Margaret's—a successful career in the country. We all knew him as friends and political opponents knowledge that in the death of the country has lost a man of merit and powerful intellect, one who was an example of uprightness.

As I remarked before, with the Hon. John Robson, the which had been led by him as unworthy in every respect to I was, however, entrusted with the Hon. John Robson the error to form a new Government proud to say that I succeeded former colleagues of the late seated, without any exception my colleagues also, and to a same wise counsels and power which had enabled my perhaps his course so successfully Pooley became President of Hon. Mr. Vernon, Chief of Lands and Works; Hon. Mr. Secretary and Minister of myself retaining the portfolio General, the same as I held under Administration. The new Government framing a policy in the highest the country and by closely adhering to the former Government's large majority of the members House.

Hon. Mr. BEAVEN said that he knew that the remarks of Attorney-General left him at a loss but he wished to take advantage of the opportunity afforded to express his views on the loss of the Province had the death of the late Premier thought that while he had differed late Premier in a great many things yet that Hon. Mr. Robson in his views, does possibly (Robson) had thought to be in of the country. Continuing he did not know that the present was the best one who could be selected under the circumstances later time in the session was opportunity to discuss one of of the hon. the Premier after Government was formed. He thought ministerial explanation should have been made on the first day of the session.

Hon. Mr. DAVIE said that he agreed with the hon. leader of the Opposition. It was really not necessary to make any announcement at all and certainly there was no bringing the matter up on day, as had been suggested. I showed a far better taste on his train from opening up a discussion first day, as the hon. leader of the Opposition had done.

Hon. Mr. BEAVEN claimed the right to speak at any time he pleased. The Lieut.-Governor had the Speech and the Speaker had the Attorney-General had to die or to anyone else when and where he pleased.

MR. BROWN said that he was for himself and for some of his who did not come under the Premier or the hon. leader of the Opposition. He wished to pay a tribute to the memory of the late Hon. Jno. Robson. While he and his associates had felt it place themselves in opposition to the legislation of the late Premier, notwithstanding that with him, that he was acting desire for the advancement of the Province and he felt and was deeply regretted. (Applause.)

#### DISCUSSING THE SPEECH.

DR. WATT moved the address of the Speech from the Throne. He rose, sir, to move that a humble address be presented to His Honor the Governor in reply to the speech which was graciously pleased to open on Thursday last. Although it is to ask the youngest or most inexperienced member of the House to move I have always as an outsider proceedings of this and other bodies, considered it an honor for who was selected to perform the duty. It is in this sense that I am most grateful to me by the House to me it is especially pleasing I am assigned this duty on this that I am the first member present of the House to welcome Province the distinguished gentleman now our Lieut.-Governor, who the pioneers of the Province earlier days took no unimportant development and advancement I might add, was a well-desired of the district of the palm days—the district of honor to represent. Before an consideration of the topics of the Speech, permit me, Mr. Speaker, to make a brief allusion, which come fittingly from me, to the



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Hon. Mr. DAVIE said he was sorry he could not congratulate the hon. leader of the Opposition either on his good taste or his good judgment in bringing up a matter of the kind on such an occasion. The fact was that the usual practice had been adhered to. At all events, the present was not the time to make a complaint which could be made to the House on any ordinary occasion.

The motion was carried.

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### PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.

Third Session of the Sixth Parliament.

#### SECOND DAY.

Monday, Jan. 30, 1893.

The Speaker took the chair at 2:30 o'clock.

#### MINISTERIAL EXPLANATION.

Hon. Mr. DAVIE said: Before proceeding to the ordinary business of the day I wish to make a few remarks. Since this House was last in session for the transaction of business, as all are aware, a new Government has assumed the reins of power. The former Government, of which the Hon. John Robson was the head, ceased to exist with the death of that gifted and worthy leader. He died in the midst of a career of great usefulness to the Province, and at a time when he was personally engaged in arranging questions of great moment to the Province with the Government of Her Majesty Queen Victoria. He had been summoned to England, at the instance of Her Majesty's Government, to arrange the details of the questions I have mentioned—an honor never any Provincial Premier; and upon his lamented death his memory was, by order of Her Majesty herself, honored by suitable services in St. Margaret's—a fitting close to a successful career in the service of his country. We all know him here, and both friends and political opponents alike, acknowledge that in the death of John Robson the country has lost a man of singular merit and powerful talent, and, withal, one who was unexcelled for character of uprightness and honor. As I remarked before, with the death of the Hon. John Robson, the Government which had been led by him ceased to exist. Unworthy in every respect to succeed him, I was, however, entrusted with the confidence of His Honor the then Lieut. Governor to form a new Government, and I am proud to say that I succeeded well; for the former colleagues of the late Premier consented, without any exception, to become my colleagues also, and to accord me the same wise counsels and powerful support which had enabled my predecessor to shape his course so successfully. Hon. Mr. Pooley became President of the Council; Hon. Mr. Vernon, Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works; Hon. Mr. Turner, Minister of Finance, and Col. Baker, Provincial Secretary and Minister of Education; I myself retaining the portfolio of Attorney-General, the same as I held under the late Administration. The new Government, by formulating a policy in the highest interests of the country and by closely adhering to that policy, hope to receive the generous support, as the former Government did, of a large majority of the members of this House.

Hon. Mr. BEAVEN said that he did not know that the remarks of the hon. the Attorney-General left him anything to say, but he wished to take advantage of the opportunity afforded to express his feeling of the loss the Province had sustained in the death of the late Premier, and he thought that while he had differed with the late Premier in a great many things he could yet say that Hon. Mr. Robson had, according to his views, done possibly what he (Mr. Robson) had thought to be in the interests of the country. Continuing he said that he did not know that the present Premier was the best one who could have been selected under the circumstances, and at a later time in the session would take an opportunity to discuss one of the first acts of the hon. the Premier after the new Government was formed. He thought that the ministerial explanation should have been made on the first day of the session.

Hon. Mr. DAVIE said that he could not agree with the hon. leader of the Opposition. It was really not constitutionally necessary to make any announcement of the kind at all and certainly there was no reason for bringing the matter up on the first day, as had been suggested. He thought it showed far better taste on his part to refrain from opening up a discussion on the first day, as the hon. leader of the Opposition had done.

Hon. Mr. BEAVEN claimed that he had a right to speak at any time he wished after the Lieut. Governor had delivered his Speech and the Speaker had taken the chair. He said he did not know what right the hon. Attorney-General had to dictate to him or to anyone else when and where he should speak.

Mr. BROWN said that he wished to speak for himself and for some of his colleagues who did not come under the leadership of the Premier or the hon. leader of the Opposition.

He wished to pay a tribute of respect to the memory of the late Premier, Hon. John Robson. While he (Mr. Brown) and his associates had felt it their duty to place themselves in opposition to much of the legislation of the late Premier, they had felt, notwithstanding that they differed with him, that he was acting with a single desire for the advancement of the Province. His loss would be felt and was widely and deeply regretted. (Applause.)

#### DISCUSSING THE SPEECH.

DR. WATT moved the address in reply to the Speech from the Throne. He said: I rise, sir, to move that a humble address be presented to His Honor the Lieut. Governor in reply to the speech in which he was graciously pleased to open this House on Thursday last. Although it is customary to ask the youngest or most recently elected member of the House to deliver this address, I have always as an outsider watching the proceedings of this and other parliamentary bodies, considered it an honor for the member who was selected to perform the task, and it is in this sense that I regard the request preferred to me by the hon. Premier. To me it is especially pleasing that I have been assigned this duty on this occasion and that I am the first member permitted on the floor of the House to welcome back to the Province the distinguished gentleman who is now our Lieut. Governor, who was one of the pioneers of the Province and in its earlier days took no unimportant part in its development and advancement, and who, I might add, was a well-known resident of the district of Cariboo in its palmy days—the district I have the honor to represent. Before entering upon a consideration of the topics touched upon in the Speech, permit me, Mr. Speaker, to sketch a brief allusion, which I think will come fittingly from me, to the removal by

the decree of Providence from this House, and from this earthly scene, of the hon. and estimable gentleman who, at the closing of this House last spring, occupied the exalted position of Premier and leader of the Government. The career of the Hon. John Robson was one full of lessons of encouragement to every youth honestly aspiring to serve his country according to the measure of his ability or the opportunities given to him or made by his own energy, industry or perseverance. Mr. Robson came to this Coast among those who were seeking to better their fortunes in the search for gold, but his energies were diverted into other channels, and his talents found scope in more congenial pursuits, and step by step he advanced year by year, until he reached the first floor of this House, then the Government and finally the leadership of the Government, but this position he was permitted to hold for only a few years, during which, however, if possible, he increased the esteem with which he was regarded by the great majority of his fellow-citizens. He had attained to almost the three fourths of the limit of human life in these days, but nevertheless, in his zeal to promote the interests of his beloved Province, he undertook a long and toilsome journey to the Capital of the Empire, where, his mission hardly finished, he met his fate. But in what more fitting place or way could the true British patriot, as Mr. Robson was in the very best or highest sense, choose to meet his end, if the choice were given to him at all? Coming from one of the Empire's most distant outposts, its virtual ruler, charged with important service in its behalf, he lands in the great city which is not only the capital of the world's greatest Empire, but the commercial metropolis and financial mistress of all the trading nations of the earth, and there he dies as the Christian patriot dies, and in his death receives a touching tribute from his Queen, honor that we would gladly have seen paid to him, as it deservedly might have been paid to him, in life." The hon. member for Cariboo continued a discussion of the clause of the Speech referring to the expansion of the revenue, showing that the revenue for the year ending 30th of June last was \$1,038,237, which was an increase over the previous year of \$73,294, but the most striking comparison was with the revenue of twenty years ago, which was, in 1872, \$327,215. In 1882 the revenue was \$405,583. Although it was true that the expenditure had kept pace with the revenue this was unavoidable, as the country like British Columbia, where so much and such expensive development work had to be done. To show that this expenditure was of a useful and necessary nature, he quoted the increase in the expenditure for education, which ten years ago was \$49,285, and last year \$181,827. On hospitals, etc., ten years ago, \$15,823, and in 1892, \$33,272; on roads and other improvements of this class, in 1882, there was spent \$76,915, and last year, \$308,633. One of the most valuable natural resources of the Province, he said, was its mineral wealth, and it was his wish to call the attention of the world to it and brought to its shores gold seekers from the remotest corners of the earth, men who, facing cheerfully and hopefully the severest hardships, penetrated to the far and unknown interior of the country and discovered the rich creeks which gave to Cariboo its world-wide fame. They were a hardy set of men, those pioneers of the Province, strong and enduring physically, and many of them men of the finest intellects and of the highest educational attainments. To the credit of these men, he said, the mining camps of Cariboo were singularly free from the lawlessness which characterized so many Western mining towns south of the border. It was to be regretted that the industry which these men started had not in these latter years been as prosperous as in the earlier days, but they would be glad to believe that a change for the better was close at hand. After referring to the activity in mining in the Kootenay district, he went on to say that he had great faith in the future of Cariboo. Some of her old placer mines which had been worked for a third of a century had not yet been exhausted, and he believed that in her wide extent there would yet be found creeks which would yield to the energetic prospector a rich harvest of gold. He believed not only in the wealth of her undiscovered placer mines, but had also great faith in the genuine richness of her numerous quartz lodes. Hitherto various causes had prevented the successful development of her quartz wealth, but he could confidently predict that in the near future, by the aid of the railways projected into the district and the new process of extracting the gold from the ore, a period of unexampled prosperity would set in. It was a frequent saying among the old settlers of Cariboo that there was as much gold in the district as had ever been taken out of it, and he believed there was more. But gold mining was not the only source of wealth. He had frequently been asked if they could grow anything up in Cariboo—if the district produced anything besides a little gold, and his answer had been that they would find up there the finest agricultural land that the heart of the husbandman could desire. He claimed that they grew as good if not better wheat and other grains, and certainly better vegetables than he could grow down on the Coast. It was wheat from the famous Springfield farm, in Cariboo, that took the prize against the world at the exhibition in 1876. Another thing was that the cattle ranges produced the finest sort of beef. On the rich Chilcotin ranges, and on the ranches east of the Fraser, the settlers were pasturing thousands of cattle, and if there were but a direct outlet from there to the Coast, the city markets could be fully supplied with all the beef that they required. It was no exaggeration to say that so rich and varied were the agricultural resources of Cariboo that she was able to supply all the food needs of the four cities on the Coast.

The reason why Cariboo was unable to compete with the more favored parts of the country was the want of facilities for getting their products to market. It was his impression that the time would come when the wealth produced from the rich soil of Cariboo would rival, if not surpass, that extracted from

her gravel beds and her rocks. He believed, too, that the agricultural resources of the other portions of the Province were far greater than even residents of the Province themselves believed, and he hoped the Government would encourage, by every legitimate means in its power, the development of these resources, so that it would be no longer necessary to import so much of the food supplies required. Many parts of the Province were adapted to fruit raising, and this industry would, no doubt, in due course greatly expand. He did not wish at the present time to discuss quarantine matters, but he would say, and say with emphasis, that if the Dominion quarantine laws had been effective and stringent enough and had been strictly enforced there would have been no epidemic of smallpox such as there was last summer. There was no question that the disease was imported on the China steamer, and that the contagion spread from the Chinese to the whites. He hoped that the measures the Dominion Government were taking, at the instigation of the hon. the Premier, would result in the equipment of a proper station at William Head. His own opinion, however, was that for the summer at least, all immigration from Asiatic countries should be absolutely prohibited. He dealt briefly with educational matters, with the dispute between the Province and the Dominion about the boundaries of the railway belt, in the latter connection believing that the Government would be supported in upholding the rights of the Province. About the redistribution measure he was not in a position to speak, but he believed that it would be found that the Government would do ample justice to every section of the Province. He was glad to see the Government express their intention of introducing a measure to prevent and settle the disputes between labor and capital, and hoped that both sides of the House would unite in endeavoring to make the measure as perfect as possible. The experience of last summer's epidemic had proved the necessity of a Provincial organization to deal with matters relating to the public health, and he was glad to see that a measure would be submitted to the House with this end in view. The clause of the Speech which referred to the providing of a Provincial Home for the aged and infirm was one in which he felt an especial interest, for his experience while connected with the Royal Cariboo Hospital had taught him the necessity of such a home. The men who had come to this country thirty years ago, young, strong and vigorous, were now old, and he regretted to say, too many of them were broken in health and in purse. In the remotest mining sections they mostly lived alone and had no family or friends to care for them in sickness or destitution. These men had in a very large degree made the Province what it was to-day, and it was therefore the duty of the Province now to care for them. They should be proud to care for these pioneers, and he thought the establishment of this Home had been too long delayed. In conclusion, he said he could not but congratulate the Government on the large number of very important measures that were to be presented for the consideration of the House, and he hoped that these, when brought down, would meet with general commendation, if not universal approval. (Applause.)

MR. CHART rose to second the address in reply to the Speech, and before going into the details of what had been said as to the loss sustained by the Province in the death of the late Premier, who, when in England upon important business of State, had died, as it were, upon the field of battle. Continuing, he said that in making up the Public Accounts he did not think the hon. the Minister of Finance had given the Province full credit for the amount of her assets. He thought that the subsidy of the Province from the Dominion Government should be looked upon as so much interest on a capital account. He was pleased to see that the credit of the Province abroad was improving. British Columbia securities were now quoted at 93 on the London market, which was a higher price than had been paid for Dominion of Canada stock. He paid a tribute in this connection to the ability of the hon. Finance Minister, to whose skill and energy, he said, was due a portion of the credit of the Province. He quoted statistics to show that a great deal of farm and dairy produce was being imported from the United States, and expressed the opinion that there was no reason why all this should not be grown right at home. For instance, there was fruit to the amount of \$178,000 imported last year. It was ridiculous to think of the more especially as in quality the British Columbia fruit was ahead of that of California. He considered it a most important matter that the system of surveys of the Province should be continued year after year until such time as the whole of the Province had been covered, because it was necessary to have an accurate knowledge of the country in order to induce settlers to go in and develop it. Taking up the quarantine question, he expressed pleasure at the success of the efforts of the hon. the Premier in showing the Dominion Government the necessity of a proper quarantine station for the Province, and was glad to know that in a short time William Head station would be properly equipped. He did not know yet in what shape the Redistribution bill which was promised would be brought down, but he wished at once to state that if it meant representation on a basis of population he would be opposed to it, as such a redistribution would be manifestly unfair to the rural districts. He thought the Government had a nut to crack when it tackled the labor question, which was, he said, one which had puzzled the whole of Europe, and if the present Government could do anything to solve it, they would be doing a great work. He favored the adoption of the Torrens system of land registration, and the establishment of an old men's home.

Hon. Mr. BEAVEN congratulated the mover and seconder of the address on their interesting speeches, made upon what was of itself a poor text. The Speech from the Throne was after all, only a formal matter, but judging from what had been said about the present one, he thought some people were easily satisfied. He noticed that the Provincial Government wanted the Dominion Government to abandon the quarantine

station at Albert Head for one at William Head, and thought that while the Premier's efforts were being made in this direction, he (Mr. Davie) should have tried to get them to choose a site altogether off Vancouver Island. But if it were unjust for the Province to be mulcted for the care of smallpox patients when the disease was introduced by reason of defective quarantine laws, how much more unjust was it that the city of Victoria and the other cities of the Province should be mulcted? He congratulated the Government on having taken the subject into its consideration. He did not think the revenue of the Province showed a healthy expansion as had been stated in the Speech from the Throne. The increased receipts, he claimed, could not be classed as revenue. For instance, there was a great deal of money received from land sales. Another thing was the "education refunds," which were the result of a sort of stand and deliver, highway robbery legislation which had been forced upon the people. Dealing with a number of matters referred to in the Speech, he claimed that, while there was room for congratulation, the credit for whatever advancement had been made should be given to the Opposition, and not to the Government, because they as a minority had been able to wring from a reluctant Government the reforms which had produced these results. As to the railway belt, he did not propose to express any opinion until such time as he saw the whole of the papers. It would be premature, he said, to discuss the Redistribution bill until the details of the bill were known. It was a fortunate thing he thought that the Crofters scheme had fallen through. That had been simply a proposition to enrich a few speculators, and he hoped the last have been heard of it. He looked forward with some interest to the promised bill with reference to labor difficulties, which he would freely support if it was one of the right kind. He would also support the adoption of the Torrens system of registration and assist in other amendments proposed by the Government. There were some other amendments, too, which he thought should be made. The Mining Act needed amendment, as also did the Municipal Act. The latter should be amended to put greater powers in the hands of the municipalities, instead of curtailing them.

Hon. Mr. TURNER commiserated the hon. leader of the Opposition in the task he had undertaken to show that an increased revenue was a decreased one. Before taking up the matter, he drew attention to the fact that the actual revenue of the Province for 1892, it being understood that the Dominion subsidy was deducted, was \$732,000, which was nearly double the actual receipts of 1887, which were \$325,000. The amount received from free miners' certificates had increased by \$40,000, and this, he thought, showed as clearly as anything could, the progress of the country. Where decreases were shown in the personal property tax and the Provincial revenue tax the reason was very plain. The taxes, as a matter of fact, had increased, but a portion, over and above what the Province received, had gone into the treasuries of the various municipalities. It was a striking thing, too, that the registry fees had considerably increased, which showed prosperity. As to the item referred to by the hon. leader of the Opposition, "education refunds," he pointed out that in return for this the Government had given up to the cities a portion of the Provincial revenue tax. The deep sea fisheries scheme, he said, had not yet failed, and if should be delayed it would be an unfortunate thing for the fishermen and for the Province, notwithstanding anything the hon. leader of the Opposition might say. Referring to the suggestion of the hon. gentleman who seconded the address, he (Mr. Turner) said that he had several times considered this, but had come to the conclusion that it was simpler to leave the system as it was. The statement, as the accounts were published now, simply showed so much money received and so much expended. Those who would go into the question would see easily for themselves that the statement of assets showed simply the cash and not the real assets.

The resolution was then read a first, second and third time and agreed to unanimously.

#### BIRTHS, DEATHS AND MARRIAGES.

Hon. Mr. DAVIE moved the second reading of a bill to amend the Births, Deaths and Marriages Act. The bill, he explained, was to procure an addition to the present act, to enable births to be registered even if the law were not complied with and registration had within three months. The bill was read a second time and committed, Mr. Grant in the chair. The committee reported bill complete.

#### RETURN BROUGHT DOWN.

Hon. COL. BAKER presented the annual report of public schools of the Province. The House adjourned to meet at 2 p.m. Wednesday.

#### NOTICES OF MOTION.

By Hon. COL. BAKER: To introduce a bill re labor disputes.

By Hon. COL. BAKER: To introduce a bill to confirm certain mineral claims.

Hon. Mr. DAVIE, to introduce the following bills:

"An Act respecting Arbitration."

"An Act to amend the Magistrates' Act."

"An Act to provide for the establishment and maintenance of a Provincial home for destitute persons."

"An Act respecting Pawnbrokers."

"An Act to amend the Insane Asylums Act."

"An Act for the better preservation of the public health."

#### NOTES.

Mr. Speaker HIGGINS did not take the chair yesterday until half-past 2 o'clock—a very unusual thing for him. Generally when the hands of the big clock under the gallery point to 2 o'clock, the House is promptly called to order, but yesterday Mr. Speaker explained that, owing to the storm, which had rendered locomotion somewhat difficult, he had been indulgent. He warned the members, however, that after this the House would open sharp at 2 p.m.

A note of warning about private bills was sounded yesterday by Mr. Grant, after an announcement from Hon. Mr. Davie that all the Government measures, with the exception of the Redistribution bill, were ready to be brought down and would be