

**JUL**

---

**1900**

*Times*  
*July 20*

## A Brilliant Function

The Ninth Parliament of B. C.  
Opened--A Striking Social  
Event.

Mr. Martin Takes an Early  
Opportunity to Register  
Opposition.

The formal opening of the ninth parliament of British Columbia yesterday was perhaps the most brilliant function of its kind that has taken place in the province for many years. The weather was very propitious, a delightful, warm summer day tempting to the buildings many ladies who, under less favorable conditions, would not have graced the gathering with their presence. The greatest care, too, had been taken to provide for the accommodation of all, and though the removal of the desks for this purpose elicited a protest later in the afternoon from the leader of the opposition, it certainly gave an opportunity to hear and see to some, who, had such a step not been taken, would have been excluded altogether from the chamber.

Premier curiosity centered of course in the new Lieut.-Governor, who won many friends by his courtliness and dignified bearing, but the cabinet also was keenly scrutinized, while to the left of the Speaker a little knot of members, forming, as it were, a sort of Old Guard about the leader of the opposition, kept the galleries busy in speculation. The members referred to were W. W. B. McInnes, J. C. Brown and Smith Curtis, looking, what they undoubtedly are, a quartette, with the Premier, which can take care of itself in the stiffest fight that may develop.

Across the floor from these sat the cabinet, the newer members slightly self-conscious and nervous, the older ministers, more at home but still conscious that they formed a group for frequent scrutiny. Mr. Helmcken was the centre of a jolly group of ladies and politicians to the immediate left of the Speaker, while others were scattered about the chamber with quite as little regard for their party affiliations.

Sir Henri was perfectly at ease. Bowing gracefully to right and left, he advanced slowly up the aisle, accompanied by his boyish secretary, Mr. Robt. Powell and his A.D.C., Lieut. Pooley. Behind him was a brilliant staff composed of Col. Grant, N.E., Major Wynne, R.A., Major Williams, Fifth Regiment, C.A., Lieut.-Col. McKay, Col. Benson, D.O.C., Capt. McDonald, Capt. Bowdler, Lieut. Elliot, Faench, Wahl and Bryne, Capt. Pike, Capt. Wilson, of the General Baguedano, Capt. Foulkes, Capt. Drake, Capt. Grahame, Major Monro, Surg.-Major Hart, Lieut. Pounds and others including the officers of the Chilean man-of-war.

Then Mr. Prentice rose and gravely announced that His Honor would not disclose the purposes for which the Legislature had been summoned, until a Speaker had been elected, and Sir Henri and staff withdrew.

The selection of this official gave the leader of the opposition the first opportunity of the day for a little preliminary exercise of his sword arm. Denis Murphy had moved the nomination of Mr. Booth in a very neat speech, in which he referred to the fact that Mr. Booth's election would be a loss to the House itself, robbing it as it did of his ripe experience and sage counsel. The integrity and impartiality of the nominee were also fittingly referred to, while G. H. Dickie, the stout and capable representative of Cowichan, seconded the remarks of his colleague, characterizing Mr. Booth as an upright gentleman in every way qualified for the position for which he had been named.

By this time Mr. Martin was ready. He objected to a system by which the same member was chosen year after year for the same office. This, he said, was an objectionable practice and he favored that in vogue in other provinces, where such a course was never pursued. However, he concluded by saying that as this had been the practice in British Columbia he had no objection whatever to enter to the return of Mr. Booth.

The Speaker was then conducted to his seat by his sponsors, the motion having been carried, when he asked for consideration at the hands of the members, promised to deal even-handed justice and sat down.

Prayers followed by Bishop Perrin and the Governor then re-entered and delivered the speech from the throne.

A number of motions were made by the ministers relating to routine business, and a bill by Mr. Eberts to amend the Small Debts Act was introduced and read a first time, coming up for a second reading on Monday.

Hon. Mr. Prentice submitted the correspondence relating to the disallowance of the acts of 1899 and the reports of the registrar of births, marriages and deaths. The annual reports from the asylum for the insane and from the Minister of Mines were also submitted.

Then Premier Dunsmuir, visibly nervous, moved that the Governor's speech be considered on Monday. Hon. Mr. Martin was on his feet instantly.

He opened his remarks by saying that he felt rather embarrassed in speaking to the motion by the arrangement of the seats, and the consequent crowding. He had protested to the Provincial Secretary, but received nothing but a snub. There might be a long debate as there had been on the first day of the previous session, yet no provision was made to permit the opposition to do justice to themselves. Regarding the snub he had received from the Provincial Secretary, as that gentleman was seldom responsible for what he said or did, he thought he had perhaps better take no notice of it.

He further protested against adjourning till Monday. It was unfair to Mainland members to bring them down for the opening, and yet delay the public business in this way. Although the

government was a Victoria one they might have considered the other members. He instanced the fact that no such delay had occurred at the first session under the Semlin administration. The present speech contained nothing requiring much consideration.

Hon. J. H. Turner rallied the leader of the opposition, and said only one day would be lost under the present arrangement, and this was considered necessary to allow the opposition to see the speech and the new members who were to move the address time to study it.

Hon. Mr. Eberts also chided Mr. Martin and read from the journals of the House to show that during part of the session which Mr. Martin had quoted approvingly there was no business before the members, adjournment taking place each day shortly after convening.

Hon. Mr. Prentice now took a hand in the trouble. He wanted to know what the leader of the opposition meant by saying he was seldom responsible.

Mr. Martin—I think most of those present understand what I mean. (Laughter.)

Mr. Prentice, in reply, said Mr. Martin had chosen a dastardly, cowardly means of attack, and when called to order by the Speaker said that he did not understand his innuendoes, but he challenged him to say what he meant openly. He took all the blame, if blame there was, for removing the desks, and having done so to accommodate the guests he would apologize, if any discomfort had arisen, to the Speaker and the House, but not to the honorable gentleman opposite.

And this momentous question was allowed to drop.

J. C. Brown next had a tilt at the government. He deprecated the fiery spirit they had displayed, and quoted the procedure in the Imperial House as justifying the demand of the opposition for immediate procedure to business.

Mr. McPhillips apostrophized the Provincial Secretary as the personification of courtesy and finally declared in tones of conviction: "We are wasting time here."

Great applause followed this sensible statement and Mr. Martin remarked that he was sure this was the first time the honorable member had been guilty of such a thing.

147

Mr. McPhillips retallated that Mr. Martin could get the applause of the multitude but not the votes of the Legislature and the House, and on the motion of the Premier the House adjourned.



# Passed the Address

The House Gives Early Evidence of Disposing of Business With Dispatch.

Interesting Speeches by Premier, Messrs. Martin, Tatlow and Hayward.

Monday, July 23, 1900

The House resumed its sessions at 2.15, Rev. J. H. Sweet reading prayers.

Capt. Tatlow presented a petition from the diocese of New Westminster, asking for an act to amend their act of incorporation. A similar petition was presented in regard to the Crow's Nest Pass Electric Light & Power Co.

Mayor Garden presented a petition for the amendment of the Vancouver City charter, for the incorporation of the Rock Bay & Salmon River Railroad and the Vancouver Northern & Yukon Railroad.

H. D. Halnacken—To incorporate the Kamloops & Atlin Railway Co., to build and incorporate the Vancouver & Western railway, and to extend the time to complete the Vancouver & Lulu Island railway.

R. Hall—To incorporate the Chilcat Pass Railway & Navigation Co.

Before the orders of the day were called J. C. Brown called attention to the serious nature of the crisis on the Fraser, and asked what steps the government had taken to effect a settlement. He did not propose to waste time in discussing the matter beyond saying that it would injuriously affect the great interests involved. He hoped the government would get the parties together and attempt a settlement.

Hon. J. H. Turner said the government had the matter in hand, and was ready to take any steps possible to secure the settlement of the matter.

The leader of the opposition—Time is running on. The session will soon be over.

Mr. Turner—No one knows that better than I do, or will be more seriously affected by it in a business sense.

Proceeding to the consideration of the speech, Capt. Tatlow rose to move the adoption of the address amid applause. In opening he said that his support of the government had been conditional upon the fact that no contentious legislation should be introduced. That promise had been kept.

Coming to the first clause the speaker said that he did not favor the introduction of Governors from other provinces unless this interchange was to be a general rule. If an exception was to be made from this rule he knew of no one whom he would rather see in that position than Sir Henri Joly. (Loud applause.)

Touching on the war, he said that no province was better represented in the colonial contingent than British Columbia, and it would have been even better represented had it not been for unfortunate neglect at Ottawa. When the day of vengeance in China came Canada would be found as ever, in the van. Signs were not wanting that the coast cities were to play an important part in the present campaign.

The part that the coal deposits of the Crow's Nest Pass and Vancouver Island were to play in this, was also touched upon.

The necessity of the establishment of a mint was also urged by the mover of the address. To-day miners from the North were selling Canadian gold in Seattle for United States currency.

Touching upon the agricultural development of the province, Capt. Tatlow advocated the acquisition of the Indian reserves of the province, proper compensation being given the Indians.

The revenue derived by the Dominion from British Columbia was \$3,184,000. The expenditure by the same government was only \$1,380,000, leaving a profit to the Dominion of \$1,804,000. The revenue from fishery licenses, too, had been \$45,600, while the sum expended in the improvement of the fisheries was only \$3,734. This he characterized as unjust.

The growing Japanese law he also stamped as a failure, and neither a restrictive or financial success. Of the tax derived from these people the Dominion

received \$100,000, while the province only received \$52,000.

Double the number who were permitted to emigrate to the United States from Japan was allowed to British Columbia. It was the duty of the province to compel these people to conform to the sanitary laws of the province, and to pass a measure similar to the Natal Act.

He hoped that at the next session the government would be able to outline a scheme for the opening up of the country by roads and railways. In this scheme provision should be made for affording the coast cities readier access to the Kootenays. Better facilities for northern trade were also required.

The speaker also quoted approvingly the clause relating to the development of the pulp industry and the appointment of a commission to enquire into the working of the mining law.

The imposition of a tonnage tax on coal, even if 5 cents, would produce \$100,000 of revenue, sufficient to pay the interest on \$2,000,000. He concluded his address amid loud applause.

W. H. Hayward, in seconding the motion, said that the people of the province wanted their affairs administered in a business like manner. That the government proposed to do so was evident from the speech now under consideration.

No province with the same population had borne its share more loyally in the present South African war than British Columbia.

He hoped to see a monument erected to the memory of these men who, by the shedding of their blood, had assisted in cementing the Empire. While deploring the Chinese war, he hoped no overt act should be committed toward the Chinese in the coast cities. (Applause.)

He pointed out that British Columbia was importing produce to the amount of \$2,000,000 yearly. To assist in overcoming this neglect of agriculture he advocated the teaching of agriculture in the public schools. The excellent work of the Farmers' Institutes was also touched upon, as well as the good being accomplished by the dissemination of bulletins.

The senior member for Esquimalt also urged the establishment of small experimental stations and the formation of a standing committee on agriculture similar to that which existed regarding mining. Better digested legislation relating to farmers would thus be insured.

Defence not defiance was the proper motto to follow in dealing with the Japanese. He wanted, however, to see greater safeguards in regard to the naturalization of these people.

Good trunk roads, too, he advocated, even more important than railways.

The allusion in the speech to wood pulp gave Mr. Hayward an opportunity to refer to the great spruce forests in his own district.

He warmly commended the government's action in regard to a tonnage tax on coal, and he hoped also to see the office of agent general a well appointed one. (Applause.)

J. Martin, in complimenting the mover and seconder of the address, said that as a citizen of Vancouver he felt proud of the manner in which Capt. Tatlow had discharged his duties, while Mr. Hayward had also put his views before the House with great clearness and conciseness.

He found subject for comment, however, in the attitude these gentlemen had assumed, as strong supporters of the government. Neither of them ran as supporters of the present Premier. Capt. Tatlow had run as a Conservative, and had declared that they constituted a large portion of the population of the province, yet Mayor Garden and himself were almost the only representatives of that party in the House.

He ridiculed the statement of the mover of the address that he would support the government only so long as they did not introduce contentious legislation. This simply meant that the government was to do nothing. He (the speaker) understood that there were others in the House according the government support on similar condition. Now he thought the House was entitled to know what the bargain was, for apparently a bargain had been struck, one provision of which was that no contentious legislation was to be introduced during the session. But what was to occur afterwards?

Minister of Finance—Nothing. Mr. Martin—The Finance Minister says "nothing," yet I understand that the cabinet is to be reconstructed and one of those who are to suffer is the minister who now says "nothing."

One result of this bargain, he continued, was the paucity of information in the speech from the throne. Debarred from

contentious legislation it was natural that the speech should contain little information from the government.

With the second paragraph referring to the South African war he was in hearty sympathy. Coming to the third, he was pleased that the government acknowledged the country to be in a prosperous condition. He expected a different statement. On the hustings, the deplorable condition of the country had been vividly portrayed and had all been attributed to the fact that the ex-Governor called on himself. The real facts showed the falsity of the suggestion made so loudly and frequently during the campaign. The conditions now were almost identical with those obtaining during the life of his ministry, and while not entirely satisfactory were traceable to other factors than the composition of the government of the day.

Passing to the next clause, the Premier said that evidently the government intended doing nothing so far as the local Legislature was concerned to deal with the Japs. They intended to make representations to the Dominion and Imperial governments. They failed to exhaust provincial rights to the utmost in dealing with the matter. Referring to the disallowance of the anti-Jap acts of 1898 and 1899, the speaker said that the Dominion government had given as their reasons for so doing that the acts were ultra vires, and that they were pressed by the Imperial government to disallow them. Yet when members from this province sought to press their views on Ottawa, they were opposed by Liberals and Conservatives alike. Did the House believe its representations would have more weight than those of the representatives of the province? Moreover, was the cabinet unanimous on this point, or was it going to be powerless owing to the non-contentious legislation clause? What was the use of going to the Imperial government and asking them to withdraw their prohibition, when the Legislature itself would not renege the obnoxious statutes, which had been most improperly disallowed.

It had been urged that it was unpatriotic to pursue such a course, owing to the grave complications in the East. Yet the Imperial government had urged the Dominion authorities to pass an act similar to the Natal Act, but they refused. This disclosed the real reason of their failure to exclude the Japs—not for Imperial reasons but to satisfy those who wanted the country flooded with cheap labor, and who had more influence than the members of the House of Commons. At the head of that element stood the C. P. R.

He had every sympathy with a vigorous road-building policy, but he would not support it on the lines which prevailed during the former Turner regime when the money for roads was expended, not for the good of the country, but to keep the Turner party in power. Any few votes they made in rewarding favorites was more than counterbalanced by the repugnance their conduct provoked in the country.

He was afraid that in the clause relating to a mining commission the government had almost violated its bargain. He referred to the denunciation of the eight-hour law on the hustings, yet the government made no proposal regarding its repeal. Even the president of the Bank of Montreal had referred to the impaired credit of the country, owing to the operation of the eight-hour law, yet they dared not make a move for its repeal. He protested against the commission dealing with it. Such work lay with the Legislature. He intimated that he would insist upon a resolution to that effect being voted on by the House. The proper place to investigate the working of the mining law was in the Legislature. The members were the most competent to deal with such a matter. The commission proposal was a confession of incompetency.

The Attorney-General contended that the legislation of 1898-1899 was bad because it required amendment. Yet on the order paper of the day stood several bills in the Attorney-General's name amending some of his own statutes. He deprecated constant tinkering with the laws. If members had not heard of the bad working of a law he took it to indicate that it was working well. Constant changes also had a tendency to alienate capital.

When he reached the proposed tonnage tax on coal, however, Mr. Martin unreservedly complimented the Premier. This clause could reasonably be attributed to him. The rest of the speech had the old

Turner ring. Imposing a tax was so deeply praiseworthy, and the government the ownership of the harbor, wrong in administration.

He also favored the Agent-General was very important should be a British Columbia clause of a solicitor. (Laughter.)

He deplored in the speech tribulation. The with a reference government workers.

Mr. Eberts have had experience.

Mr. Martin Eberts with insurance act which he throughout the.

Mr. Turner Mr. Martin the hon. gentleman and don't know about him.

Mr. Martin patch in disposition.

There was a pause when Mr. Eberts rose to rise in effect.

"Mr. Speaker the mover and I only wish to regarding the acceptance of office as a result of Martin resigned was unexpected government. I would have a stability of such a position for political.

"Owing to the affairs with which I accepted the task duty. I knew political turmoil to stable government could form an command a majority of the element ernment. I suppose, I think, formed.

"My policy in the speech ambitious to political leader term. I accept government I make a strong fair on business see the country should prosper I hope to see it from those want to see it ducted on the I.

"The leader government is ment over against the Turner for British Columbia it ever.

The Premier great applause The address unanimously.

1. That an ed to His Honor to thank His speech at the session, and further that we have His Honor in office as Lieutenant Governor.

2. That we still involved rics, and the been still further by the recent been a circumstance that such loyal support in the house it a matter of subjects in the response to the eral and volu provinces, and ish Columbia, adian contingents praise a valor and eff.

3. That we that the in



Turner ring. His action in voluntarily imposing a tax on a product in which he was so deeply interested was most praiseworthy. At the same time he hoped the government would not overlook the ownership of the coal under Nanaimo harbor, wrongly given away by the Semlin administration.

He also favored placing the office of the Agent-General on a better basis. It was very important that the appointee should be a worthy representative of British Columbia. It should not be made a clause of solacing some wounded supporter. (Laughter.)

He deplored the absence of reference in the speech to railways and to redistribution. The speaker followed this with a reference to the difference the government would have in getting ministers.

Mr. Eberts—You ought to know. You have had experience.

Mr. Martin in return chided Mr. Eberts with insulting the government, an act which he had heard apologized for throughout the country.

Mr. Turner—I never heard of it.

Mr. Martin—That is one difficulty with the hon. gentleman. He lives in the past and don't know what is transpiring about him.

Mr. Martin closed with a plea for dispatch in disposing of the public business.

There was a burst of vigorous applause when Mr. Martin, having resumed his seat, Premier Dunsmuir was noticed to rise in his place. He said, in effect:

"Mr. Speaker, I wish to congratulate the mover and seconder of the address. I only wish to make a few remarks regarding the situation leading to my acceptance of office. It is well known that as a result of the general elections Mr. Martin resigned the premiership and I was unexpectedly called on to form a government. Under other circumstances I would have refused to take the responsibility of such a step, as I have no ambition for political honors.

"Owing to the unusual condition of affairs with which all are familiar, I accepted the task which I considered my duty. I knew the country was tired of political turmoil, and anxious to return to stable government. I felt assured I could form an administration which could command a majority of the House, out of the elements opposed to the late government. I succeeded, and in as short a time, I think, as a government was ever formed.

"My policy has already been outlined in the speech from the throne. I am not ambitious to become a politician or a political leader in the usual sense of the term. I accepted the task of forming a government as a business man, and will make a strong attempt to conduct affairs on business principles. I want to see the country prosper, and I think it should prosper under wise government. I hope to see it receive a general support from those members of the House who want to see the country's business conducted on the lines indicated.

"The leader of the opposition says my government is the old Turner government over again. I hope it is, for I consider the Turner government did more for British Columbia than any administration it ever had."

The Premier resumed his seat amid great applause.

The address was then put and carried unanimously. It was as follows:

1. That an humble address be presented to His Honor the Lieut.-Governor, to thank His Honor for his gracious speech at the opening of the present session, and further to assure His Honor that we have much pleasure in meeting His Honor in this the first year of his office as Lieut.-Governor of this province.

2. That we regret that the Empire is still involved in the war in South Africa, and that foreign relations have been still further seriously complicated by the recent outbreak in China. It has been a circumstance of the deepest significance that the colonies have given such loyal support to the Mother Country in the hour of trial. Particularly is it a matter of pride to Her Majesty's subjects in this Dominion that the response to the call for aid has been general and voluntary throughout all the provinces, and conspicuously so in British Columbia, and that the several Canadian contingents have earned the warmest praise of military authorities for valor and effective work in action.

3. That we are pleased to be informed that the industries of the province are

in a fairly prosperous condition, and that metalliferous mining, the industry more particularly affected by the recent depression, is resuming a more normal condition of activity. The prosperous condition of lumbering, the steady progress made in agriculture, including fruit-growing, dairying, stock-raising, and other branches, and the success of the portion of our population engaged in fishing, afford us great satisfaction.

4. That we regret the large influx into this province of Japanese which has recently taken place, and consequently we are pleased to be assured that it is the intention of His Honor's government to make strong representations to the authorities at Ottawa and in Great Britain, with a view to protecting the interests of the laboring classes against the consequences of what threatens to be an alarming increase of the Japanese population.

5. That we are pleased to be advised that His Honor's government propose to carry out a vigorous policy of road building.

6. That we are impressed with the opportunities which exist for the profitable carrying on of the manufacture of pulp in this province, and we learn with great satisfaction that preparations are being made for the extensive prosecution of this important industry.

7. That we are convinced that information of great use in the framing of legislation will result from the appointment of a commission to enquire into the working of the mining acts, and into the various conditions affecting the question of water rights.

8. That we are pleased to learn that it is the intention of His Honor's government to impose a tonnage tax on the output of coal and coke in this province, and to take other measures to increase the provincial revenue.

9. That the intimation of the intention of His Honor's government to provide in the estimates for a sum to place the office of the agent-general on a more satisfactory basis affords us much pleasure.

10. That we thank His Honor for informing us that the estimates of revenue and expenditure for the current fiscal year will be submitted to us at an early date. We are confident that they will be found to have been framed with a due regard for economy and the requirements of the province.

11. That we concur with His Honor in the view that there should be, as soon as possible, a vote for the expenditure necessary to carry on the business of the government until the estimates are passed.

12. That His Honor may rest assured that the measures which may be brought before us shall receive our earnest consideration, and we trust that our deliberations, under the Divine guidance, will conduce to the prosperity and welfare of our people of our province.

#### Bills Introduced.

The Provincial Secretary presented a message from the Lieut.-Governor transmitting the liquor license bill.

The Attorney-General introduced bills to amend the Notaries Appointment Act and the Evidence Act.

A communication was received from the National Council of Women asking the members to attend the meeting in the theatre to-night.



# Provincial Parliament

**Mr. Martin Says He Will Oppose  
Legislation Introduced to  
Amend Former Act.**

**Emergency Supply For Payment  
of Urgent Public Works  
Etc.**

Victoria, B.C., Tuesday.

To-day's session of the House was marked by a continuation of the tactics on the part of the leader of the opposition, which were foreshadowed on Monday. None of the opposition supporters followed the example of their leader in the policy which he has marked down and which almost amounts to obstruction.

The questions down on the order paper to be asked by Mr. McInnes were answered by the Premier as follows: Regarding the appointment of a constable in the northern portion of North Nanaimo, the reply was that the government had not yet considered the matter. The same reply was made to the query as to the intention of having the road bosses in that district appointed or elected as was done last year. As to whether the E. & N. Railway Company is subject to the provisions of the B. C. Railway Act, the answer was "No."

Hon. Mr. Eberts asked leave to introduce a bill to amend the law respecting the liability of trustees. He also moved the first reading of the bill and it will be on the orders of the day for second reading at the next sitting of the House.

Mr. Turner's bill to amend the New Westminster Relief Act of 1899 and Mr. McInnes's bill relating to labor stand over to to-day by request of the promoters.

The bill to amend the Small Debts Act (Attorney-General Eberts) was read a second time and referred to the committee of the whole House for consideration.

Hon. Mr. Eberts explained that the object of the bill was to amend the act in favor of the workmen that the actual proceeds of his labor to the extent of \$40 would be exempt from seizure for the protection of his wife and family. The bill also provides for the issuing of garnishment summonses at the same time that a summons for debt is issued. Another important change to be made is in the clause that provides that no magistrate, either directly or through a clerk, shall undertake the collection of an account which may be sued through his court. As there was some debate on the wording of the clauses of the bill and a virtual agreement was reached, the committee rose and reported progress and asked leave to sit again at the next session of the House, the clauses to be redrafted in the meantime.

On the motion for the second reading of the bill to amend the Evidence Act, there was a lively tilt between the leader of the opposition and several members of the government side.

Mr. Martin took the rather whimsical stand that as the Hon. Attorney-General had time after time during the election campaign, condemned him as unfit to hold the position of Attorney-General on account of some of his acts having been amended, therefore the amendments proposed by the present bill was a direct impeachment of the fitness of Hon. Mr. Eberts, and he would therefore oppose it. Several times in the course of his remarks he was interrupted by the Attorney-General and Hon. Mr. McBride, who on a point of order objected to the leader of the opposition making political speeches in debate.

Mr. Speaker did not uphold their point of order and Mr. Martin took his time to assure the members of the ministry that at the risk of appearing tedious, he would through the session continue to oppose legislation introduced to amend former acts of the House on the ground that he had the excellent authority of the Attorney-General for his course. As to the amendments sought to be introduced he had no objection to offer. He believed them to be very good.

Hon. Mr. Eberts denied having said that the leader of the opposition was not capable of drafting measures for legislation, and in fact paid a compliment to the ability of the gentleman in that regard.

Mr. McPhillips then took up the argument in behalf of the Attorney-General and followed on the lines of Mr. Martin in making a political speech, until the Speaker called him back to the question.

Mr. Oliver asked the Attorney-General if the government had power to guarantee to a witness the protection the act purported to give.

The Attorney-General replied that it had.

The bill passed its second reading and stands on the order paper for third reading at the next session of the House.

On the motion to give the Notaries Act Amendment Act its second reading the leader of the opposition continued the lines of argument he had begun on the other bill. Referring to the remarks of the Attorney-General denying that he had said anything against Mr. Martin in his capacity as a legislator, the latter refused to take the implied apology and said that while he had no objection to the criticism of the principle of a measure, when it came to reflecting on the capability of the individual it was altogether a different matter. He continued for some time, but the government which had grown weary, refused to be drawn into an argument and the motion to read the bill was put with very little discussion.

The principal provision of the measure is that in future all commissions issuing to notaries public shall be for the whole province, not for a district and the whole fee of \$20 shall be collected.

The bill will receive its third reading at the next session of the House.

The second reading of the Liquor License bill was deferred at the request of the Attorney-General, who said several of the members had requested him to do so as they wished further time to consider it. This bill was rendered necessary, the act of 1890 being disallowed on account of the clause preventing Japanese holding a license. This feature has been eliminated in the new bill and the license in country districts has been reduced to \$60 from \$100.

## Emergency Supply.

The Hon. Minister of Finance then moved that the following message from His Honor the Lieut.-Governor be received:

"The Lieut.-Governor transmits to the Legislative Assembly a schedule of emergency supplies for \$150,000 to provide for the payment of salaries, urgent public works and other necessary services for the financial year ending 30th June, 1901, all payments from which sum will form part of the estimates to be applied to the various services and votes for the said financial year, and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly."

"Schedule.—The estimated sum of \$150,000 is required as an emergency supply to provide for the payment of salaries, urgent public works and other necessary services chargeable to the expenditure of the financial year ending 30th June, 1901. All payments made therefrom to form a part of the estimates for the financial year ending 30th June, 1901, to be submitted to the Legislative Assembly and applied to the various services and votes."

The message was received and referred to the committee of the whole House at its next session.

The official return of the Cassiar election was presented to the House and ordered to be inscribed on the journals.

The leader of the opposition seized the opportunity to severely arraign Capt. Irving for his action in asking the courts for to restrain the returning officer from making his official declaration. The application would, if successful, have deprived the constituency of representation for four years unless special legislation were introduced, said Mr. Martin, and all on the smallest technical ground.

Hon. Mr. McBride replied in warm language defending Capt. Irving, who was not able to answer for himself in that place, which the speaker said made the attack appear in all the more unfavorable light.

The House then adjourned until Wednesday at 2 p.m.

# Provincial Parliament

**Interesting Debate  
Regarding  
the**

**Mr. McBride  
Had No Pa  
ing o**

The latest phase of the strike—the calling of the subject in the Legislature to adjourn by vote of bringing the session of the House.

The petitions presented to-day were read and a committee of the House on the message of His Honor the Lieut.-Governor on the supply estimate, reportable on the next day, and it was reported the measure, though it would have some question of the vote for consideration.

R. Smith, in motion to adjourn, said that the station, through the intervention of the government, had intended to ask the government had sent a posse of men and since been called out, the fishing industry as any member of measures to report, whether arrested against me or not. But he true no such state to require so large. It was apparent that last night, a freedom of the position existed or of any union measures. He desired government, that might be informed threatening condition for the presence was an extreme in extreme cases, done anything to desired to know it to acknowledge it been done. He believed that the demonstration native toilers of the most desecration of mercy of some of whose habits and them to accept terror was out of the to play into the as parties to the d that position he hars the government the best means to pute. The threat armed force could positive result. Mr. had rights as any use every legitimate men not to fish for out of reason, or h went beyond those justification of the adopted in the ca to have the reason government present there were no sufficient, then he m its influence to ha A more important element and men influence to settle. It was a disgrace there was no other



July 26

## Provincial Parliament

Interesting Discussion in House  
Regarding Situation on  
the Fraser.

**Mr. McBride States Government  
Had No Part in Summon-  
ing of Militia.**

Victoria, Wednesday.

The latest phase of the fishermen's strike—the calling out of the militia—formed the subject of an interesting debate in the Legislature to-day on a motion to adjourn by R. Smith for the purpose of bringing the subject to the attention of the House.

The petitions presented the previous day were read and the House went into committee of the whole to consider the message of His Honor re the emergency supply estimate. As the question is debatable on the next consideration of the vote, and it was so agreed, the committee reported the message without any discussion, though Mr. Martin said he would have something to say on the question of the vote when next it was up for consideration.

R. Smith, in moving that the House do now adjourn, said he wished to call attention to the state of affairs at Steveston, through the fishermen's strike. He asked the government to consider the propriety of taking steps to relieve the serious conditions now prevailing. In the orders of the day were some questions he intended to ask regarding the action the government had taken. The government had sent a posse of special police to Steveston and since that the militia had been called out, presumably to protect the fishing industry. He did not favor lawlessness and was as fully prepared as any member of the House to take any measures to repress anything of that sort, whether such measures were directed against members of trades unions or not. But he believed it was quite true no such state of affairs existed, as to require so large a body of armed men. It was apparent from published reports that last night, after the Japs had full freedom of the fishing grounds, no disposition existed or was shown on the part of any union men to resort to violent measures. He desired to learn from the government, that the House and country might be informed, whether any such threatening conditions existed as to call for the presence of the militia, which was an extreme measure only justifiable in extreme cases. If the fishermen had done anything to call for such action, he desired to know it and would be the first to acknowledge it and endorse what had been done. He was, however, forced to believe that the only cause or result of the demonstration was to place honest native toilers of this province and one of the most deserving classes of it at the mercy of some thousands of Japanese, whose habits and mode of living enabled them to accept terms which to white labor was out of the bounds of reason, and to play into the hands of the cannery, as parties to the dispute. While he took that position he had no desire to embarrass the government, but only to have the best means taken to settle the dispute. The threatening policy of using armed force could only produce an opposite result. Members of the unions had rights as any incorporated society to use every legitimate means to induce men not to fish for prices they held to be out of reason, or insufficient. Until they went beyond those rights, there was no justification of the means that had been adopted in the case. He was anxious to have the reasons which actuated the government presented to the House. If there were no sufficient reasons, as he believed, then he urged the House to use its influence to have the men withdrawn. A more important reason why the government and members should use their influence to settle the trouble was that it was a disgrace to the province that there was no other way for the govern-

ment to intervene in labor troubles than by militia or police. There should be legislation to compel the parties to such a dispute, in the interests of the public, to submit to arbitration. He was pleased to learn that the government had made an effort to procure a settlement. It was a strong evidence of the unfair position of the cannery, that they refused the government's offer looking to settlement by arbitration, and he would say the same thing of the members of the union, who, he was informed by a minister, had refused a similar overture. Both sides had declared against it; the public interests were being interfered with. What did that teach the House? It should teach the importance of placing legislation on the statutes of the province compelling arbitration. When the public interests were affected by such a labor dispute it was the duty of the government to take steps to bring about a settlement through arbitration by process of law. It was serious that any industry should receive the protection of armed troops and in the present case it was an injustice and an outrage to one party to the dispute.

Hon. Mr. McBride followed. He said as he represented a constituency which was largely interested in the fishing industry, and while it was a delicate matter for a public man to interfere in such a dispute, and while he believed the fishermen had kept well within the laws in the prosecution of their strike, still there had been made time after time strong representations to the government that there was serious danger of trouble, representations which he thought justified taking action. He had, at the suggestion of some members of the executive, taken a trip along the river and he found that the men there assembled were law-abiding and while reports of intimidation were current he found on investigating that there was nothing the regular police were not competent to deal with. It was the generally expressed opinion that the sending of a large force of police into the district would have the effect of creating a feeling of resentment rather than having a salutary effect. The same would apply he felt to the calling of the militia, and actuated by that belief the government had adopted the course they had. He also distinctly stated that the government had no part in summoning the militia. They had kept well within their powers under the British North America Act. He was pleased to note that the efforts of Mr. Bremner, the Dominion labor commissioner, were likely to aid in reaching a settlement, though it was possibly a matter of regret that he had not been on the ground earlier.

In reply to a question from Mr. McInnes, Hon. Mr. McBride said that regarding the refusal of the parties to accept the offices of the government, a resolution of the New Westminster Board of Trade subsequently endorsed by the Vancouver and Victoria boards, had been forwarded to the government suggesting that the government should offer to arbitrate. The government had replied to the Westminster board signifying its willingness to do anything in its power to settle the dispute, but so far none of the parties had been since heard from. He had only made his visit in a semi-official manner, and had not taken formal evidence to submit to the House.

Mr. Brown said the matter had come up very suddenly. He did not wish to blame the government for its action or want of action in the case. They should have made a public offer of their services to arbitrate. The question was important, affecting as it did the mercantile interests of the coast cities as well as the fishermen and cannery, the parties directly interested.

Mr. Neill quoted from the Militia and Defence Act in support of the action in calling out the troops.

Mr. McPhillips came to the defence of Reeve Wilkinson, of Richmond, and the other two magistrates who joined in the requisition for the services of the militia. They should not be condemned on any information that was before the House. In fact the House really had no information on which to form an opinion as to the wisdom or unwisdom of the action. The magistrates were on the ground and no doubt had good and sufficient reasons for the decision they had made.

Mr. Gilmour—The Hon. Finance Minister had said at the first sitting of the House that the government had the matter under consideration. That was all very well, as far as it went, but they wanted to see something done. The Hon. Minister of Mines had gone up the river to see for himself, but for all the result he might as well have stayed at home.

He also said the government had offered to arbitrate, but who had the offer been made to? Not to the cannery, nor to the fishermen, but to the New Westminster Board of Trade. The government should not seek to condemn the Ottawa government for not sending Mr. Bremner sooner. They should condemn themselves for being so slow to take action. It was a serious matter, it meant a difference of two and a half millions of dollars in the ordinary commerce of the province, and the cities as well as the fishermen and the cannery, the parties directly interested, could not afford to lose this sum from their annual turnover. It was not necessary to call out the militia. Only one or two had broken the law, and while he did not wish to see the laws broken and the offenders go unpunished, he thought the matter could have been handled without the extreme measure of ordering out the troops. The Hon. Minister of Finance had said on the first day the House met, in reply to Mr. Brown, that the government had the matter under consideration. Mr. Martin had said the time was slipping by, yet nothing had been done by the government to settle the matter. He thought the government should be condemned.

Mr. Oliver said that the calling out of the militia was an extreme measure which was seldom found to have been justified by the circumstances, and he recalled a strike at Wellington some years ago when the militia were ordered out, and he said there was no necessity of such a step at all. This would be found to be the case in the present instance.

Mr. Hunter questioned the accuracy of Mr. Oliver's recollections. He had been on the spot at the time of the strike at Wellington, referred to by the gentleman, and he had thought it was so unsafe that he lost no time in getting as far away as he could from the scene of the trouble. (Laughter.) He would ask had the government information regarding the calling out of the militia.

Mr. Eberts—No information.

Mr. Martin—Apparently the government is paying no attention to the matter.

Mr. Eberts—Well you would say that anyway.

Mr. Eberts—This is a very serious matter. There are a very large number of men, some 8,000, I believe, affected; there are the cannery who have heavy interests involved; and there are the merchants of the various towns and cities whose trade will be very materially reduced by a continuance of present conditions. The government had sent a force of special constables on the report that there was a very grave situation. Since Mr. McBride was there, there had been overt acts on the part of the strikers or their sympathizers. There had been intimidation of men who had wished peacefully to pursue their lawful avocation—men had been badly maltreated simply because they had attempted to go out to fish. This was intimidation and that constituted an overt act. He then read a letter written by Provincial Constable Lister at Steveston on the 21st inst., and which stated the condition of affairs at that time and expressed the fear that there would be grave trouble unless further steps were taken to protect those who wished to fish. The Hon. Attorney-General said that he had given the instruction to the officers that the law must be upheld and the individual protected so as to be able to carry on his lawful avocation. He had said in effect that they were to make no line of demarcation—to observe neither side—their duty was to uphold the law of the land. In case of any infraction of the law by any person the law was to be upheld—that is, practically the instruction of the Attorney-General's department. No doubt there was a great deal of unrest. The government had received telegrams saying the government should do more, but the government thought they had done enough. They knew nothing of the militia and had made no further inquiries as to the reasons for calling them out. And without knowing just the ground upon which the magistrates called out the troops, it was his opinion that members should not prejudice the case. It had been suggested that the government arbitrate. Then why not arbitrate in every matter of difference. Do you mean to pass a law to compel arbitration?

R. Smith—Yes, exactly so. It has been done in New Zealand for some years.



Mr. Eberts—I do not think that a government is to be blamed for not passing such a measure. It has never been suggested here before. I do not blame Mr. Martin for not having passed such an act.

Mr. Gilmour repeated his remarks condemning the government for dilatoriness in dealing with the strike situation. He also said: Let the Attorney-General lay on the table all the papers in connection with the matter and see if the government has not been dilatory.

Mr. Eberts—Let the member ask and he can get them.

Mr. McInnes—Do I understand the hon. Attorney-General to say that a member must ask in a formal manner for the papers in this important matter before the hon. gentleman will have them brought down?

To this polite request the hon. Attorney-General replied in his suavest manner that the government having nothing to conceal, had no wish to delay bringing the papers down if they were wanted. He had not, he said, as yet gone through all the papers received, but he promised to have them on the table the next day.

Mr. Green said that Mr. Bremner, the government labor agent, had been on the ground but that he differed from many in that he did not seek great publicity; but in justice to the gentleman, who was a very efficient man, he wished to say that he was conversant with the case.

Mr. McPhillips—So also are the magistrates, and the same line of argument applies to the criticism of them.

Hon. Mr. McBride did not wish to be understood by anything he had said as reflecting on the efficiency of a civil servant who was debarred from being there to answer, and who he had no reason to doubt was a very capable officer.

Hon. Mr. Turner—From my interests I naturally look at the situation from the canners' standpoint. In case of arbitration, if it went against the canners it was possible to enforce the penalty. But should the fishermen lose, the House would agree with him that there was no means to compel them to go out and catch the fish. I cannot see a way to solve the difficulty that arbitration presents, and knowing the situation pretty well I can see that it would be hard to carry out compulsory arbitration. To his view, he said, the trouble arose from there being too many men, approximately 8,000. Suppose there was a good run and there were large catches. It would mean that an average of possibly 1,000 fish per man would be caught in the season that would have to be destroyed, as the canneries would simply be unable to handle them. He had seen as many as 4,000 fish dumped overboard at one cannery in a single night. Was there not, then, something wrong with the method of granting licenses that caused this oversupply of fishermen? This condition had not been brought about by the canners. Many canners had lost thousands in the past few seasons' operations. The B. C. canners could not fix prices of the manufactured article. That was controlled by the Alaska and Oregon canners, the quantity put up by the former alone being much greater than the output of the canneries of B. C. In 1899 a case of salmon sold in London at a little over 19s., and from that some 2s. had to be deducted for freight; the case cost nearly \$6 to put up, so that it was not hard to figure that the margin was on the wrong side. That there was danger of serious trouble the canners had known for over a week. There had been a disposition among the Japs, Indians and a large number of white fishermen to go out and fish, for 1,500 or more had drawn their boats and nets, but they were held back from fear that there was not sufficient protection afforded even by the force of special constables, who were not able to cope with such a large body of men as had gathered at Steveston. Hence the application of the magistrates for the militia, so that the men could have confidence to go out as they should have been able to do a week or ten days ago.

Mr. Kidd regretted that such a high pitch of intensified feeling had been reached before any effort had been made to settle the matter. He had taken no part; as he was interested in a cannery his action might be misunderstood. The trouble had been caused by the presence of a large number of Japs, which was much to be deplored. No one in the province was to blame nor did he blame the Dominion government. He hoped there would be a way found to prevent a further influx of these people. There had been a union of canneries the last few months for reasons that would not

injure the fishermen. In past years there had been differences in prices at various canneries as the run varied, and this had led to the demoralization of the fishermen, and it was chiefly to avoid this that the canners had united. In the present situation, which could not be very well prevented or avoided, there had been mistakes on both sides. Had a move been made earlier to fix a minimum price it would have had a great deal of effect in settling the trouble. As for the calling out of the militia, he knew the magistrates very well. They were gentlemen whose interests were such that they would not likely be parties to any action to the detriment of the fishermen. It was not fair to condemn them until we hear from them as to the reasons for the action. A phase of the situation which he thought should be taken notice of was the report in the press that the Japs had taken loaded rifles out with them in their boats. This should be inquired into and action taken at once if the report were true.

Mr. Pooley defended the government for their course. It was an unjust criticism that they had acted to protect the canners. There were always two parties to protect in a dispute, and each was as deserving of protection as the other. As to the calling out of the militia, it was necessary to at all times uphold the law. Had there not been any such action and any overt acts resulting seriously had followed, gentlemen opposite would have been first to condemn the government for not doing what they were now condemning them for doing.

Mr. Curtis said he had not intended to take part in the debate, but he found that the government did not apparently wish to discuss even matters on which the members of the ministry did not agree. And it does not agree on this. The hon. Minister of Mines had said there was no cause to call out the militia, but the hon. Attorney-General said there was. He also wished to point out that the responsibility to protect the peace lies with the province. Mr. McPhillips tried to show by the B.N.A. act that the matter was in the hands of the Dominion. Mr. Curtis, proceeding, said that while in certain matters the origination of legislation lay with the Dominion the carrying out of those laws was with the province. What had been the effect of the military demonstration? The troops had protected some thousands of Japs against the interests of a large number of worthy citizens. The cost of this, too, falls upon the municipality, and again it was against the whites. He believed if the government had taken a stand they could have settled the whole matter in three days.

Mr. McPhillips again questioned the authority of the province in the matter.

Mr. Martin replied that while the Dominion made the laws there was no question as to who executed them. The only way in which the Dominion government had indirectly any appearance of executive authority was in the calling out of the militia, as in this case.

The debate then concluded and Mr. Speaker gave his ruling as to the proper time when such a notice as Mr. Smith's should be brought up. Mr. Martin having raised the point. It was that the motion should be made after reading of petitions, and only for matters of pressing moment.

#### Daily Routine.

The bill to amend the New War Relief act, Mr. Turner; an act relating to labor, Mr. McInnes; the Shops Regulation act, 1900, Mr. McPhillips; an act respecting the qualifications of members of Sandom municipal council, Mr. Green, were read a first time and put down for a second reading at the next sitting of the House.

Mr. Helmcken moved a resolution: That in the opinion of this House it is desirable that steps be taken to obtain the removal of the Indians from the Songhees reserve.

Speaking to the resolution, Mr. Helmcken said it was an old friend, but that while there had been some correspondence at a previous date the matter had dropped for some years. He trusted that now some early and effective action would be taken as it was a necessary step.

Mr. Brown said it might be an old story to some, but there were now new members who would not know of it. It was right to call attention to the fact that the grant under which this reserve was held differed from ordinary reserves in that it was a bargain with the Indians made by the late Sir James Douglas, who gave them the land forever for a consideration. This bargain was a

grant of the land and the title as with ordinary reserves did not remain in the crown, so that the Indians must be indemnified if the land was taken, and the proceeds should be devoted to removing them to another location, the balance remaining to be held in trust for them by the Dominion government.

Replying to a question of Mr. Oliver, The hon. Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works said the cost of survey of the Serpentine river was \$1,187.40, and the survey was undertaken at the request of Mr. Thos. Foster.

To Mr. Tatlow, the Attorney-General promised to make reply to-morrow to an inquiry as to the steps taken to validate tax sales in Westminster district in 1893.

The Premier replied to Mr. Brown that it is the intention of the government to remit fees paid on private bills which were not passed last session by reason of the prorogation of the House, if such bills come up at this session.

The Small Debts bill was further considered in committee and the committee reported progress and asked leave to sit again.

The House then adjourned.

Debate on  
Lasted Ne  
terda

Leader of t  
for a Stat  
Pub

At the openi  
House this afte  
attention to th  
the previous da  
of order, as to  
the adjournmen  
to bring up a  
that a quorum  
ten, but in pol  
Mr. Martin tho  
than was neces  
was enough.

After the pr  
hon. Minister  
of the whole, n  
vote to provid  
asked for in l  
Tuesday.

Mr. Martin s  
necessary one  
it. He even t  
of Finance had  
met the legiti  
administration.  
the government  
sion of funds  
of the country.  
the necessity  
that it was or  
should not le  
spend the mo  
The governme  
for what urgen  
would be spent  
works which w  
would be of n  
work was d  
the government  
this question o  
heard rumors  
works had be  
province. Thi  
true, only tho  
get out of dol  
No doubt the  
but it was u  
urgency and  
that new wor  
was the prerog  
where its mo  
be disposed to  
how and whe  
spent.

Hon. Mr. Ty  
er of the oppo  
said. It was  
in British Col  
circumstances  
but it was w  
some such at  
time to pass  
many rather  
did not objec  
given, even il  
cultures form  
provide for pr  
before the Ho  
of the financ  
were passed  
was exhauste  
had passed  
Strictly speak  
pay out anyl  
rant. If eve  
would be a  
estimates in  
the middle of  
he agreed w  
perhaps aske  
quite willing  
man with a  
would be spe  
which had to  
de left to act  
\$40,000 to b  
by the late g  
lin governme  
\$15,000 or  
works.



# Provincial Parliament

Debate on Emergency Supply  
Lasted Nearly Whole of Yesterday's Session.

Leader of the Opposition Asks  
for a Statement Regarding  
Public Works.

Victoria, Thursday.

At the opening of the sitting of the House this afternoon Mr. Speaker called attention to the ruling he had made on the previous day on Mr. Martin's point of order, as to the procedure in moving the adjournment of the House in order to bring up a question. He had said that a quorum of the Legislature was ten, but in point of fact it was nine. Mr. Martin thought that nine was more than was necessary, he thought that four was enough.

After the presenting of petitions, the hon. Minister of Finance, in committee at the whole, moved the adoption of the vote to provide the emergency supply asked for in His Honor's message on Tuesday.

Mr. Martin said the vote was a very necessary one and he would not oppose it. He even thought the hon. Minister of Finance had not asked for enough to meet the legitimate requirements of the administration. It was important that the government should be put in possession of funds to carry on the business of the country. But while agreeing as to the necessity of the vote, he thought that it was only right that the House should not leave the government to spend the money as they thought fit. The government should tell the House for what urgent public works the money would be spent, as it might be spent on works which would be debatable, and it would be of no use to discuss after the work was done. He assumed there would be no difference as to salaries, but the government might summarily settle the question of public works. He had heard rumors that important public works had been promised through the province. This was highly improper, if true, only those works that they cannot get out of doing at once should be done. No doubt the work had been neglected, but it was unfair under the guise of urgency and possibly to favor friends that new works should be begun. It was the prerogative of the House to say where its money should go. He would be disposed to give more if he knew just how and where the money was to be spent.

Hon. Mr. Turner agreed with the leader of the opposition in what he had just said. It was an unprecedented occasion in British Columbia for such a vote, the circumstances had never arisen before, but it was evidently necessary to pass some such an appropriation. It takes time to pass the supplies, there were many rather tedious formalities, but he did not object to the safeguard thus given, even if it were a somewhat circuitous form. Still the need existed to provide for present expenditure. Always before the House had met in the middle of the financial year and the estimates were passed before the old appropriation was exhausted. Now the 30th of June had passed and there was no money. Strictly speaking they could not legally pay out anything except on special warrant. If everything were paid thus it would be a rather tedious affair. The estimates might not be passed before the middle of August, and in that case he agreed with Mr. Martin that he had perhaps asked too little. He would be quite willing to furnish the hon. gentleman with a statement of how the money would be spent. But after fixed charges which had to be met there would be little left to account for as there was some \$40,000 to be paid on work authorized by the late government and by the Selkirk government. This would leave about \$15,000 or \$18,000 for urgent public works.

Mr. Martin—If there were works to the extent of \$40,000 authorized there would be the appropriation or the special warrant to pay for it.

Mr. Turner—But it will all have to come out of the \$150,000 for the time, as there are no other funds, and the works must be paid. He had only asked for one month's supply as he hoped to have the supply bill passed in time. The present vote would only barely enable them to get through the month until the supply bill passed.

Mr. Martin—The hon. gentleman has not answered my principal point, as to where the money for public works is to be spent. That is the important thing for the House to know.

Mr. Turner—The amount left out of the vote would be applied to roads in the Kootenay, below Shocan lake, on the Cariboo road, all absolutely necessary to be gone on with, and others which he could not from memory name, in various parts of the province, but all of that character and urgent. He pointed out that so small a sum as \$150,000 was not very important.

Mr. Martin still insisted on a rough estimate being furnished so as to show that new work was going on, on which there might afterwards be discussion. He still claimed there would be \$62,000 available for public works, and that a statement of some kind should be furnished. The Comox road was covered by the famous \$4,000 order-in-council.

Mr. Turner—That was not enough. Mr. Martin did not object to what was spent on that road as he had been over it, and if ever a road needed to be put in shape it was that, for all the money spent on it for years was useless owing to a gap of 200 feet which rendered the road impassable.

Mr. McPhillips said the ministers were responsible to the House and it was quite proper to trust them with the amount without asking for a statement.

Mr. Martin asked that the House get a rough statement of what they themselves had undertaken.

Hon. Mr. Wells said he had ordered roads in Shocan at Nelson and Revelstoke to the amount of \$12,000.

Mr. Martin said—Let us confine ourselves to that amount for works and

\$128,000 of the grant for fixed charges. The hon. Commissioner of Lands and Works had said he ordered these works. If so he had grossly violated the laws of the land by his action. Of what use was it for the Minister of Finance to ask for a vote if the Commissioner of Lands and Works could go and spend it without a sign of authority? It was a mere formality to vote a supply. There was no point on which representative houses in British territories were more particular as on that touching their right to deal with their own money. I do not want to seem factious, but the government should tell the House about what they proposed to spend on public works. He had been told that under this guise the government was doing works the necessity of which was debatable. He did not think he was asking too much, just a general statement.

Mr. Hunter thought there was nothing unreasonable in the request of Mr. Martin. He thought if the Commissioner of Lands and Works had quietly dropped out of his seat when the discussion started and gone to his office he could by this time have given all that was necessary. It would not take half an hour to get it all, and he was quite prepared to wait till the hon. gentleman went and got a statement, and he was sure the leader of the government would have no objection. He thought Hon. Mr. Wells had gone to Kootenay as if the rest of the province revolved round the Kootenays, which he assured the House was not the fact. There were roads the commissioner might have seen in Cariboo had he taken the trouble to visit that locality that need repair. He did not propose to see the important Cariboo district neglected. He thought the hon. Minister of Finance should tell what they were going to spend in Cariboo.

Mr. Green appeared as the apologist for the Commissioner of Lands and Works, and defended his action in giving out public work, and incurring liability was only to take advantage of the weather, which he said was merely tentative, and to get the work under way until it could come before the House.

Mr. Turner and Mr. Martin continued the debate, the former comparing the action of Hon. Mr. Wells to Mr. Martin when the Comox road grant was made.

Mr. Brown thought the speakers had wandered away. The point was that no new works should be begun without the

authority of the Governor-in-council, which was very different from one man acting on his own authority. Another point was the asking for a vote without giving particulars. This was not in accord with the principle of constitutional government. The House should not establish a dangerous precedent.

Mr. McPhillips—Let us not waste time. (Laughter.)

Hon. Mr. Wells settled the debate as far as he was concerned by stating that he had submitted what he thought should be done to the ministry before taking any action. His action compared very favorably with that of predecessors who had spent \$1,700 in his constituency without authority whatever.

The motion passed after a good deal more of the same sort of debate.

Bills Dealt With.

Mr. Eberts asked leave to introduce a bill to amend the Supreme Court act, also a bill to amend the Jurors act. These were received and read a first time and placed on the order paper for second reading at the next sitting.

Mr. McPhillips's Shop bill was read a second time and discussion postponed as some members thought it did not go far enough in the matters it sought to regulate.

The promoter explained that the object of the bill was to protect young persons in shops from being compelled to work unfairly long hours.

The bill to regulate the qualifications of members of Sandon city council was read a second time and will reach the committee stage at the next sitting.

At the request of Hon. Mr. Turner, Mr. McInnes allowed his labor bill to stand over for a week, Hon. Mr. Turpin saying he wished time to consider it.

Mr. Price Ellison's bill to incorporate the Western Telegraph and Telephone Company was sent up to the private bills committee.

Resolutions.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Turner it was resolved: That the speech of His Honor the Lieut. Governor at the opening of the present session be taken into consideration on Friday next.

Mr. R. Smith's resolution, as follows, was also passed: That a select committee consisting of Messrs. Neill, Oliver, Holmeken, McInnes and the mover be appointed to look into the grievances of certain settlers within the E. & N. railway belt as outlined in a report from Dominion Commissioner Rothwell, now on file in the Attorney-General's office.

Government Answers.

R. Smith was informed that the canners had applied for police protection on the Fraser river in the present trouble, that protection was asked because of reports of intimidation and the possibility of breach of the peace; that 25 specials were employed; and that in the government's opinion there was and is reason for keeping special police there in order to prevent a breach of the peace.

In answer to Mr. Tatlow, the Provincial Secretary said that it would be necessary to inquire into the state of the Vancouver city voters' lists before moving to cancel them.

The Attorney-General, replying to a question of Mr. Garden, said it was only within the past few days that information had been received that the Naturalization act had been abused, and it was only hearsay. The government will, however, have due inquiry made and correct any abuse in naturalization of Japanese recently arrived in this country.

Mr. McInnes was informed that a judge of the Supreme Court would be sent to Atlin this summer; that certain owners who availed themselves of the privilege of the statute to refuse to make detailed returns of their collieries to the government inspector of collieries for the purpose of publication were the Union Colliery, operated by the Union Colliery of B. C. Ltd., and the Wellington Colliery, operated by R. Dunsmuir & Sons; and that the government had under consideration the amendment of the act so that the owners will not be permitted to prevent publication of details.

To another query of Mr. McInnes, the



Attorney-General replied that the title the government had to the ground upon which the Nanaimo court house is built was a perpetual lease from the Vancouver Coal and Land Company, at an annual rental of \$90, with option of purchase at any time for the sum of \$2,000.

The hon. Minister of Mines assured Mr. Clifford, in answer to a question, that it was the intention of the government to rigidly enforce the regulations regarding the holding of interests directly or indirectly in placer or mineral claims by officials in the districts in which they are employed. As to amending the Placer Mining act, as regards the size of claims and as to prevent jumping, these matters had not as yet been decided on but were under consideration.

The Attorney-General told Mr. Clifford, in answer to a question, that a judge would be sent to Atlin about the end of August, and that a recorder and constable were appointed for Porcupine district.

When the motion to adjourn the House came up Mr. Martin again reminded the government that they had promised to work hard and hasten the session as much as possible. It wanted yet more than an hour till six o'clock, and he thought they should proceed with some of the bills in committee, instancing the Liquor License bill, which was an important one and likely to take some time to discuss.

Hon. Mr. Eberts said he had been ready to go on with that and other bills, but had let that one stand over at the request of members. He had, however, arranged that this bill would be taken up on Friday.

Hon. Mr. Turner reminded Mr. Martin that the ministry had a great deal of work to do besides the sittings of the House, and it was to clear away some of that they wished to adjourn at that time. He assured the leader of the opposition that it would expedite the session more to let them carry out their arrangements than to insist on continuing that sitting.

The House then adjourned.

## Provincial Parliament

### Lengthy Discussion on the Liquor License Bill Took Place Yesterday

### Some Lively Times—There Will Be No Sitting on Monday.

Victoria, Friday.

The Liquor License Bill was the topic on which the House held a very lively debate this afternoon, though the relevancy of much of the discussion might be called in question, and indeed the Speaker was several times forced to remind members that they were wandering far afield from the matter in hand.

The Attorney-General, in moving the second reading of the bill, explained at some length the differences between it and the act of 1888 and 1899. Formerly a new application for license had to be accompanied by the signatures of two-thirds of the resident householders of the town, village or settlement, and as these terms were not defined in the act it was never certain whether the petition conformed to the letter of the law. To clear this up the terms were defined in the act submitted. It was also provided that applicants did not require to attend the meeting of commissioners in person as formerly. The radius within which it was necessary to get signatures to the application was now to be three miles instead of five. A graduated scale of fees had also been made for a locality of upwards of 200 inhabitants the fee being \$200, upwards of 100 and not exceeding 200, \$100, and for less than 100 the license to be \$60. The number of commissioners was also to be made three in place of two as hitherto. The Attorney-General also said he would, when in committee, ask to have several minor amendments introduced.

Mr. Martin said that as the Attorney-General had not in any way referred to the act of 1899, he possibly should not make any criticism of the present measure, but it was practically the same as the former act, which had been referred to in the recent campaign. "But," continued Mr. Martin, "as he has not referred to those matters in any way now, I do not feel like saying anything more as to the part he took in that campaign, but I must say something as to what was said by others and in the press of the province. There was probably no bill more criticised than the Liquor Act of 1899. It was 'crude, ill-judged, ill-advised, etc.' And now the House is asked to pass a bill almost identical with that of his which members opposite had condemned on the hustings and which newspapers had attacked most violently. The act of 1900 changed the law but little, the changing of commissioners and of license rates in localities less than 50 inhabitants, the rest being about the same. He would admit that when the act came to be enforced by the constables there was some dissatisfaction, for when the constable had to certify that there were but 50 people in a locality he at once certified that there were more if there were more. The trouble came when people who had been getting off with a \$60 license by saying there were only 50 people in the community had to pay \$200 when the constable certified that there were more than 50. It was once said that 'Bad Man Martin' had increased the license, when as a matter of fact it had not been increased at all, but these parties had been getting off light for years because they had a pull. He instanced Ashcroft and also Esquimalt, saying that he supposed at no place had there been a bigger howl than at the latter. The law was all right. The administration of it had been bad for years. After all, the vital change was the appointing of three instead of two commissioners. There had been cases in which it had worked badly to appoint but two where one of them let his personal feelings bias his decisions, and the change would obviate that objection.

While the bill proposed changes in the act of 1899 it also changed prior legislation and it was not right to say that it was a reflection on him and not on those who had framed the other acts. The truth was they would always have to amend the Liquor License Act as conditions kept changing. That had been the experience elsewhere and would be here. He criticised the dropping of the \$10 fee with every application. That had been imposed as a necessity to cover costs of inspection which had arisen by making the constables act as inspectors. Formerly there was no control, no one whose business it was to inspect these places. If such inspection was necessary, and it was, then the interests causing the expense should pay for it. The doing away with the bonds was not an advisable move. When he drew up the bill of 1899 some had been required to give bonds and some not, so he had made it uniform and required bonds from all. The principal objection was to the reduction of the license to \$60. It was urged that some could not afford to pay. If so then he thought it was not in the public interests to license such places. If we were floating in money and looking for classes to whom to grant favors, he could understand hon. gentlemen opposite conferring those favors on the liquor interest, though the opposition would look for some other classes to favor. But it was not true that they were floating in money—on the contrary, the province was hard up. The speech from the throne had announced that it was necessary to find means to increase the revenue, not only by taxing coal, but other commodities were to be laid under special levy. Then why this tremendous reduction in the license of \$200 to \$60? No such criticism of the act of 1899 could be made, yet it had been called crude, ill-judged, ill-digested, and everything else that

Hon. Mr. Eberts—Who got that off?

Mr. Martin—You did. (Laughter.) It was in the Colonist, and I met it everywhere from speakers and in papers in all parts of the province. It was condemned and when people said: Who did it? the reply was, Mr. Martin, and these people helped them on in the belief.

Mr. Hayward took exception to the tenor of Mr. Martin's remarks as to Esquimalt. As to the bill he agreed with its general principles, but in certain details it bore heavily on the district he represented and in committee he would do all he could to press certain amendments. Esquimalt was in a peculiar position, as there was a large portion of the population counted as far as licensing rates, but these people had three canyons of their own and did not patronize the hotels, nor had they votes.

Mr. Pooley did not approve of many things in the bill, though he would support it. A liquor license act was necessary, and the form of application was changed by the leader of the opposition in the act of 1899, which he did not hesitate to call crude, ill-considered legislation. Not every one cares to enter the class of business, and so far as he was aware the men who were in it were a very worthy class of the community. The calling was a necessary one, and as such was quite legitimate and honorable. Mr. Pooley continued at some length telling how Mr. Martin, in the campaign, would never stay to face his opponent, but leave at once after speaking.

R. Smith—What has all that to do with the License Act?

Mr. Speaker—These remarks are entirely out of order. The hon. member must confine himself to the subject of the debate.

Mr. Pooley—Well, sir, I am replying to the remark of the leader of the opposition. He is allowed on occasions to take the latitude he sees fit and I appeal to this House. If he goes on in that manner I will not sit quiet and listen to it.

Mr. Brown protested as to the latitude the debate had taken. As to the bill, he agreed it was not right to harass the liquor interest any more than any other interest. It was a legal business as long as licenses were granted to conduct it. At the same time it was not an ordinary calling such as other lines of ordinary mercantile pursuit. Great harm often arose from the too great consumption of intoxicating liquors. Competition in trade increased sales, and it had the same effect in liquor business. The dealers made their places more attractive, they degraded the quality of the liquors sold and in other ways there were abuses from too free granting of the privilege of selling liquor.

Hon. Mr. McBride of the opposition had more than make a only point he really is the doing away with that is not important in the License Act little notice. The position had made against members on House. At the risk of order he would political meetings in on the Mainland and were made as the heard. As to the \$10 fee, the hon. s mitted that sometimes travel 200 miles and house to be inspected. In that case the on help pay for the of fair. The old act pr stable inspected the in his opinion no fee. The hon. leader had made an attempt lery, and a very de that, by accusing the toring to the liquor i cause the Attorney- drafting the bill, in tively minor clause i the bond, it was t the license commis ment were afraid to charge their duties. tice the leader of when in power, dum the statutes of the found on the statute provinces. In 1899 bulldozed the House i tion—

Mr. Martin rather ed the speaker and d to what legislation th The leader of the o knew the reference w and the eight-hour lay

Hon. Mr. McBride for touching the hon. raw. He had been t with as much consid

Mr. Martin—It is a the Minister of Min such a manner.

Hon. Mr. Prentice "dastardly" in order? order for that and "con

Hon. Mr. McBride from the gentleman w his seat.

Mr. Speaker—This v out of order.

Mr. McBride concl by saying that the co by the leader of the impose great hardships ing class of public-ho who kept small way-si on the Ashcroft trail. of the opposition cam lumbia and dumped a wholesale with ver the conditions surround enco to Esquimalt, he w the government when. of the act of 1899, the refunded to certain in place half the amount ed. This government avoid such crude methc bill which would be ad ditions.

Mr. Oliver wished to vance if he should tr get out of order in his eeded to refer to sta Minister of Mines at late campaign.

Mr. Speaker suggeste ter had better be left i but Mr. Martin conten most pertinent, and Mr ed to say that he fellt tification in the bill r made on the platform r of 1899 by the Hon. M Hon. Mr. McBride—

Mr. Speaker again ca Mr. Oliver—Mr. Spea is rather hard on me



# Provincial Parliament

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

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

Legislature, Wednesday.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## Routine Business.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Hon. Mr. McBride—Never mentioned it.

Mr. Speaker again called for order.

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



**JUL**

**1900**

**Brilliant Scene at the Opening of Parliament Yesterday Afternoon.**

**Chamber Crowded With Ladies  
and Gentlemen—The Gov-  
ernor's Escort.**

**Speech [From the Throne Outlining the Session's Business.**

Queen's weather was the order for yesterday's function, and although Queen's weather in July is slightly warm, that cause of complaint did not interfere very seriously in the pleasure and splendor of the bright scene across the Bay when the vigor and beauty of the city turned out to see the first session of the new legislature formally opened by the new governor, Sir Henri Joly de Lotbiniere.

From the standpoint of the sight-seer it was a great crush, but a deeply interesting one. More than an hour before the time set, parties of visitors began to arrive, and the corridors and rotunda were soon resplendent with the beauties of fashion and of dress. Somewhat impatiently they chatted and at last formed deep in front of the big central entrance to the chamber, casting occasional glances of envy at those more fortunate ones who were able to secure entrance at the side and into the chamber from behind the Speaker's chair. Over 3,000 invitations had been issued, and there were so many people that when at last the sergeant-at-arms drew back the barrier the chairs were quickly filled, and apparently as many more visitors left perforce unprovided for.

In order to accommodate as many as possible, the members' desks had been removed and their chairs drawn up together, so that all around them other chairs could be placed, as well as over the half of the chamber farthest from the south. When these were all filled the opposition was well nigh lost sight of, and many necks were strained to catch a glimpse of the late Premier, his cabinet-ministers, and the few of his members of his following. They sat up on the speaker's left, while all around them were ranged the overflow of the ranks of the government.

In the general crush of the crowd the canons of procedure were rudely swept aside, and the many dignitaries present were often glad to get a seat at all rather than the one to which they were rightfully entitled. No confusion resulted, however, and that which was, was in these instances taken for that which ought to have been.

The bench of judges was well represented, for, though the Chief Justice had not been able to attend, the remaining judges of the Supreme court—viz., Messrs. Justices Walkem, Drake, Irving and Martin—were all present, as well as Judge Harrison, of the county court bench.

Across from these were noticed Mayor and Mrs. Charles Hayward and Sheriff and Mrs. McMillan.

The function was not held without the benefit of clergy, as in addition to many of the ministers of the city, a large number of Anglican clergy—many of them visitors from a distance who were in attendance at the present clerical meeting—were noticed. Amongst them was Dr. Charles J. Hoper, one of the New York Seminary staff of professors, who as a professor at Trinity College and rector of St. Thomas' church, Toronto, has many friends from end to end of Canada. Also, Messrs. Clinton and Underhill, of New York, and Shadrack, of New Westminster, with many others from Mainland points, were also in attendance, while at the head of their ranks sat Bishop Perrin and Bishop Child, both of this city.

Consul S. Shimizu, of the Japanese consulate at Vancouver, had also come down, and sat beside their lordships, in a consular uniform of black and gold.

Ex-Speakers J. A. Mara and D. W. Higgins were also noticed amongst the crowd, as were also several of the members of former legislatures, as well as several of the unsuccessful aspirants for seats in the present one.

The Hon. J. R. Stratton, of Toronto, one of Ontario's ministers, was also present, while the Commons was represented by both of this city's members.

ed by the speaker, when a hush fell over the 150 guests. All eyes turned to the door as the Governor entered. At the sight of the sergeant and his mate, all rose to their feet, and slowly along the narrow aisle the procession wended. Sir Henri bowing repeatedly to either side in recognition of his hearty welcome. On reaching the Speaker's chair a slight pause was made by the Provincial Secretary announcing that, as the house was yet without a Speaker, the Governor would withdraw until one had been selected. Upon this the party retired. His Honor being followed by all the staff, which consisted of Col. Grant, Major Wynne, Capt. Macdonald, Capt. Bowdler, Lieutenants Elliott, French, Wahl and Byrne, Col. McKay, the Clerk of the House, and a number of other members of the military, and naval officers, together with the commander and officers of the Canadian warship General Baquedano.

Mr. Murphy, of Ashcroft, then offered a motion to Clerk Fell. This nominated Mr. Booth, of North Victoria, to the speakership. In a few words Mr. Murphy referred to the fitness of this pioneer representative for such an office, at the same time deploring the fact that such an appointment would rob the assembly of the services of

the more active segments of the labor force. Their ripe experience and knowledge would benefit all.

Mr. Dickie, of Cowichan, who represents the constituency Mr. Booth had vacated, was represented—seconded this motion, speaking briefly of his honorable chair and fair-minded conduct.

The leader of the opposition suggested that the practice of other countries not to re-appoint the same person to a second term in the legislature should also well be introduced here. However, he had no objection to the proposal.

This was then the last session of the board and session of the committee to the chairmen, which he is now to direct the proceedings of the assembly.

Mr. Booth then expressed his thanks for the honor conferred upon him, and a message being read from the gubernatorial party returned. After a few words of congratulation to the women, Mr. Henri then made a short address, which ran as follows:

Mr. Speaker, I am honored in the Legislative Assembly to have the pleasure to meet you on the eve of the first session of the ninth Legislature of British Columbia, this morning. I am pleased since my accession to the office available to myself of this position to express my sincere thanks for the honor which I have received in British Columbia.

[illegible]

I am pleased to see that the condition of the province during the past year, notwithstanding the wave of depression, is still one in which war more particularly and resembling more normal conditions. It is not to anticipate a large increase in output in the present year. In East Germany and on various farms is on a prosperous basis, the past year exceeding that of the year. Lumbering is a more important and the new industries and the Agriculture, including the dairy, stock raising, and other branches, are making steady progress with prospects of an ultimate great development. The fisheries last year were successfully prosecuted, it is yet too early in the season to indicate the results of the present year operations.

"I observe that since the correspondence between the government of British Columbia and the federal and imperial governments, relative to Asiatic immigration, has been published, a large influx of Japanese has taken place, and it is the intention of my government to make strong representations at Ottawa and in Great Britain, with a view to protecting the interests of the laboring classes against the consequences of what threatens to be an alarming increase of the Japanese population.

The extensive requirements of the province in respect to works of development involve the carrying out of a vigorous policy of road building and my government will provide for a survey and report on the various sections requiring attention.

I am impressed with the opportunities which exist for the profitable carrying on of the manufacture of pulp in British Columbia, and I note with pleasure that preparations are being made and sites arranged for the extensive prosecution of this important industry.

My government will ask for an appropriation for defraying the expenses of a commission to enquire into the working of the mining acts, with a view to introducing legislation for the purpose of amending them at the next session; and into the various conditions affecting the question of water rights.

It is the intention of my government to impose a tonnage tax on the output of coal and coke in this province, and other measures will be considered for the purpose of increasing the revenue.

It is the intention of my government to provide in the estimates for a sum to place the office of the agent-general on a more satisfactory basis.

Owing to the fact that the present is an extra session for the purpose mainly of voting supplies, and that the regular session will be held at an early date, the measures to be submitted for your consideration though of an important nature, will be few in number.

The estimates of receipts and expenditure which have been prepared with a due regard to economy and the requirements of the province, will be submitted at an early date.

A vote for the expenditure necessary to carry on the business of the government until the estimates are passed will be 'immediately asked for.

I now leave you to your deliberations, which I pray may be attended with the blessing of Providence, and that the results of your labors may redound to your credit and to the prosperity of the province.

Sir Henri then retired, and as the long line of gold-trapped uniforms filed on after him to the provincial secretary's reception room, it could be very readily seen that he had created a deep impression in the minds of all present. The scene was a striking one, as many figures and military bearing and color always affords. But amidst all the venerable knight in a plain black suit, with a decoration on either breast, was of course the centre of all attraction, and most worthy so, too. The ready smile, the glance of keen perception, the kindly bearing and the knightly dignity all spoke of pre-eminent fitness for the high office to which he has been appointed, and in which—loyal province hastens, and in which—loyal province hastens, every mark of love, after

After a brief stay in the reception hall, where some light refreshments had been prepared, the party descended to their carriages. Here, again, the people thronged the vantage points, while a dozen files of the Fifth regiment, under Captain McCannan and Lieutenants Martin and Langley, composing the guard of honor, came to attention and saluted. The band, which was also in attendance, played the national anthem, and the long row of carriages departed down the drive.

It was the general impression that an adjournment until Monday would follow immediately, but before this was done all reports and papers were presented. Amongst these the most important was the report of the department of mines for 1909, which was presented by the Mr. McBride, while the honorable

vincial secretary presented the resolution for the registration of births, deaths and marriages, and that for the asylum for the insane. Hon. Mr. Egan then introduced the first government measure, a bill to amend the Small Debts act. This was read a first time. Monday next being named for its second reading.

At 3:35 o'clock Premier Dunsinville arose to make the formal resolution of adjournment until Monday next. This was at once opposed by Mr. Martin. His speech was short and of a prefatory sort. The stereotyped cry of "let's to business" was weakly lifted up, but the speech closed with a reference to Hon. Mr. Prentice, by whom Mr. Martin introduced he had been snubbed, and of whom he stated that "he is seldom responsible for what he says."



Hon. Mr. Prentice tried to catch the speaker's eye, but was anticipated by Mr. Turner, who explained that for 14 years the same excuse had been made for opposing the adjournment until Monday. The latter was now, however, a well defined practice and should be adhered to, if only in consideration for the opposition themselves, who required time to consider the Queen's speech and to arrange for their side of the debate thereon.

Hon. Mr. Eberts, in following, pointed to the haste of the Semlin-Martin government in 1890, when they went right on to business, the business at that time being the packing of the house and the passage of the alien law. Immediately after that, however, day after day, early adjournments of the house had been the order, and much more time was wasted in this way than had ever been saved on the outset. That very session, too, had been marked by the sad fact that whatever of its legislation had not subsequently been upheld, had suffered the worse fate of being disallowed. Besides this, there was quite enough in the Queen's speech to keep the opposition busy for a few days, especially as they had but just had it put in their hands.

Mr. McInnes—No, we had it in this morning's Colonist. How was that?

Mr. Eberts—Well, probably the Colonist people know the needs of the country so well that they could easily anticipate a few of the points that have appeared in the speech.

Hon. Mr. Prentice then complained that the leader of the opposition had made an attack upon him and demanded an explanation of the words "seldom responsible for what he says."

Hon. Mr. Martin—Everybody here knows what I mean.

Hon. Mr. Prentice—The honorable gentleman had made a cowardly, dastardly attack.

Cries of "Order, order."

Hon. Mr. Prentice—Well, Mr. Speaker, I shall confine myself and keep in order. The honorable gentleman has made an unwarranted attack upon me and I challenge him to give the details of what he means. If he blames me for removing the members' desks I accept that fault. I did it for the comfort and convenience of our many visitors. If that is a fault, sir, I apologize to you, sir, and to the house; but never, sir, to the honorable leader of the opposition.

Mr. Brown resumed the interrupted debate by regretting that the quiet protest of the leader had stirred up so much warmth. In the Imperial house 24 hours was considered quite long enough, but the practice here last nearly a week, which was a somewhat unreasonable business in what should be a short summer session.

Mr. McPhillips ended the debate by twitting Mr. Martin about the fact that such a protest was necessary to show the visitors that there was an opposition party in the house. Their numbers were so small and the room so full that they would otherwise have been quite overlooked and lost sight of. The leader, who had lost the voice of the electorate, was now to be found seeking the applause of the multitude.

The motion was then put and carried and the house adjourned until Monday next.

## Legislature Gets to Work

Speech From the Throne Is Carried Without Necessity for Division.

Mover and Seconder of Address Make a Good Impression.

The usual order of things was departed from yesterday afternoon in the legislature, when the Queen's speech was disposed of in an afternoon's debate and every promise given that the session's work will be most expeditiously advanced. A Vancouver member again moved the reply, and the interest attendant upon the fact that it was his maiden speech was soon lost sight of in the interest occasioned by the speech itself. Very similar was the case of Mr.

W. H. Hayward, the senior and not, as was inadvertently said in Saturday's issue, the junior member for Esquimalt. Both of these speeches were well and forcibly delivered and created excellent impressions upon either side of the house. The motion being put, Mr. Joseph Martin followed at some length, and a short speech from Premier Dunsmuir regarding the position of himself and his government brought the debate to an early end.

The galleries held but few visitors when Rev. J. H. Sweet read prayers, but little by little the crowd increased until when the house adjourned at about 4:15 standing room was at a premium.

Before the Queen's speech was reached, Mr. J. C. Brown, of Westminister, called the attention of the government to the most serious pestilence at Stoveston. There is a great loss to the canners and the fishermen, and it is bitterly felt that the loss of the entire season was threatened, a full week of the run having already gone by. The government, Mr. Brown considered was the only body so placed as to be able to interfere with any hope of success, and he strongly advocated such steps as had been taken by the late government regarding the labor trouble in the Kootenays.

Hon. Mr. Turner, in reply, informed the house that the government was following the matter very closely. They had exercised every precaution to prevent any breach of the peace and were ready and willing to do all that lay in their power to relieve the imminent catastrophe.

In moving the reply to the Lieutenant-Governor's speech, Mr. R. G. Tatlow, the third member for the city of Vancouver, apologized for prefacing his speech by a few remarks regarding his own position in the house. Soon after the election, as was well known, he had pledged himself to support the present administration for this session upon the condition that no contentious matter for legislation was introduced. This condition, as might be seen in the speech, had been well kept, and he accordingly felt no hesitation in accepting the honor of moving the reply, not so much on his own account, perhaps, but rather because of the tribute and honor carried with it to the importance of the city that he had the honor to represent.

Regarding the appointment of a commission might be raised regarding the policy of appointing to that office from without the province, but aside from that he was sure that no more fitting appointment could have been made from the whole of Canada, and he was glad to join with the Liberals in words of welcome to the appointee of their government, Sir Henri Joly, who had so happily served the Dominion in the past.

The approach of the end of the war in South Africa must be a cause of great happiness to all. In its prosecution British Columbia had contributed as largely, if not more largely, in proportion than any other province or colony, and it was only through the oversight of the federal authorities that this province was not represented at the front by a distinct contingent. In spite of that, however, British Columbia was well to the fore, and although it is now necessary to sympathize with many in their bereavement through the war, yet it must be remembered that every drop of blood thus shed but the more cements the unity of the great Empire to which we belong and brings nearer the day of the outward and visible sign of Imperial confederation. It is with regret, however, that while the shadows are lifting from Africa a great gloom of darkness is settling over China, and yet there, too, when the hour of vengeance comes the sons of Canada will be found well in the van.

In a material way the cause of Empire has received fresh impulse of late, Hon. Mr. Chamberlain announcing that the initial steps will soon be taken in the laying of the Pacific cable, and that it is proposed to make use of the Coast channel in the forwarding of troops to the Orient. In this affair the coal supplies of Vancouver Island and the Crow's Nest Pass will also prove most serviceable to the Empire. A great deal of satisfaction is felt too in the fact that the metalliferous mines of the Kootenays are again producing. A signal proof of their resumption is found in the large amount of capital now being invested in the erection of smelters in that district, which would, if followed by the erection of more here, thereby preventing the transference of Canadian gold in Seattle for American currency.

Another matter to be regretted is the large amount of money being sent out of the province each year for agricultural products. This brought home to every thinker the fact of how vital agricultural interests are. Legislation might do something towards relieving this position.

There were suburban lands which might be cut up and so managed that laborers might have their plot of ground upon which to work in the evening and provide themselves with vegetables. There was also the great question of idle Indian lands, locked up against all production, and the best very often throughout the country. Proper recompense being made, these might well be thrown open to settlement.

Its relations with the Dominion government the financial aspect was not what it might be. Out of a federal revenue of \$3,184,000 in 1899 the province received in all but \$1,233,000. That left nearly \$2,000,000 to the credit of British Columbia, and yet from it the province for railways this past session received only \$96,000. It was the same year with the fishing finances. There the revenue amounted to \$45,800, of which only \$3,736 were spent in improvements.

In 1890 the Liberal leader had promised to do something towards alleviating the question of cheap Asiatic labor. Nothing, however, had been done until this year, when the present government at Ottawa had increased the tax from \$80 to \$100, but even then the Dominion gov-

ernment kept the most of it, and the measure did not promise to be either a restrictive or a financial success. Last year this branch of the revenue had yielded \$215,000, of which \$52,000 had been returned to the province. The Japanese, too, were crowding in now, their numbers being, however, self-restricted to 5,520 a year to both Canada and the United States. While the results were not yet fully felt, matters were already very serious, and it would be well to press our provincial rights to their fullest possible limit, by legislating aggressively wherever possible. This might be done also by inserting a clause keeping this sort of labor out of all government works, contracts and franchises, and by striving in every way to secure the adoption of an act similar to the Natal Act.

Regarding the construction of roads, trails and bridges, a comprehensive scheme should be brought down. This would not only provide for the construction of trunk roads, but also for such railways as the province most urgently needed. Of these two were worthy of notice, viz., a more direct line from the Coast to the Kootenays and an all-Canadian route to the mines of the North.

Of pulp, Great Britain was at present drawing large supplies from Canada, last year taking over 400,000 tons. When it is remembered that a mill producing 100 tons of wood pulp a day employs over 150 men, exclusive of those in the woods, and that Canada already has 35 mills in operation, representing an investment of nearly \$100,000,000, the size of this industry will be appreciated, and also the importance and value of our provincial supplies of wood fit for pulping. Towards the opening up of this great industry regulations may be needed and a good deal of work will be required in the opening up of the industry.

He would also remind the government of the immense responsibility at present on their heads in the task of rescuing the province from the suspense of political uncertainty and from a condition in which the people suffered the outrage of their rights and privileges. The country had risen in its might and shown its resentment of this outrage and its devotion to its liberties, and it now remains for the Premier to carry out his pledge, and with a strong and representative government and by a wise and progressive policy, restore the credit of the province to the high position which it formerly held. In doing so he was sure that the government would enjoy the confidence and support of the whole of the country at large.

Mr. W. H. Hayward, senior member for Esquimalt, in seconding the reply, said:

The third member for Vancouver has gone so thoroughly over the ground that I fear that many of my remarks will be but a repetition. However, I shall try to avoid touching upon debatable politics and rather try to discuss the business of the country. I feel quite sure that the country is sick and tired of political bickerings and waste of time, and is willing and glad to support a government that will undertake to handle the business of the province in a business-like way.

In taking up the address in detail, I cannot allow the opportunity to pass without saying a few words upon the gallant deeds done by British Columbians in South Africa. Here, living in the peace and quiet of British Columbia, we do not see the pomp and misery of battle; but although so far away from the seat of war, we have felt the shock occasioned by the news of the death and suffering of many of our own people. When the wires first told of one of our sister colonies being invaded, no part of the British Empire was more stirred to its bottom than this, and, Mr. Speaker,



I believe that from the announcement of the war up to this time no one province or colony with like population has borne the brunt more willingly or shed their blood more freely, and, if I might express a thought that has no doubt found echo in the minds of many British Columbians, it is that a statue be raised by the province to the memory of those who fell in defence of a part of our Empire and have done so much to weld the Empire into one harmonious whole.

It has been with horror that we have read of the awful deeds in China during the past two months, and it seems to me to say a great deal for the patience of the people of British Columbia that, having a Chinese question—a live question of their own—they have been able to control their feelings so admirably and have allowed no overt act to mar their sense of superiority over a race whose acts pass all understanding.

But if we can shake hands over the deeds done in South Africa, we have every reason to be pleased with the turn of affairs here at home. This fair province of ours has been in a very unsettled state of late, but I feel sure that with a business-like government we shall have that which the people so much desire, namely, freedom from agitation, a stable future, and legislation that, while fully protecting the rights of the worker, will open up great possibilities for the employment of capital.

It is satisfactory to note that the prospector is continually opening up new mining fields, both placer and quartz, and I hope to see every reasonable aid given to carry on development work. I see so many honorable members who are better able to discuss the mining outlook and requirements of miners that I will not take up your time any further on this point.

With regard to agriculture, however, I would like to say a few words. In the past it seems to have been generally considered that this great industry has received its full share of attention. This view, however, I do not think is consistent with the facts of the case, and if you will bear with me for a short while I should like to call some of these to your attention.

First of all, we are at the present time sending out of our province money to the tune of two millions and a half for agricultural products, the greater part of which might easily be raised within our borders. This is a very large sum of money, amounting to about \$15 per capita, and I think alone affords a reason for placing agriculture higher in the thoughts of our legislators.

More attention might be paid by the educational department in teaching the common things of the country. Nature study and its great usefulness is being well understood in the provinces and states to the east of us, and I cannot help thinking that the system that now obtains in our rural schools is but fitting the younger generation to flock to the cities rather than to cause them to take an interest in rural life.

Again, the institute system that was started some three or four years ago has received but little pushing and far too little printed matter in the shape of reports and bulletins. This is particularly to be deprecated, seeing that the vast stores of knowledge and experience as found in the many agricultural schools and colleges all over the continent are open to the public at little more than the cost of the paper and printing.

Then, again, if we will consider the variable climate, the different altitudes, that proximity or distance from the coast

afford, we can see how utterly useless must be the experience gained at a single experimental station unless augmented by smaller ones in different parts of the province.

The answers to all these points are not so plain, but one suggestion at least might bear serious consideration, and that is that agriculture, the backbone of any country, should at least be placed upon the same legislative basis as mining, and that this house should amend its rules so as to include a standing committee on agriculture.

Turning to the fisheries of our province, I must deplore the present circumstances that are a bar to the canning industry, and these troubles would seem to point to the necessity of a better Arbitration and Conciliation Act than we have at present on the statute book.

It is pleasing to note that the government intend to make proper representations to the Federal and Imperial authorities with regard to the large influx of Japanese into this province. The course suggested in the speech would appear to be the proper one and the one most likely to have a successful issue. At least "defence, not defiance," should be our position in approaching the subject, particularly if we would consider the friendly relations now existing between Great Britain and Japan at a time when our Mother Country requires all the alliances possible across the Pacific.

But while discussing the Japanese question I would like to say a word concerning the present high rate of naturalization going on among the Japanese here. I cannot but think that the house will agree with me in viewing this matter in a serious light, and in suggesting that the federal authorities be memorialized that more stringent regulations with regard to identification should accompany the present act.

As representing a rural constituency and one that soon promises to have its big mining camps, I could not but be pleased to see that the government intends to carry on the systematic building of trunk roads. In the early days of this province such roads did much to aid provincial development by opening up agricultural districts and mining areas, and if I might be permitted I should like to call the attention of the house to the fact that trunk roads are and should be the forerunners of railroads, but that, while the latter are a necessity for large development works the former are essentially a necessity, allowing the prospector and settler to have entry and exit at but little cost, and these again are most assuredly the harbingers of bigger undertakings. The opening up of the province by good trunk roads is a crying necessity, and one, too, that I feel will be endorsed by the people.

With regard to the wood-pulp industry, I believe that it has vast possibilities in this province, and I would like to call attention to the large bodies of spruce on the West Coast of Vancouver Island, and more particularly at Port Renfrew.

But while the expenditure is to be increased it must stand to reason that the revenue must be increased also, and I think that the government are to be congratulated on the means found to supply such revenue, namely, by a tonnage tax on coal. It would appear that there are other natural products that might stand slight taxation, and such taxation becomes particularly appropriate if the large bulk of such product is exported.

I feel sure that the placing of the agent-general's office on a satisfactory basis is a necessity. The province is in that state when men and capital are required, and advertising becomes a necessity. To do this the agent-general's office should be both well-appointed and well situated, so as to attract the attention needed of all classes.

And, Mr. Speaker, I trust that the appropriations, while not extravagant will be ample to enable the government to carry out a satisfactory public works programme, and that the civil list, while not being beyond the needs of the province, may be such that the departments can be carried on satisfactorily, and with the knowledge that those whose services are employed are paid according to their merits.

Mr. Joseph Martin followed. After complimenting the mover and seconder of the reply upon their able and moderate speeches, he took his cue from Mr. Tatlow's opening remarks. That gentleman supported the government upon certain conditions, the conditions being that non-contentious business be left alone for this session. This was a very interesting bargain, and no doubt the details of the deal would be much more interesting. Neither the mover nor the seconder of the reply had ran as government candidates, and their present position was a most peculiar one. They did not wish contentious matters to be brought in, and that could only mean that they would support the government so long as the government did nothing. The bargain, too, had been made but for this session, but what then?

Hon. Mr. Turner—Nothing.

Mr. Martin—Yes, but there is something and something affecting the hon. member who has just spoken. We are told that there are certain objectionable members in the government. These interfere with hearty co-operation. They must be removed. And after the session this would be done, and after the session those promises of support expired. Regarding the industries of the province, they seemed to Mr. Martin to be about as they were a few months back. At that time everything was very bad, very bad, too, all because of himself and ex-Governor McInnes; now, however, the speech says things are much better, but where is there any change? These details, too, would be interesting.

He sympathized with Mr. Tatlow upon the Chinese question. Mr. Tatlow saw it all right and advocated other things than bare representations to Ottawa, but with these the speech stopped, and so its references to the subject meant practically nothing. Mr. Martin then spoke for some time upon the question of cheap Oriental labor, making his usual points and attributing all the harm to the C. P. R.

After dealing briefly with several of the other points of the speech, he took up the proposition to appoint a commission regarding the mining law and water rights. This commission, he argued strenuously, should not be empowered to deal with the eight-hour law. That law was not of course actually mentioned, but he had no doubt that it was the chief piece of mining legislation that the commission would have to look into. He then attacked the appointment of a commission at all, urging that it would tend to unsettle the mining industry, and that after all the members of the house were the persons best fit to take this matter up.

He congratulated the Premier upon what he considered the sole feature of the speech, viz. the taxing of the coal and coke output. This doubtless was the Premier's own work. All the rest was but the old Turnerism of days gone by.

He reminded the house that though this was a special session, it was really the session for the year. All the work of the year, because of the abortive winter sitting, had yet to be done, and the house was called to do it now. If the government persisted in furthering this end the opposition would assist them. The opposition would give them a fair chance to do it, too, but if they proved very tardy, the opposition would intrude.

There were many important matters not mentioned in the speech. Of these the matter of railways and of redistribution were but examples.

Mr. Martin then concluded by chiding the government a little upon their stability, claiming that they were there only on the sufferance of several of the members who were parties to the bargain he had spoken of in the beginning of his speech.

Mr. Speaker Booth had twice enquired officially, "Are you ready for the question?" when the house hushed with its st as the Premier arose. In quiet tones the leader congratulated the mover and seconder of the reply, upon their happy efforts, and then proceeded to make a few remarks upon the situation of himself and his government. As a result of the recent elections he had been most unexpectedly called to office. The honor had not been sought by him nor even wished for. He had had neither desire nor hope for political high office, and it was only because of the peculiar condition of the affairs of the province that he had undertaken the task of forming a government. He knew that the country was tired of political turmoil and that it required a stable administration. This he thought that he could form and he was glad to find himself so successful in the attempt. Probably no administration of this province had ever been formed in so short a time before.

Personally he did not wish to be a political leader, but he did wish to see this province thrive, and to see its affairs conducted with a businesslike statesmanship, and he trusted that his government would enjoy the support of all those in the house who desired to see matters stably and quietly administered.

It had been said that it was the old Turner government over again, and personally he hoped that it was, as the Turner government had done more for British Columbia than any other government had ever done.

Again the Speaker's cry was heard, and the division bell ringing, the motion was put and carried. A few minutes were then devoted to formal business and the house adjourned until to-day at 2 p.m.

By message from the Lieutenant-Governor the liquor license bill was introduced yesterday afternoon.

Bills to amend the Evidence Act and the Notaries Public Act were also introduced by Attorney-General Eberts and read a first time.

Mr. Speaker Booth before the house adjourned read a letter from the secretary of the National Council of Women, at present meeting in this city, an invitation to the members to their meeting in the Victoria theatre to-night.

W. H. Keary, Arthur Mallins, C. G. Major, T. J. Trapp, George D. Brynner and W. J. Mathers, of New Westminster, and H. D. Brown, of Ladner, came down from the Royal City last night as a delegation to interview the government this morning regarding the grant to the Royal Agricultural Exhibition and other matters relating to city.

#### PETITIONS.

The following petitions were presented: By Mr. Tatlow—A petition to amend the act respecting the Synod of New Westminster; and the petition of Messrs. Jeffrey and Cox to incorporate the Crow's Nest Pass Electric Power & Light Co.



By Mr. Garden—A petition to amend the Vancouver city charter; a petition to incorporate the Hastings Mill's logging road, to be known as the Rock Bay & Salmon River railway; and a petition to amend the act of the Vancouver, Northern & Yukon railway.

By Mr. Helmeke—A petition to incorporate the Vancouver & New Westminster Railway Co.; a petition respecting the Vancouver & Fraser River Railway Co.; and a petition respecting the Kamloops & Atlin railway.

By Mr. Hall—A petition to incorporate the Chilkat Pass Railway & Navigation Co.

#### QUESTIONS

On Wednesday Mr. Tait will ask the Attorney-General: Does the government intend taking any steps to validate tax sales, especially government tax sales held in New Westminster district in 1896?

On Wednesday Mr. Brown will ask the Premier: Is the intention of the government to levy the house fees to be exacted in respect of private bills on which fees were paid at last session, and which owing to prorogation of the house before the business of the session was concluded, could be introduced during the present session?

On Friday Mr. Smith will ask the Minister of Finance: For the financial year ending 30th June, 1900, what were the receipts from ordinary revenue purposes—(1) from taxes in bonds and in hands of merchants; (2) from loans borrowed from the government; (3) from other sources; and what were the expenditures—(1) for the interest on the said loans; (2) for the interest on the said bonds; (3) for the interest on the said other sources; and what was the balance of such financial year? Also, what was the credit of the province available for payment of ordinary liabilities?

#### NOTICES

The following notices were given: By Mr. Smith—Of a bill to accelerate the incorporation of the city of Phoenix.

By Mr. McPhillips—Of a bill intitled "The Shops Regulation Act, 1900."

By Mr. R. F. Green—Of a bill intitled "The Sandom Bill."



## Emergency

### Appropriations

Estimates for the Running Expenses to Be Discussed on Friday.

A Routine Day at the Legislature Punctuated by Mr. Martin's Attacks.

Public measures and private bills received an expeditious attention in the legislature yesterday afternoon. Of the former four bills, those affecting the Small Debts court evidence, notaries public, trustees, were all advanced a stage or two, while the Hon. the Attorney-General gave notice of the introduction of two more, viz., those amending the Supreme Court and the Jurors Acts. Hon. Mr. Eberts also announced the readiness of the government to proceed with the Liquor License Act, but as this is a bill of some length and of a great deal of importance, it was decided to leave it in the members' hands for another day before taking it up.

By message from the Lieutenant-Governor an emergency supply was received by the house for the sum of \$150,000. This will provide for the payment of salaries, urgent public works and other necessary services for the financial year ending 30th June, 1901, and by motion of the Hon. the Minister of Finance will be taken into consideration by the house on Friday next.

Under the head of private legislation four additional petitions for charters were received, while seven of those previously presented were read and received. As there are but 14 of these bills set down for this session, this indicates excellent progress in this matter.

The Small Debts Court Amendment Act was given its second reading and committed. Mr. Clifford in the chair. The provisions regarding garnisheeing before judgment, the prohibiting of judges of this court from acting as collecting agents, and the partial exemption of salaries and wages from attachment, were, with slight amendments, all agreed upon, but a clause regarding the exemption when the pay was for piece work, such as now prevails in the Rossland, caused a slight hitch, and the committee rose to sit again for its consideration.

The amendment to the Evidence Act was made the excuse by the leader of the opposition for an attack upon the Attorney-General. The Hon. Mr. Eberts had explained the changes contemplated, which referred to answers tending to incriminate the witness, the evidence of wives and husbands, and evidence regarding claims brought against the estates of persons of diseased or unsound minds. These Mr. Joseph Martin opposed. He appeared to fancy that his ability to draft a bill had been questioned by the Attorney-General in certain of his pre-election speeches. In these the legislation of 1890 had been denounced as hasty, ill-advised and requiring amendment in the next succeeding session, if, indeed, the measures escaped the fate of being disallowed. Though repeatedly recalled to the matter of the debate, as well as to order, Mr. Martin struggled through the interruptions of the Speaker and others to drive home the attack, but could not draw the Attorney-General from the position which he firmly took, viz., that he would not consider an attack when he could not reply without putting himself out of order. Again and again Mr. Martin attempted to have his way and was at last successful in receiving recognition from the Hon. Mr. McBride, who, in attributing the stand taken by the leader of the opposition to the keenness of his feelings over the results of the late elections, rather carried the war into Africa, to the great amusement of the house and the greater chagrin of Mr. Joseph Martin. That gentleman did, however, make clear his basal point, that because a law in time requires amendment, the maker of the law, however, need not have been incapable. To this Mr. McPhillips pointed out, however, that there was a great difference between the need for amending a statute some years after it had been passed and the need to do so at the very earliest opportunity after it had become law. Finally, however, the bill passed its second reading. The changes run as follows:

"6. No witness shall be excused from answering any question upon the ground that the answer to such question may tend to criminate him, or may tend to establish his liability to a civil proceeding at the instance of the crown or of any person; provided, however, that if with respect to any question the witness objects to answer upon the ground that his answer may tend to criminate him or may tend to establish his liability to a civil proceeding at the instance of the crown or of any person, and if but for this question, then, although the witness shall be compelled to answer, yet the answer so given shall not be used or receivable in evidence against him in any criminal trial or other criminal proceeding against him thereafter taking place other than a prosecution for perjury in giving such evidence."

"24. Notwithstanding any statute or law to the contrary, the parties to any action, suit, petition, or other matter of a civil nature in any of the courts of the province and their wives shall, except as hereinafter excepted, be competent as witnesses, and compellable to attend and give evidence in like manner as they would be if not parties to the proceedings, or wives of parties: Provided always, that no plaintiff in any action for breach of promise of marriage shall recover a verdict unless his or her testimony shall be corroborated by some other material evidence in support of such promise."

"50. No husband shall be compellable to disclose any communication made by his wife during the marriage, and no wife shall be compellable to disclose any communication made to her by her husband during the marriage."

"51. In any action or proceeding by or against a person found by inquisition to be of unsound mind, or being an inmate of a lunatic asylum, an opposite or interested party shall not obtain a verdict, judgment or decision therein, on his own evidence, unless such evidence is corroborated by some other material evidence."

"52. In any action or proceeding by or against the heirs, executors, administrators or assigns of a deceased person, an opposite or interested party to the action shall not obtain a verdict, judgment or decision therein, on his own evidence, in respect of any matter occurring before the death of the deceased person, unless such evidence is corroborated by some other material evidence."

Hon. Mr. Eberts, before introducing the Notaries Public amendment bill, took the opportunity to explain that he had never cast any reflection upon Mr. Martin's professional abilities, but had frequently spoken highly of them. He had, however, often regretted that they had been so frequently misdirected. It was all nonsense for that gentleman to attempt to put words into his mouth, although in referring to some of the acts of 1890 he had used Mr. Martin's own expressions regarding the obnoxious alien bill.

The Notaries Bill was then explained by the Attorney-General. It provided for the repeal of the power to appoint notaries for less area than the whole of the province, and thus would bring a little more revenue to the treasury. The fee had been \$10 for an appointment for a portion of the province, and \$20 for the whole.

Hon. Mr. Turner then presented the following message from His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor:

"The Lieutenant-Governor transmits to the legislative assembly a schedule of emergency supply for \$150,000, to provide for the payment of salaries, urgent public works and other necessary services for the financial year ending 30th June, 1901, all payments from which sum will form a part of the estimates to be apportioned to the various services and votes for the said financial year, and recommends the same to the legislative assembly."

By motion this was decided to be considered on Friday next.

A message was then received setting forth the return of the election in the district of Cassiar. This brought Mr. Martin to his feet again. There had been four candidates in that riding, he said, one of them a former member of the legislature, Capt. Irving, having been defeated. He wished to call the attention of the country and the house to that gentleman's actions. Actuated, as it would appear, by a grudge against his old electorate, he had applied for an injunction to hinder the effect of the voice of the polls. Such an act could do him no good; neither could it help either party in the house, as a member from Cassiar sat on either side; but, had the application been successful, it

would have brought about the greatest possible injury to that riding by depriving it of representation during the present session and parliament. There were many questions coming up at present which were of vital interest to Cassiar, and it would have been a great pity to have robbed them of their representation upon the only grounds of complaint that the returning officer could not make his return before the date specified.

This onslaught upon the popular commodore called forth a vigorous reply from the Hon. Mr. McBride. Of course, it was not a question to which the government was a party, but in making such a political speech the leader of the opposition had just seen fit to attack a man who had no chance to reply. He wished from a personal knowledge to state that Capt. Irving was not only well thought of in Cassiar, but that he had Cassiar's interests deeply at heart. His interests there were too large to make him have a grudge against that district, and he would be the last man to wish it any harm.

Mr. Martin, too, would rob a man of the common right to appeal to the courts when he had a grievance, and if he so doing he was looking forward to a new election—and that was a most distant prospect—he would find much more difficulty in accounting for his own acts of 1890 up there than ever the man would whom he was now traducing.

The Hon. the Premier was then about to move the lists of the standing committees for the session, but as these had not been considered by the opposition, the matter was stood over until to-day.

The house then adjourned at about 4:15 o'clock.

Provi

The Fras  
the

Mr. Mc  
Labo

So soon  
legislature  
moved to  
order to  
affairs  
existen  
ter would  
the membe  
eral questio  
regarding  
officers to  
that the vo  
and New Y  
ing Stevest  
serious aspe  
Speaker B  
being treat  
more unusu  
very thorou  
members ta  
and shades  
receiving ca  
ate express  
Mr. Smith  
represented  
standpoint,  
Kidd, who  
salmon-pach  
have spoke  
cannery at  
summed by  
premises w  
General El  
Bride, whil  
Oliver, wit  
matter from  
opposition.  
Vanconver  
attempting  
matter, all  
grave busin  
side of the  
leader of th  
the debate.  
After a s  
Joseph Ma  
show that  
in introduci  
of the sittin  
at once plu  
the present  
ton was a  
ernment ha  
they were  
sideration.  
coming up  
in sending  
policemen,  
further con  
hundreds o  
rounded th  
These were  
tect the ind  
ists. And  
self repulsi  
fessness, ye  
the fact tha  
had now g  
the milita  
to the odium  
fair provinc  
ernment wh  
for them to  
most unfor  
vailing ther  
From wh  
assured the  
good reason  
troops. Th  
paper had  
sented by  
whose rem  
let the mili  
were in per  
tion of the  
taking. T  
been taken  
instance o  
authorities,  
wrong-doing  
rant it. A  
tremity rea  
side of the  
cannery and



## Provincial Legislature

### The Fraser River Strike One of the Chief Topics of Discussion.

#### Mr. McInnes Introduces His Labor Bill—Chinese Re- striction.

So soon as prayers were over in the legislature yesterday, Mr. Ralph Smith moved the adjournment of the house in order to bring to its notice the state of affairs existing at Steveston. This matter would have come up in due time, as the member for Nanaimo City had several questions on the paper for the day regarding the sending of special police officers to the Fraser river, but the fact that the volunteer soldiery of Vancouver and New Westminster are now occupying Steveston gave, if possible, a more serious aspect to the trouble, and, as Mr. Speaker Booth decided, justified its being treated in the assembly after this more unusual fashion. The debate was very thorough-going, a dozen of the members taking part in it, and all sides and shades of opinion upon the subject receiving careful and withal most moderate expression.

Mr. Smith, in introducing the subject, represented it very ably from a labor standpoint, Hon. Mr. Turner and Mr. Kidd, who are both interested in the salmon-packing industry, may be said to have spoken to the question from the canners' standpoint. The position assumed by the administration in the premises was well set forth by Attorney-General Eberts and the Hon. Mr. McBride, while Messrs. Smith, Curtis and Oliver, with Mr. Gilmour handled the matter from the point of view of the opposition. The fourth member from Vancouver was almost the sole speaker attempting to make capital out of the matter, all the others approaching it as a grave business question, practically outside of the sphere of party politics. The leader of the opposition took no part in the debate.

After a spirited retort directed at Mr. Joseph Martin, who had endeavored to show that Mr. Smith was not in order in introducing the matter at that stage of the sitting, the member for Nanaimo at once plunged into the matter. At the present time the situation at Steveston was a most serious one. The government had assured the house that they were giving the matter every consideration. He had several questions coming up to-day concerning their policy in sending over a number of special policemen, but now the matter was much further complicated by the fact that hundreds of armed soldiery now surrounded this most important industry. These were there, it was said, to protect the industry from the trades unionists. And while no one more than himself repudiated all sympathy with lawlessness, yet he could not but deplore the fact that all over the land the story had now gone forth that a recourse to the military had been necessary, much to the odium of the fair name of this fair province. He would ask the government whether it were not yet possible for them to interfere and alleviate the most unfortunate conditions now prevailing there.

From what he could learn, too, he was assured that there was absolutely no good reason for this calling out of the troops. The reports in the morning's paper had shown how much it was resented by the people of that district, whose remarks that "if blood must flow, let the militia be the first to shed it," were in perfect accord with the moderation of the stand that the strikers were taking. This most extreme step had been taken when there was but a single instance of intimidation before the authorities, and a single instance of wrong-doing could not reasonably warrant it. As a matter of fact, the extremity reached was a help but one side of the dispute. It helped out the canners and it helped out the Japs. He

was desirous to learn from the government, in order that both the house and the country might be informed whether sufficient reasons could be found for a step such as this, which, as all knew, was the last resort under any circumstances. If such could be found, he would be the last to refuse to acknowledge it, and would give his endorsements to such proceedings for the sake of the peace and protection which they might afford. But he was forced to believe that the fishermen had done nothing to merit such extreme action, and so far as he could see, the only result of such intervention was to hand over the fisheries of the rivers to the thousands of Japs, and drive the honest native toilers out of the industry. Beyond that it only played into the hands of the canners.

But it was a shame that there was nothing to resort to except the militia. He did not wish to embarrass the government, but he thought they should be in a position to call all parties together and settle such disputes as this. Only the opposite results could come from overawing the laborers by force of arms. These men had the right to combine, the right to object and to remonstrate and use all fair means to induce men to join in not taking such prices which they held to be out of reason, and while they went beyond that right, armed interference was nothing short of an outrage.

The matter hinged upon the provocation, and if the government were unable to give sufficient reasons for the sending over of the specials, and if good warrant was not found for the presence of the soldiery, he urged that the house should use its influence towards the withdrawal of these forces.

He was happy to learn that the government had tried to secure a settlement of the dispute, but it pointed much against the fairness of the canners that they had refused this offer of mediation, and he would say the same of the men if it were true that they also had refused it. Both sides having thus declared against arbitration, he held it all the more necessary that in the public interests a compulsory law of arbitration and conciliation should be embodied in the statute book.

Hon. Mr. McBride followed. Coming from a riding adjoining that in which the trouble raged, he took a great deal of personal interest in it. Overtures had been made to the government to interfere, but it was a well known fact that unless these overtures were strongly made any consequent interference was most likely to be futile. The canners had made representations to the government, and when it appeared that both private property and the public peace were likely to be endangered the provincial officer had been empowered to secure the service of special policemen. The strikers, however, had kept well within the law, but when last week's report had grown very serious, the government saw fit to send him over there. He had gone and, happily, had found it most quiet and orderly and no disposition apparent towards law breaking. The press reports of instances of intimidation had been corroborated by the police officers, and there was little doubt but that if at that time the government had sent over a large force, it might have aggravated the matter. The government of the day had been careful, however, to stand aloft from committing itself to either side of the trouble, and of course had nothing to do with the calling out of the militia. This stand of the government had since been justified by the fact that there had been no outbreaks of lawlessness. The question was a very serious one, indeed, as this great industry largely affected other businesses, not only of the province generally, but especially many in New Westminster and other interested places. The Dominion government had a commissioner on the ground, Mr. Bremner, but he had been very late in arriving, otherwise his efforts had, perhaps, been more successful in effecting a settlement. The fact that the Dominion government received so great a revenue from the licenses for fishing should place the more of the responsibility of effecting a happy settlement upon them.

Mr. McInnes—When the government offered its services, when party refused?

Mr. McBride—The New Westminster board of trade, with the board of trade for Vancouver asked the government to intervene. On this the Premier telegraphed, offering services, but the offer met with no recognition. At Steveston, Mr. McBride added, he found the situation very hard. The canners held absolute terms in their hands, and the fishermen likewise, making an attempt towards conciliation most difficult, indeed.

Mr. Brown, of New Westminster, then pointed out that the matter had come up so suddenly that the government could not be expected to have a system of compulsory arbitration ready to apply to the case, but he thought that a public offer should have been made so that the party refusing might by that very act show itself to be in the wrong. The shortness of the fishing season made the need for such an offer all the more pressing. There was but one deduction from the matter, however, and that was, as Mr. Ralph Smith had said, that the government should put itself in a position to interfere and arbitrate in such cases as they were now considering. As it now stood, both fishermen and canners had kept firm and orderly, yet the militia had been sent in, and as a result the canners got their way and our own people were debarred, self-debarred it might be, and the river given over to the Japs. A compulsory law of arbitration worked well in other places under these circumstances and doubtless it would too here.

Mr. Neil pointed out that the debate was drifting away from Mr. Smith's question about the calling out of the militia. There should be strong reasons for this, as it appeared in the statute, which ran as follows: "The active militia \* \* \* shall be liable to be called out for active service with their arms and ammunition in aid of the civil power in any case in which a riot, disturbance of the peace or other emergency requiring such service occurs, or is, in the opinion of the civil authorities, anticipated as likely to occur." (Three justices of the peace constitute the civil authorities referred to).—Militia and Defence Act, S. 34.

In this case he considered that the justices of the peace had largely exceeded, not their jurisdiction, but their discretionary powers, as so little law-breaking could hardly warrant so extreme a step. The calling out of the militia was, it must be remembered, the very last resort to preserve the peace. He thought that the government should inquire upon what reasons these magistrates had taken such extreme action.

Mr. Green congratulated the house upon the standpoint from which they had approached this grave question, as also the spirit in which it was being discussed. It was quite too bad that matters had gone so far at Steveston, for the good name of the province could not but suffer from such a report as that of the calling out of the militia to preserve the peace. There was no questioning the fact that matters had become very serious indeed on the Fraser, but they could hardly have been so bad as to justify such a step as that which the justices had seen fit to take. There appeared to be but one purpose in it, and that to advertise the one side as very bad indeed, and at the same time to help out the other in the dispute. He had lived in the province for many years, and knew it to be essentially law-abiding—so much so that all must feel the present disgrace keenly and deplore it quite as much. The government had, however, taken a fair stand in the matter. They had been desirous of preserving the peace and of settling the trouble, and it was a great pity that the parties to the dispute had not accepted their offered services.

Mr. McPhillips came to the rescue of the justices of the peace. It was not fair to judge and condemn them, not only behind their backs, but without knowing all the circumstances of the case. He had been advised by the member from that riding that they were estimable men. From the press reports, which was all that most of them had, a prima facie case appeared to have been made out, as from them it appeared that the Japs were in danger of molestation if they fished. A prima facie case also appeared in the fact that one of the most important industries of the province was being tied up. He quite believed in offering every protection to the rights of workmen, but the rights of the capitalist were just as much entitled to such protection. Regarding a law of compulsory arbitration, he must state that he opposed it thoroughly. Neither party should be taken by the throat and compelled to work for so much or to pay at such a rate. We had a law of arbitration and conciliation now, but neither party would do anything they would not let the government interfere, either.

Mr. Gilmour declared that, so far as he could see, the government had done nothing. The house had been told that they had the matter under consideration, but it had not got any further than that. The Minister of Mines had gone up, but so far as he could see, he might as well have stayed at home. Nor should the government blame Mr. Bremner instead of owning up that they had done nothing.



themselves. There had been two or three instances of law-breaking, but that was not enough to warrant calling out the militia. The government should be condemned for letting this trouble go on. Mr. Oliver thought that it would be well to look at other such cases. Years ago there had been a serious strike at Nanaimo. The militia had been called out then, but it was afterwards found that the step was without justification, and probably the same will soon be discovered in this case. The whole matter shows that the government should be prepared to act with authority in these matters, and not allow the interests of the country to be jeopardized in this way. In the recent mining strike interference had been most successful when the government had taken prompt action.

Mr. Hunter then pressed a question as to the truth of the report that the strike had collapsed and 3,000 boats were out fishing. If this press report were correct, it showed what a good thing the calling out of the militia had been. In referring to the old strike at Nanaimo, he knew that the member who had just sat down had been misinformed, as he had been there himself, and thought it amply justified. Things had been so bad indeed that he had not liked being there at all, and had got away on the first opportunity. (Laughter.)

In answer to Mr. Hunter's question, Hon. Mr. Eberts stated that the government had no information upon that point.

Mr. Martin—And they don't care.

Hon. Mr. Eberts—You can well say that from where you sit.

Continuing, the Attorney-General spoke of the great gravity of the question and its widespread effects over the whole province. The government had throughout considered it so and had only sent the special officers when the preservation of the peace demanded it. Since the Hon. Mr. McBride's visit, however, there had been overt acts of intimidation. Boat had been sent against boat and fights had occurred on the water, in which so many as 25 men had ranged on a side. (The Attorney-General then read a letter from Officer Lister, describing this and other affairs generally.) The government had been careful, however, to side with neither party in the matter, but holding a middle course to seek to maintain the peace of the district. This he considered was their first duty. There had been but few overt acts of violence, but the river was regularly patrolled by the fishermen, and with so many men combining there had been a great deal of unrest.

Regarding the calling out of the 210 soldiers, the government knew nothing but the general report. The facts under which the Justices of the Peace acted were not in their possession, nor were they before the house, so that it would not be right to prejudge matters. The canners might have required the protection, but the fishermen should be protected as well. Regarding the cry of "arbitration," why not arbitrate everything? Besides, the government cannot provide compulsory arbitration within 20 hours. He might be quite justified in asking the gentleman opposite why this was not provided for in the session of 1899. So far as he personally was concerned, if a man wanted to go on a strike he did not believe in stopping him by a statute.

On a remark from Mr. McInnes, the attorney-general promised to bring down all the communications his department had concerning the matter.

Mr. Green then took the floor for a few minutes in defence of Mr. Bremner, the Dominion labor commissioner. He was a good man, well fitted for the office, he considered, and was doing all he could to improve matters. He was an unassuming man with all, though this did not make many noisier men any better than he.

Let anyone should construe his remarks into a reflection upon Mr. Bremner, the Hon. Mr. McBride then stated that such an intention was farthest from his mind.

Hon. Mr. Turner then took up the question. From his interests he was able to approach it from a canner's standpoint. Some of the gentlemen opposite were advocating compulsory arbitration and anything that would save the country from such disasters as this was to be gladly welcomed, but how could it be enforced? If an award went against the canners of course it could be, but if against the men, how could they be forced to fish? Such a scheme seemed to him very one-sided. The canners would have to pay in either case.

The real reason for the trouble, he considered, was in the hands of the Dominion government, and lay in the great increase of licenses issued. Eight thousand men were trying to fish where there was room for half that number. With a good run these 8,000 would take far more fish than the canneries could handle. Even with but 1,000 boats fish had been thrown away in great numbers. The consequence of so

many fishing was that in order to make as much as they used to do the price for fish must be twice as big and so boats taking but 100 fish would still make \$40 a day. The theory that if you pay better wages you get a higher price did not work in packing salmon on the Fraser. Alaska and Oregon put up such big packs that they controlled the market. Besides this the canners had had two bad years lately and so could not afford to trifle with margins. There was no doubt that before the militia arrived on the river there had been intimidation. Both whites and Japs had been afraid to go out. The Japs had come there through the Dominion government, too, which was the same government that licensed them to do the fishing.

Mr. Kidd followed. He resided there and had seen the trouble grow. It had arisen gradually, but had reached so high a pitch when intervention had been offered that it could not be averted. He was slightly interested in a canner himself, and so knew a little more about it. The prejudice against the Japs had caused part of the trouble. There had been no canners' union until this year, and the fishermen had made the mistake of thinking that this was a combine against them. Instead of that it was rather a protection and had been made to secure a uniform price for fish. There may have been mistakes on both sides. Perhaps if the canners had put a minimum price on fish a little earlier the trouble would not have made such headway. He knew the justices well. Mr. Wilkinson was reeve of the municipality. Mr. Hunt had for long had a store at Seveston, and so his interest was wrapped up in the fishermen, and Mr. Whitesides, a foreman, was also an excellent man. He thought until they knew what they were talking about it would be wise to suppress opinions. He had seen a press report about the Japs being armed. If this were true it was a serious matter—one which the government should investigate, and the men should be disarmed. There was no doubt, too, that intimidation reigned. He himself knew white men, good fishermen, who were afraid to go out. There could be no question about this matter in spite of what others might say. He hoped that a satisfactory settlement was at hand.

Mr. Pooley considered that Mr. Ralph Smith had done well in bringing the matter up. He would not blame the justices. They had acted in the cause of law and order, and the success of their deed had quite justified its sort. It was easy to look the door after the horse was stolen, and no one could wish to see harm done before the soldiers had been called in. They were now there, and the fishing was going on, and hot-heads were being prevented from carrying out their threats. He had read the press reports and as these had gone uncontradicted they must have stated the facts fairly, and probably bloodshed had been prevented by the presence of the militia. The justices were not answerable to this house, which was perhaps a good thing. They had acted under the Dominion statutes.

This remark was criticized by Mr. Smith Curtis, who held that as the justices of the peace were appointed by this government they were rightly amenable to it. Mr. Curtis then pointed out that the government speakers had differed in some points, and held that the fault lay either with the justices of the peace or the government. He considered that the militia had been called out merely to give employment to 3,000 Japs. He still urged that the government should interfere and after that bring in a compulsory arbitration bill.

The debate closed with some trifling cross-firing between Messrs. Martin, Curtis and McPhillips, each speaking at cross purposes to the other. It lasted about two hours.

Mr. McInnes introduced his labor bill, of which notice had been given on the first day of the session. By it the eight-hour day is reaffirmed for metalliferous mining and its principles extended to coal mining and government works. In some 40 different callings the bill also applies a reading test similar to that of the Natal Act, with, however, a very far-reaching limitation to its application. The chief sections run as follows:

3. No labor shall be employed for more than eight hours in every twenty-four hours in any mine below ground, or on or about any government work. This section shall not apply to any person engaged in saving life, relieving suffering, preventing serious loss to property or in cases of emergency arising in the natural course of events; nor shall this section apply to or effect any government work which has been contracted for at the time of the passing of this act.

4. No person shall be employed on or about any of the works, industries, places or matters enumerated in Schedule "A" to this act, who is unable to read in an European language this act and all the Dominion and Provincial statutes, municipal by-laws, and public and private rules and regulations by which such works, industries, places or matters are authorized, licensed, bon-

used, erected, regulated or controlled. This section shall not apply to or effect in any way any person who is on the register of voters in any electoral district for the legislative assembly in British Columbia; any full-blooded Indian, or any person of full Caucasian blood.

Penalty.  
5. Any person or laborer who works in contravention of Sections 3 and 4 of this act, and any employer who employs such person or laborer, shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding \$20 and not less than \$5 for each and every day such person or laborer works, to be recoverable upon the complaint of any person under the provisions of the Summary Convictions Act, a moiety of which penalty shall belong to the complainant.

Enforcement.  
6. Section 4 of this act shall not come into force until the 1st day of January, 1901.

Schedule "A"—Mine, logging camp, fruit canner, sewer, printing house, lumber mill, fish canner, road, railroad track, clearing land, factory, fishing-dyke, tunnel, building, construction, shingle mill, brewery, ditch, wharf, freight shed, foundry, laundry, garden, store, slaughter house, government warehouse, electric works, livery, dwelling house, tailor shop, saloon, round house, gas works, stable, hotel, butcher shop, quarry, machine shop, waterworks, farm or boarding house.

That handy annual, the Songhees reserve question, was then brought up by Mr. Helmcken, who moved the following resolution:

"That, in the opinion of this house, it is desirable that steps be taken to obtain the removal of the Indians from the Songhees reserve."

Speaking to the motion, Mr. Helmcken reminded the house of all the information to be had in the correspondence of 1897 and the report of Mr. McKenna. There was no need for him to go over it all again, as he believed that the matter would receive the attention of the government. Since then, however, no steps had been taken and no further correspondence exchanged.

Mr. Brown also spoke to the motion, and traced the story of this reserve. It had not the common origin of such tracts, but was a distinct gift from Sir James Douglas to certain Indians and their children, as although over it, as over other Indian lands, the Dominion government acted as trustees. The Songhees Indians, however, had the undertaking of the province in this matter, and a bargain having been made, and made by the public, he believed that such a bargain should be carried out to the letter.

The motion was then put and carried. The New Westminster Relief bill was then introduced by message from His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, and duly signed.

Mr. Green introduced the Sandom Relief bill, and on explaining its import said the bill was up before last winter and received its first reading.

The Small Debts Court bill was again taken up in committee, and after a small amendment laid over for further consideration.

#### STANDING COMMITTEES.

The lists of members appointed to the various committees are as follows:

Public Accounts.—Messrs. Hunter, Hall, Hayward, Brown and Martin.

Private Bills and Standing Orders.—Messrs. Helmcken, Clifford, Tatlow, A. W. Smith, Gilmour, Brown and Curtis.

Railways.—Messrs. Pooley, Mounce, Hunter, Kidd, McPhillips, Murphy, Fulton, Garden, Rogers, Curtis, Brown, McInnes, Oliver, Gilmour, E. C. Smith, Munro and Martin.

Mining.—Messrs. A. W. Smith, Green, Ralph Smith, Neill, Rogers, Taylor, Dickie, Ellison, Curtis, McInnes, Munro, Stables, E. C. Smith, Martin and Gilmour.

Printing.—Messrs. Hall, Murphy, Kidd, Brown and McInnes.

Prov

Discus  
time

The S  
tio

The d  
ply bill  
yesterday

"This bill  
provides  
lump sum  
salaries  
upon the  
moneys  
provided  
June 30  
as it will  
vide for  
services  
night th  
bringing  
usual m  
was res  
terval  
noticea  
first of  
province  
Canada,  
by the  
ever, be  
amount  
for the  
a certain  
tended  
brought  
Finance  
guidly f  
motion  
of the

Prayer  
committe  
Pooley  
was be  
consider  
sary on  
the affi  
but the  
was to  
the ma  
had alr  
but he  
was au  
deed, e  
so the l  
was g  
pecially  
object  
the mi  
ticulars  
where.  
Hon.  
agree v  
The str  
for the  
such a  
Some  
might l  
that w  
year b  
emerge  
purpos  
being i  
amount  
etc., w  
month.  
Public  
Salarie  
Educat  
Public  
Legisl  
Hospit  
Admin  
Miscell

Tot  
To t  
work  
which  
works  
The  
warrant  
for \$2  
orders  
of the  
get the  
Angus  
works  
road, i  
road v  
Mr.  
pendit  
roads,  
regard  
the g



July 27

## Provincial Legislature

### Discussion on Emergency Estimates Takes Up Most of the Sitting.

#### The Sandon Relief Bill Questions Answered in the House

The debate upon the Emergency Supply bill occupied the greater part of yesterday's sitting of the legislature. This bill, as has already been stated, provides for the grant of \$150,000 in a lump sum to provide for the payment of salaries and other urgent calls made upon the provincial treasury. The moneys voted for the public services had provided only for the expenditure until June 30, the end of the fiscal year, and as it was practically impossible to provide for the carrying on of the public services in a shorter time than a fortnight through the regular method of bringing down the estimates, the unusual method of an emergency supply was resorted to to bridge over the interval. The measure is all the more noticeable from the fact that it was the first of the kind ever introduced in this province, if not also in the whole of Canada. Its passage was objected to by the opposition generally—not, however, because of its method, nor of the amount of money that it called for, but for the reasons that itemized details of a certain portion of the money—that intended for public works—had not been brought down by the Minister of Finance. The debate continued languidly for a little over an hour, but the motion was carried without the demand of the opposition being satisfied.

Prayers over, the house went into committee to consider the matter, Mr. Pooley being in the chair. The debate was begun by Mr. Joseph Martin. He considered the measure a very unnecessary one. Salaries must be paid and the affairs of the province kept going, but the fact that a portion of the sum was to be spent upon public works gave the matter a new phase. If the work had already been done it was all right, but he had heard that the government was authorizing new works—perhaps, indeed, extensive ones—and if this were so the house should know of it. There was great need for this work, and especially on the roads. He would not object to the measure, but hoped that the minister would give them some particulars of what was being done and where.

Hon. Mr. Turner was disposed to agree with the leader of the opposition. The step was without a precedent here, for the province had never presented such a set of circumstances as it did. Something had to be done. Recourse might be had to "special warrants," but that was not without objections. Last year he had seen in England a similar emergency supply granted for military purposes, and the house was accordingly being asked for a similar vote. The amount was chiefly made up by salaries, etc., which required about \$88,000 a month. This was made up as follows:

Public debt redemption.....	\$10,000
Salaries for civil servants.....	26,000
Education.....	22,000
Public institutions.....	10,000
Legislature.....	4,000
Hospitals and charities.....	5,000
Administration of justice.....	5,000
Miscellaneous.....	6,000

Total.....\$88,000

To this must be added in payment for work done before June 30, \$27,000, which would leave for urgent public works about \$35,000.

The \$27,000 was required to meet old warrants issued by the late government for \$22,000, and \$4,800 due for work ordered by Mr. Cotton without the vote of the house. He hoped that they could get the supply through before the end of August. Amongst the urgent public works were some repairs on the Cariboo road, also on the Comox road, and some road work in the Slocan.

Mr. Martin then commended the expenditures on the Comox and Cariboo roads, but pressed for further details regarding the new works authorized by the government. He had heard of a

minister going about certain parts and ordering these to be undertaken.

After Mr. McPhillips had taxed Mr. Martin with insincerity, his stand being inconsistent with the Pacific cable offer, which the house had not authorized, and the famous "special warrant" for Mr. Cory Ryder. The Hon. Mr. Wells gave the details of some work he had authorized in the Kootenay, the items of which amounted to about \$12,000.

Mr. Martin then charged the Minister of Lands and Works with violating the law by spending money without the authority of the house. The house should spend the money, not the government.

Mr. Hunter agreed with him in thinking that the details should be given. He had not seen Mr. Wells up in Cariboo looking for work to be done, and that was a most important section. British Columbia did not revolve around Kootenay.

Mr. Green pointed out how useless it was to waste so much time over the matter. The works in Kootenay were justified over and over again, and the government was acting very fairly in the whole matter.

Upon a second reference to the Pacific cable offer, this time by the Hon. Mr. Turner, Mr. Martin stated that the then government had not pledged itself. An offer had been made subject to the approval of the house, but Attorney-General Eberts had the correspondence before him, and reading from it, nailed that misstatement so soon as it was made.

The debate dragged on for some time further, and at last the measure was carried, no one voting against it.

Mr. McPhillips then explained his Shop Closing and Employment of Children bill. This followed the Manitoba act. The provision for early closing empowered the municipalities to act by law while the second act limited the hours of work for children, provided for seats for shop girls, and other like matters. A short debate followed, from which it appeared that many members considered it not sufficiently drastic. The bill was then passed a second time.

The Hon. the Minister of Finance moved the formal resolution for the introduction of the estimates at to-day's sitting. This was of course carried without discussion.

The Sandon relief bill was also read a second time, and the consideration of Mr. McInnes' labor bill was set over for a week.

The petition to accelerate the incorporation of the city of Phoenix, introduced by Mr. Smith Curtis, was withdrawn by that gentleman in favor of a similar measure to be brought down by Attorney-General Eberts.

Mr. Green presented the petition of John Irving, Frank S. Barnard and others, for a charter for a railway in the northern portion of the province.

The bills for the Vancouver & New Westminster railway and the Rock Bay & Salmon Arm railway were introduced by Mr. Helmcken and read a first time.

The Western Telegraph & Telephone Co.'s bill was introduced by Mr. Price Ellison.

Attorney-General Eberts introduced the amendments to the Supreme Court and the Jurors' acts. These had been up last winter, and were yesterday given their first readings.

Another relic of last winter's abortive session was re-introduced by Mr. Ralph Smith in the following motion, which was passed without discussion:

"That a select committee, consisting of Messrs. Neill, Oliver, Helmcken, McInnes and the mover, be appointed to look into the grievances of certain settlers within the E. & N. railway belt, as outlined in a report from Dominion Commissioner Rothwell, now on file in the Attorney-General's office."

Between the formal motions to adjourn, Mr. Green introduced a motion adding Mr. John Houston's name to the standing committees on public accounts and mining. This was done after the precedent of last year in Mr. Martin's case. At this reference Mr. Martin smiled and suggested that Mr. Houston had been overlooked by both sides, as it belonging to neither; just as he had last year, but Mr. Green assured the leader of the opposition that the circumstances were very different indeed, Mr. Houston being also absent from the house until yesterday.

At the suggestion of Attorney-General Eberts the matter was stood over to to-day for arrangement.

Mr. McInnes then asked about the papers in the fishery trouble at Stevenson, but was informed that they were not yet ready, a copyist being still at work on them.

The house then adjourned.

#### REPORT OF COMMITTEE.

The first report of the committee on private bills was presented by Chairman

Helmcken. This reported favorably upon the petitions of

The Crow's Nest Pass Electric Light and Power Co.,

The Rock Bay and Salmon River Railway—the Hastings mills logging road—

The New Westminster and Vancouver Railway Co.,

The Western Telegraph and Telephone Co.

All these bills were heirlooms of last session, having almost got through on that occasion. Upon the present the three first were unopposed, but the Western Telephone bill was not so lucky. Mr. Duff appeared against it, and for some time his arguments and those of Mr. H. B. Robertson, who had the bill in hand, occupied the attention of the committee. The objections, however, were unavailing, and this bill was reported to the house.

This morning the committee sits again at 10 o'clock and considers the petitions in the following cases:

The Vancouver city charter amendments.

The Kamloops and Atlin Railway Co.

The Chillat Pass Railway and Navigation Company.

The Kitimat and Hazelton Railway Co.

The Lake Bennett Railway Co.

These bills are likewise said to be taken from the debris of the session of 1899.

#### QUESTIONS ANSWERED.

Attorney-General Eberts answered Mr. Ralph Smith's questions as follows:

1. Who was the person or persons making application for police protection in connection with the present labor trouble on the Fraser? Answer—The Fraser river canners.

2. What was the reason given for asking for protection? Answer—Reports of intimidation and the possibility of serious breaches of the peace.

3. How many specials are employed there at present? Answer—25.

4. Is there at present, or has there ever been, any good reason for keeping specials there? Answer—Yes, in order to prevent breaches of the peace.

The Hon. the Premier gave the following answers to Mr. McInnes' questions:

1. Who are the "certain owners" referred to in the report of Thomas McGowan, Inspector of Vancouver Island Collieries, as follows: "According to the act (sec. 53), publication of the detailed returns of a colliery can only be made with the consent of the owners thereof, and as 'certain owners' have refused such consent, I am unable to give a detailed account of the output, etc., of each mine," etc., etc. (Minister of Mines' Report, 1899, page 829)? Answer—The Wellington colliery, operated by R. Dunsmuir & Sons, and the Union colliery, operated by the Union Colliery Co., Ltd.

2. Is it the intention of the government to amend the "Certain Owners' Regulations Act" so that the "certain owners" will not be permitted to prevent the publication of such details? Answer—The matter is receiving the attention of the government.

The Minister of Lands and Works answered Mr. McInnes' question as follows:

What title has the government to the land upon which the Nanaimo court house is built? Answer—A perpetual lease from the Vancouver Coal, Mines and Land Co., at an annual lease of \$80, with the right to purchase at any time upon payment of the sum of \$2,000.

The Attorney-General gave the following answer to a question of Mr. McInnes: Is it the intention of the government to send a judge to the Atlin district this season? Answer—Yes, a Supreme court judge.

And to the questions of Mr. Clifford:

1. When does the government intend sending a judge to the Atlin district to settle the mining disputes there regarding the ownership of mineral and placer claims? Answer—It is proposed to hold a sitting of the Supreme court for the trial of civil and criminal cases in the Atlin district towards the end of August.

2. Is it the intention of the government to at once appoint a recorder and constable for the new Foxglove mining district? Answer—Yes.

The following answer was given by Provincial Secretary Prentice to Mr. Tallow's question:

Is it the intention of the government to cancel the present very unsatisfactory list of voters in the electoral district of the city of Vancouver? Answer—Before an answer can be given it will be necessary for the government to make enquiries into the state of the voters' list of the city of Vancouver.

Also to the question by the same member:

Is it the intention of the government to amend the "Public School Act" so as to exempt from examination in other than professional subjects, for second class certificates, high school students who have passed the matriculation examina-



of any similar university. Answer: Questions amending the school act are under consideration.

The Attorney-General answered Mr. Gorden's question, asked in his absence by Mr. Tatlow, as follows:

Whether it is the intention of the government to investigate the alleged fraudulent practices in the naturalization of Japanese recently arrived in this province? Answer—It is only within the last few days that any information has been received that the Naturalization Act is being abused. This information, too, is but hearsay; the government, however, will have the matter investigated.

The Hon. the Minister of Mines answered the following questions asked by Mr. Clifford:

1. Is it the intention of the government to give notice to all gold commissioners, recorders, clerks in government offices in mining districts, and constables, that they will be liable to immediate dismissal if they, directly or indirectly, hold any interests in placer or mineral claims in the districts in which they are employed? Answer—It is the intention of the government to rigidly enforce the instructions given by circular dated the 7th September, 1898.

2. Is it the intention of the government this session to amend the "Placer Mining Act"—(a) As regards the size of placer claims; (b) So as to prevent jumping? Answer—The matters referred to have not as yet been decided on.

#### QUESTIONS ASKED.

On Monday next Mr. Hayward will ask:

1. Is it a fact that the provincial police have been patrolling the Fraser river and Gulf of Georgia for the purpose of protecting licensed fishermen from intimidation?

2. Was there any communication with the Dominion government as to their affording protection to licensed fishermen on the Fraser river and Gulf of Georgia? and if so, what was the reply?

On Tuesday next Mr. Tatlow will ask:

Is it the intention of the government to introduce special legislation to encourage the manufacture of wood pulp and revise the schedule of charges for water used to create power for said manufacture?





**JUL**

**1900**



## PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT

Second Day's Proceedings.—Mover  
and Second of Address  
Make Good Impressions.

Victoria, July 22.

On Monday, the Speech from the Throne was disposed of in an afternoon's debate.

The Rev. J. H. Sweet read prayers. Before the Speech was reached, Mr. J. C. Brown, of New Westminster, called the attention of the Government to the position at Stevenson. The Government, Mr. Brown considered, was the only body able to interfere with hope of success, and he strongly advocated such steps as had been taken by the late Government regarding the labor trouble in the Kootenays.

The Hon. Mr. Turner, in reply, informed the House that the Government was following the matter closely. They had exercised every precaution to prevent a breach of the peace and were ready to do all that lay in their power to relieve the situation.

In moving the reply to the Lieutenant-Governor's Speech, Mr. R. G. Tatlow, Vancouver, prefaced his speech by a few remarks regarding his own position. Soon after the election, he had pledged himself to support the present administration for this session upon condition that no contentious matter be introduced. This condition had been kept, and he felt no hesitation in accepting the honor of moving the reply, not so much on his own account, perhaps, but rather because of the tribute such service carried to the importance of the City that he had the honor to represent.

Regarding the Governorship, a question might be raised regarding the policy of appointing to that office from without the Province, but aside from that he was sure that no more fitting appointment could have been made from the whole of Canada, and he was glad to join with the Liberals in words of welcome to the appointee of their Government Sir Henri Joly, who had so happily served the Dominion in the past.

The approach of the end of the War in South Africa must be a cause of great happiness to all. In its prosecution British Columbia had contributed as largely, if not more largely, in proportion than any other province or colony, and it was only through the oversight of the Federal authorities that this Province was not represented at the front by a distinct contingent. In spite of that, British Columbia was well to the fore, and although it was now necessary to sympathize with many in their bereavement through the War, it must be remembered that every drop of blood shed the more cemented the unity of the Empire. However, that while the shadows are lifting from Africa a great gloom of darkness is settling over China, and yet there, too, when the hour of vengeance comes, the sons of Canada would be found well in the van.

In a material way the cause of the Empire had received fresh impulse of late. Mr. Chamberlain announcing that the initial steps would soon be taken in the laying of the Pacific cable, and that it was proposed to make use of the Coast cities in forwarding troops to the Orient. In this the coal supplies of Vancouver Island and the Crown's Nest Pass would also prove most serviceable to the Empire. A great deal of satisfaction was felt too in the fact that the metalliferous mines of the Kootenay are again producing. A signal proof of their resumption was found in the large amount of capital at present being invested in the erection of smelters in that district, which would, he hoped, be followed by the erection of a mint here, thereby preventing the transfer of Canadian gold in Seattle for American currency.

Another matter to be regretted was the large amount of money sent out of the Province each year for agricultural products. This brought home to every thinker the fact of how vital agricultural interests are. Legislation might do something towards relieving this

position. There were suburban lands which might be cut up and so managed that laborers might have their plot of ground upon which to work in the evening and provide themselves with vegetables. There was also the great question of idle Indian lands, locked up against all production, and the best very often throughout the country. Proper recompense being made, these might be thrown open to settlement.

In its relations with the Dominion Government the financial aspect was not what it might be. Out of a Federal revenue of \$3,184,000 in 1907, the Province received in all but \$1,380,000. That left nearly \$2,000,000 to the credit of British Columbia, and yet from it the grants for railways this past session amounted only to \$26,000. It was the same way with the fishing finances. There the revenue amounted to \$45,800, of which only \$3,750 were spent in improvements.

In 1895 the Liberal Leader had promised to do something towards alleviating the plague of cheap Asiatic labor. Nothing, however, had been done until this year, when the Government at Ottawa had increased the tax from \$50 to \$100, but even then the Dominion Government kept most of it, and the measure did not promise to be either a restrictive or financial success. Last year this branch of the revenue had yielded \$215,000, of which \$52,000 had been returned to the Province. The Japanese, too, were crowding in now, their numbers being, however, self-restricted to 5,520 a year to both Canada and the United States. While the results were not yet fully felt, matters were already serious, and it would be well to press our Provincial rights to their fullest limit, by legislating aggressively wherever possible. This might be done also by inserting a clause keeping this sort of labor out of all Government works, contracts and franchises, and by striving in every way to secure the adoption of an Act similar to the Natal Act.

Regarding the construction of roads, trails and bridges, a comprehensive scheme should be brought down for the construction of trunk roads, and such railways as the Province most urgently needed. Of these two were worthy of notice, viz., a more direct line from the Coast to the Kootenays and an all-Canadian route to the mines of the North.

Of pulp, Great Britain was at present drawing large supplies from Canada, last year taking over 400,000 tons. When it is remembered that a mill producing 100 tons of wood pulp a day employed over 150 men, exclusive of those in the woods, and that Canada already had 35 mills in operation, representing an investment of nearly \$100,000,000, the size of this industry would be appreciated, and also the importance of our provincial supplies of wood fit for pulping. Towards the opening up of this industry regulations might be needed.

He would also remind the Government of their responsibility of rescuing the province from a condition in which the people suffered outrage of their rights and privileges. The country had shown its resentment of this outrage and its devotion to its liberties, and it now remained for the Premier to carry out his pledges, and with a strong and representative government and by a wise and progressive policy, restore the credit of the Province to its former high position. Then the Government would enjoy the confidence of the country.

Mr. W. H. Hayward, Esquimalt, seconded the reply, said:

The member for Vancouver has gone thoroughly over the ground that many of my remarks will be but a repetition.

The country was sick of political bickerings and waste of time, and willing to support a government that would undertake to handle the business of the Province in a business-like way.

He could not allow the opportunity to pass without saying a few words upon the gallant deeds done by British Columbians in South Africa. The honorable member then eulogized the services of British Columbians at the front. Then touching on the Chinese trouble he congratulated the people of the Province on their keeping so cool and calm, with so many Chinese in their midst. Looking forward he felt that things were prospering in our Province and that there was now every prospect of a business-like government.

It was satisfactory to note that the prospector was continually opening up new mining fields, and every reasonable aid should be given him.

As to agriculture, this great industry had not received its full share of attention.

We were at present sending out of our Province money to the tune of two millions and a half for agricultural products, the greater part of which might easily be raised here.

More attention might be paid by the Educational Department to teaching the common things of the country. Nature study and its great usefulness are being well understood in the provinces and states to the east of us, and he could not help thinking that the system that now obtained in our rural schools was but fitting the younger generation to flock to the cities rather than cause them to take an interest in rural life.

Again, the institute system that was started some three or four years ago had received but little pushing.

Then, again, considering the variable climate, the different altitudes, that proximity or distance from the coast afforded, should see how useless must be the experience gained at a single experimental station unless augmented by smaller ones in different parts of the Province.

Turning to the fisheries of our Province, he deplored the present troubles. They pointed to the necessity of a better Arbitration and Conciliation Act.

It was pleasing to note that the Government intended to make representations to the Federal and Imperial authorities with regard to the large influx of Japanese. The course suggested in the speech would appear to be proper and the one most likely to have a successful issue. "Defence, not defence," should be our position in approaching the subject, particularly if we would consider the friendly relations now existing between Great Britain and Japan.

He would like to say a few words concerning the present rate of naturalization going on among the Japanese here. He thought that the House would agree with him in viewing this matter in a serious light, and in suggesting that the Federal authorities be memorialized that more stringent regulations with regard to identification should accompany the present Act.

As representing a rural constituency, and one that promised to have its big mining camps, he could not but be pleased to see that the Government intended to carry on the systematic building of trunk roads. In early days such roads did much to aid Provincial development by opening up agricultural districts and mining areas, and if he might be permitted he should like to call the attention of the House to the fact that trunk roads were the forerunners of railroads, but that, while the latter were a necessity for large development works the former were essentially a necessity, allowing the prospector and settler to have entry and exit at but little cost, and these again were most assuredly the harbingers of bigger undertakings. The opening of the Province by good trunk roads was a crying necessity.

With regard to the wood pulp industry, it had vast possibilities, and he would like to call attention to the large bodies of spruce on the West Coast of Vancouver Island, and more particularly at Port Renfrew.

But while the expenditure was to be increased, the revenue must be increased also, and he thought the Government was to be congratulated on the means found to supply such revenue, namely, by a tonnage tax on coal. It would appear that there were other natural products that might stand slight taxation, particularly appropriate if the large bulk of such product were exported.

The placing of the Agent-General's office on a satisfactory basis was a necessity. To do this, the Agent-General's office should be both well-appointed and well situated, so as to attract the attention of all classes.

He trusted that the appropriations, while not extravagant, would be ample to enable the Government to carry out a satisfactory public works programme, and that the civil list, while not being beyond the needs of the Province, might be such that the departments could be carried on satisfactorily.

Mr. Joseph  
lowed. Al  
er and sec  
speeches, b  
low's open  
man suppl  
conditions  
ness be let  
was a very  
doubt the  
much mor  
mover nor  
had run  
and their  
cullar. TI  
matters t  
could only  
port the C  
Governme  
too, had b  
sion, but w  
Hon. Mr.  
Mr. Mar  
thing, and  
member w  
told that t  
members i  
interfere  
They must  
sessor th  
the session  
expired.  
The Provin  
tin to be  
months bac  
was very  
cause of n  
Janes; no  
things are  
there any-  
would be tr  
He symp  
on the Chi  
saw it all  
things that  
tawa, but  
ped, and s  
ject mean  
Martin the  
cheap Ori  
points and  
the Canada  
After des  
Speech, he  
appoint a  
mining la  
commission  
empowered  
Law. T  
mentioned,  
the chief p  
commission  
He attack  
mission, u  
unsettle d  
He cong  
what he c  
the Speech  
coke outp  
Premiers'  
the old Tu  
He remi  
this was a  
the session  
of the ye  
Winter sit  
the House  
the Govern  
this end,  
them. I  
them a fa  
they prov  
position w  
as it cou  
were imp  
in the Sp  
redistrib  
Mr. Ma  
Governme  
claiming  
sufferance  
Mr. Spe  
ed, "Are  
when the  
rose. H  
and secon  
efforts, a  
upon the  
Governme  
expected  
had not  
He had n  
litical his  
cause of  
affairs o  
undertak  
ernment,  
tired of  
a stable  
thought  
glad to  
Probably  
Province  
short a t  
Persons  
political  
this Prov  
affairs co  
statesman

ory to note that the continually opening up of the country, and every reason given him.

re, this great industry has received its full share of

esent sending out of the country to the tune of two half for agricultural

er part of which is used here.

might be paid by the Government to teaching of the country.

its great usefulness is demonstrated in the present to the east of us.

help thinking that now obtained in our country but fitting the country to flock to the cause them to take

al life.

ute system that was in use or four years ago little pushing.

considering the variable different altitudes, that distance from the coast see how useless must be gained at a single

ion unless augmented in different parts of

fisheries of our Province the present troubles, the necessity of a better Conciliation Act.

to note that the Government to make representation and Imperial regard to the large in-

The course suggested would appear to be the most likely to have

Defence, not degrading our position in ap- pect, particularly if der the friendly rela- tions between Great Brit-

to say a few words recent rate of natural among the Japanese light that the House in him in viewing this

ous light, and in sug- Federal authorities be at more stringent re- gard to identification y the present Act.

g a rural constituency, onised to have its big he could not but be at the Government in- the systematic build- is. In early days such

to aid Provincial de- pending up agricultural ning areas, and if he itted he should like to n of the House to the roads were the forerun- s, but that, while the ready for large devel- the former were essen- y, allowing the pros- er to have entry and cost, and these again the harbingers of

ngs. The opening of good trunk roads was y.

the wood pulp indus- possibilities, and he attention to the large on the West Coast of d, and more particu- larly.

expenditure was to be enue must be increas- ough the Government ituted on the means such revenue, namely, on coal. It would ap- ere other natural pro- stand slight taxation, rropriate if the large luct were exported.

Mr. Joseph Martin, Vancouver, fol- lowed. After complimenting the mover and seconder of the reply upon their speeches, he took his cue from Mr. Tatlow's opening remarks. That gentleman supported the Government upon conditions that non-contentious business be left alone for this session. This was a very interesting bargain, and no doubt the details of the deal would be much more interesting. Neither the mover nor the seconder of the reply had run as Government candidates, and their present position was most peculiar. They did not wish contentious matters to be brought in, and that could only mean that they would support the Government so long as the Government did nothing. The bargain, too, had been made but for this session, but what then?

Hon. Mr. Turner—Nothing. Mr. Martin—Yes, but there is something, and something affecting the hon. member who has just spoken. We are told that there are certain objectionable members in the Government. These interfere with hearty co-operation. They must be removed. And after the session this would be done, and after the session those promises of support expired. Regarding the industries of the Province, they seemed to Mr. Martin to be about as they were a few months back. At that time everything was very bad, very bad, too, all because of himself, and ex-Governor McInnes; now, however, the Speech said things are much better, but where was there any change? These details, too, would be interesting.

He sympathized with Mr. Tatlow upon the Chinese question. Mr. Tatlow saw it all right and advocated other things than bare representations to Ottawa, but with these the speech stopped, and so its references to the subject meant practically nothing. Mr. Martin then spoke upon the question of cheap Oriental labor, making his usual points and attributing all the harm to the Canadian Pacific Railway.

After dealing with other points of the Speech, he took up the proposition to appoint a commission regarding the mining law and water rights. This commission, he argued, should not be empowered to deal with the Eight-Hour Law. That Law was not actually mentioned, but he had no doubt it was the chief piece of mining legislation the commission would have to look into. He attacked the appointment of a commission, urging that it would tend to unsettle the mining industry.

He congratulated the Premier upon what he considered the sole feature of the Speech, viz., the taxing of coal and coke output. This doubtless was the Premier's own work. All the rest was the old Turnerism.

He reminded the House that though this was a special session, it was really the session for the year. All the work of the year, because of the abortive Winter sitting, had yet to be done, and the House was called to do it now. If the Government persisted in furthering this end, the Opposition would assist them. The Opposition would give them a fair chance to do it, too, but if they proved very tardy, then the Opposition would introduce such measures as it could in that direction. There were important matters not mentioned in the Speech, such as railways and redistribution.

Mr. Martin concluded by chaffing the Government a little upon their stability claiming that they were there only on sufferance.

Mr. Speaker Booth had twice enquired, "Are you ready for the question?" when the House hushed as the Premier rose. He congratulated the mover and seconder of the reply, upon their efforts, and then made a few remarks upon the situation of himself and his Government. He had been most unexpectedly called to office. The honor had not been sought nor even wished. He had neither desire nor hope for political high office, and it was only because of the peculiar condition of the affairs of the Province that he had undertaken the task of forming a Government. He knew the country was tired of political turmoil and required a stable administration. This he thought he could form, and he was glad to find himself so successful. Probably no administration of this Province had ever been formed in so short a time.

Personally he did not wish to be a political leader, but he did wish to see this Province thrive, and to see the affairs conducted with a businesslike statesmanship, and he trusted that his

Government would enjoy the support of all in the House who desired to see matters stably administered.

It had been said that it was the old Turner Government over again, and personally he hoped it was, as the Turner Government had done more for British Columbia than any other Government.

Again the Speaker's cry was heard, and the division bell ringing, the motion was put and carried. A few minutes were then devoted to formal business, and the House adjourned.

THURSDAY, July 23, 1909

## PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT

### Third Day's Proceedings.—Mr. Martin Rouses From Half Slumber a Very Quiet House.

From Our Own Correspondent.

#### THIRD DAY.

Victoria, July 24th.—

There was not much to attract comment in the proceedings of the House to-day. From a spectator's point of view it was a dull sitting, but considerable routine business was done. New members are adapting themselves readily to legislative duties, and one might easily mistake them for "old timers" already. Members' desks were littered with reports, statutes, etc., from which they were busily preparing material to be turned in to the legislative machine later on. A discussion which arose on the second reading of the Evidence Bill, and Mr. Martin's allusions to the Cassiar election, with the Hon. Mr. McBride's reply, afforded the only show of oratory. The attendance of gallery spectators was small, but included a fair proportion of ladies.

Mr. Clifford presented a petition from the Kitimaat Caledonian Company, asking for a wagon road from the head of Kitimaat Arm to Hazelton on the Skeena River; also a petition from the Lake Bennett Railway Company, asking a charter for a railway to run from a point on the Dyea River to Lake Bennett, south of the 60th parallel.

Mr. Ellison presented a petition, asking a charter for the Western Telegraph Company.

Hon. Mr. Eberts asked leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Trustees Liability Act of 1900. The Bill was read a first time, and its second reading fixed for to-morrow.

Mr. McInnes was to have asked leave to introduce a Bill relating to labor, but upon request, it was allowed to stand over.

In reply to Mr. McInnes, the Hon. Mr. Dunsen said that the Government had not yet considered the matter of appointing a policeman in the Northern part of North Nanaimo District; also that the method of appointing road foremen for that district would receive consideration; also that the Esquimalt & Nanaimo Railway Company was not subject to the provisions of the British Columbia Railway Act.

On motion of HON. MR. EBERTS, the Bill to amend the Small Debts Act was read a second time. The Bill, he explained, provided among other things that no magistrate should hold a Court for the trial of any action under the Act unless the defendant or some of the defendants resided or carried on business within the territory covered by the magistrate's jurisdiction. It also permitted garnishee proceedings before judgment, and provided that no debt due to a wage earner should be subject to seizure within the sum of \$40. The Bill was referred to Committee of the Whole, where several minor amendments were made, after which the Committee rose and reported progress, and the further consideration of the Bill was deferred until to-morrow.

HON. MR. EBERTS moved the second reading of the Bill to amend the Evidence Act. He explained that the intention was to bring the Act into harmony with the Dominion law. The Act as amended, provided in part that the evidence of witnesses could not be used against them in any action which might subsequently arise, but that they should be compelled to answer questions, whether the answers tended to incriminate them or not. Several cases had arisen, where answers given had led to criminal suits being taken against witnesses, and the judges had held that such evidence could not be introduced. It was also provided that no husband or wife should be compelled, as a witness, to disclose any communication made during marriage.



MR. MARTIN said that in a previous debate, the Hon. Attorney-General had stated that during the session of 1899 many of the Acts passed were so carelessly and recklessly drawn, that they either required amendment or disallowance by the Dominion Government. That he took to be a charge against himself, as he was at that time Attorney-General and responsible for the manner in which the Statutes were expressed. As adverse criticism had thus been directed against him, he felt justified in calling attention to every case, and intended to do so, in which the Hon. Attorney-General was obliged to amend his own legislation. The present Bill was one of them. Mr. Martin was proceeding lengthily to discuss matters appertaining to the Hon. Mr. Eberts' references to the legislation of 1899, when

MR. EBERTS rose to a point of order, claiming that Mr. Martin was introducing platform speeches into the House.

THE SPEAKER said it was necessary for members to confine their remarks somewhere near the point at issue, and thought perhaps the hon. member was digressing too far.

MR. MARTIN thought he was surely entitled to make any reference he saw fit to the Attorney-General's proposal to amend the Evidence Act, and in doing so to draw illustrations from speeches made by the Attorney-General himself. The question was the amendment of the Evidence Act. He was opposed to that, because the Attorney-General had laid down the principle that the fact that an Act should be amended by the Legislature, was a reflection upon the capacity of the gentleman occupying the position of Attorney-General. Last session the hon. member had denounced him as utterly incapable of being Attorney-General, simply because it was proposed to amend certain statutes introduced during the session of 1899. This was a direct charge against him heralded all through the country.

The HON. MR. McBRIDE rose to a point of order, although he thought it scarcely necessary, after the point being taken by the Hon. Attorney-General for anything more to be said. No doubt the hon. member for Vancouver felt very keenly the results of the recent election, but—

MR. MARTIN: "I rise to a point of order."

The HON. MR. McBRIDE (Attempting to continue his speech amid general commotion.) "As a matter of fact, Mr. Speaker—"

MR. MARTIN, (occupying the floor at the same moment), thought surely he had the right to give his reasons for opposing these amendments to the Evidence Act. He opposed them because the Attorney-General had reflected in a gross way on the legislation passed there in 1899. If the Attorney-General thought—

MR. SPEAKER: "What bearing has that on the point?"

MR. MARTIN: "It shows that the Act should not be amended. The Hon. Attorney-General will not get away from the speeches made during the election campaign, until he gets up in the House and admits that it was a mere political dodge."

HON. MR. McBRIDE again raised his point of order. The hon. member, he said, practically admitted that the reason he made his speech, was simply to let himself down easily, as a result of the late election.

MR. MARTIN said the hon. member had no right to make a speech having simply risen to a point of order. He (Mr. Martin), however, had a right to make a speech on the second reading of the Bill. The hon. member was proposing to amend the Criminal Law. Surely he knew that this was one of the subjects which was absolutely in the control of the Dominion Government. He was really ashamed of the hon. member's showing such a slight knowledge of the respective jurisdictions of the two Houses. Of course, the hon. gentleman might possibly protect himself, by referring back to the statute he was amending, and say that in that also an error was committed, but that was no excuse for the hon. member himself.

MR. McPHILLIPS said that the Act was an exact copy of the Ontario statute passed in the time of Sir Oliver Mowat, and he thought the opinion of such an eminent jurist might sustain them a little against the attacks of the hon. Leader of the Opposition.

MR. OLIVER rose to ask the hon. Attorney-General, if the protection which the Act gave to witnesses, would be available if the Bill passed.

The HON. MR. EBERTS said that it would.

The motion was then put, and the Bill read a second time.

The HON. ATTORNEY-GENERAL rose to offer an explanation in connection with the allusions of Mr. Martin. He wished to tell that hon. member that he never referred to him, in his capacity as Attorney-General. He had always referred to him as a very able man indeed, but as one whose abilities were misdirected.

The Hon. the Attorney-General moved the second reading of the Notaries' Act, the purport of which was to provide that when notaries took out certificates, they should take them out for the whole Province and pay a fee of \$20.

MR. MARTIN, on rising to the motion, referred to the explanatory remarks of the Hon. Attorney-General. As to what the hon. gentleman had said, his memory must have been very bad. On the first day of the session, he (Mr. Martin) had taken credit for the Acts passed by the Semlin Government, and as he recollected the hon. member replied that those Acts had been so hastily and recklessly drawn, that they had either to be amended or disallowed by the Dominion Government. Under those circumstances, he did not think he should be expected to rest quiet, as he, at that time, was, as the hon. member was at present, responsible as Attorney-General, for the manner in which the legislation was expressed. He had no objection to the amendments proposed in the present Bill. It seemed to be an effort on the part of the Government to increase the revenue, to which he would accord his sympathy. As to the proposed amendments to the Liquor Licence Act, he would have something to say, intending to go into that matter in detail, when it came before the House.

The Bill was thereupon read a second time, and its third reading fixed for the next sitting.

The second reading of the Liquor Licence Bill was deferred, with the consent of the House.

A message was announced from His Honor, the Lieutenant-Governor, transmitting a schedule of Emergency Supply, saying that an estimated sum of \$150,000 was required as an Emergency Supply, to provide for the payment of salaries, urgent public works, and other necessary supplies, chargeable to the expenditure of the financial year ending 30th June, 1901, all payments made therefrom to form a part of the estimate for the financial year ending 30th June, 1901, to be submitted to the Legislative Assembly, and apportioned to the various services and votes in Committee of Supply.

It was ordered that the message be referred to Committee of the Whole, to-morrow.

MR. SPEAKER submitted the Cassiar election returns, which were ordered to be inscribed on the journals of the House.

MR. MARTIN wished to call the attention of the House and country to the very peculiar action taken by Mr. Irving in connection with the election in Cassiar. Having been defeated by the electors of Cassiar, he seemed to have a very strong grudge against them and applied for and obtained from the Court an injunction to prevent a return being made, the result of which, if successful, would not have been of any advantage to himself, but would have had the effect of leaving Cassiar unrepresented in this House during the present session, and all the remaining sessions of the present Parliament. He thought this action on the part of a gentleman who desired to represent a constituency, as worthy of attention in the House, because no greater injury could be attempted to a constituency than to endeavor to take advantage of the law in such a way as to make it impossible for that constituency to be represented in Parliament. The only complaint Mr. Irving had to make, in regard to the returning officer, was that whereas the writ required that he should make his return on the 30th of

June, circumstances had occurred, by which that was rendered impossible; and for that reason, the mere technicality that the writ was returnable on June 30th and had not been, that gentleman actually proposed to invoke the power of the Court to prevent that constituency having any representation whatever. If he had been successful, they would probably have had to consider in the House whether it would have been justifiable to pass special legislation to nullify the act of the gentleman who had recently been before the electors of Cassiar, as a candidate.

The HON. MR. McBRIDE said it was scarcely necessary for him to say that the Government had taken absolutely no part in the proceedings before the Court. He thought the remarks of the hon. member savored very much of a political speech. He was practically attacking an ex-member of that Legislature, who had no opportunity to defend himself, and the principle of such an attack was one which should be very strongly condemned on the floor of this House. As far as the district of Cassiar was concerned, the importance of that constituency being well represented was fully recognised, and he was glad of the opportunity of saying in behalf of one who was not able to speak for himself, that the important interests of that district could not be entrusted to a more fitting representative than Captain John Irving. (Applause.) He thought his hon. friend saw the possibility of an election in Cassiar and was bidding for support in that constituency, but he did not think he would gain much in the esteem of that electorate or of the House, by the course he had taken.

MR. MARTIN: The hon. gentleman does not defend the action taken by Mr. Irving?

MR. POOLEY: No defence is necessary.

id occurred, by red impossible; se mere techni- a returnable on been, that gen- id to invoke the revent that con- representation been successful, ave had to con- sider it would to pass special the act of the ntly been before as a candidate. JDE said it was him to say that aken absolutely lings before the remarks of the very much of a was practically er of that Leg- opportunity to he principle of ie which should demned on the s far as the dis- snered, the in- ititency being uly recognised, opportunity of e who was not if, that the im- t district could more fitting re- in John Irving, t his hon. friend an election in ing for support but he did not ch in the esteem this House, by n. hon. gentleman ction taken by efence is neces-

FRIDAY July 25, 1900

## PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT

### Mr. Ralph Smith and Others Deprecate Demonstration of Military Force in Connection With Fisheries Strike.—Labor Bill.

From Our Own Correspondent.

#### FOURTH DAY.

Victoria, July 25.—An animated discussion touching the Steveston trouble occurred in the House to-day. The subject was introduced by Mr. Ralph Smith (Nanaimo), who thought the Legislature should enact legislation to allow the Government to oblige parties to such disputes to submit the issues to arbitration. The debate was a very lengthy one, involving Hon. Mr. McBride, Mr. McInnes, Mr. Brown, Mr. Neill, Mr. Green, Mr. McPhillips, Mr. Gilmour, Mr. Hunter, Hon. Mr. Eberts, Hon. Mr. Turner, Mr. Kidd, Mr. Pooley, and Mr. Curtis. The House, nevertheless, despatched considerable routine work, sitting until 5 o'clock.

Mr. McInnes introduced his Labor Bill, which provided among other things that no person shall be employed within the Province who is "unable to read in an European language this Act, and all the Dominion and Provincial statutes." The Bill stands for its second reading to-morrow. The introduction of this measure is supposed to be in pursuance of the Opposition policy outlined by Mr. Martin, that his party would bring down such legislation as it esteemed desirable in the interests of the country. A draft of this Bill is given below.

An important notice of motion will also be observed in the proceedings, emanating from Mr. Taitow, which looks toward the further restriction of Oriental immigration.

The galleries were well occupied during the session, the number of ladies being particularly noticeable.

#### THE FISHERIES STRIKE.

After prayers had been read, and a number of petitions received, which had been presented on the preceding day,

MR. SMITH (Nanaimo) rose, and on a motion to adjourn, called attention to the state of affairs existing at Steveston. Mr. Smith said he wished to ask the Government to consider the propriety of endeavoring to alleviate the very serious conditions there prevailing. It would be noticed that on the Orders of the Day, he had several questions to ask relative to the action taken by the Government in that connection. The Government had, for reasons, which he presumed would be given to the House and the country, seen fit to send a posse of police to Steveston, and since that a body of armed Militiamen had also been ordered to the scene, presumably to give protection to the fishing

industry. Now, he wished to say, that he was not disposed to favor lawlessness, and he was as fully prepared as any member of the House to take the strongest measures necessary to repress anything of that kind, whether such measures were directed against members of trades unions or otherwise. But he could speak with full assurance, when he said he believed it could be clearly shown that no such state of things existed, to call for the presence of such a large body of armed men. He spoke from evidence gleaned from the public press, from his own study of the situation, and from intelligence gathered from those who were conversant with the subject. In a press interview with prominent Union officials, after the Japanese had full control of the fisheries, last night, it was apparent that there was no disposition on the part of the union men to resort to violence or lawlessness. He considered the calling out of the Militia a most extreme measure, which could only be justified by the existence of threatening conditions, indicating that protection was

required. He desired to learn from the Government that the House and the people of the country might be informed, whether there were such reasons for the action taken, whether the fishermen had anything to call for such a course. If they had, he would be the first to acknowledge it, and to give his assent to what had taken place. But he was forced to believe that the laborers had exercised no influence to merit such action, and that the only cause or result of the display of armed intervention was to place the honest native toilers of this Province, and one of the most deserving classes of it, at the mercy of some thousand Japanese, whose nature and mode of living enabled them to accept terms which to white labor, would not be within the bounds of reason, and to play into the hands of the cannery, as parties to the dispute. That was the position he took. He had no disposition to embarrass the Government. He was only desirous that the best means should be taken to bring about peace and harmony in this unhappy dispute, and he felt that the policy of threatening the fishermen with a body of armed men could only accomplish an exactly contrary result. Members of these unions had rights the same as other people: they were an incorporated society, possessing the right to object, remonstrate, and use every kind of legitimate and fair influence, to induce men not to fish for prices which they held to be out of reason, or which did not promise a fair return for their labors; and until they went beyond those rights, there was no justification for the interference of a body of armed men, as were in service at Steveston at the present time. He was, therefore, anxious to have the reasons by which the Government was actuated presented to the House. He was anxious to know wherein the actions of these men had warranted the calling out of the Militia, and the summoning of police to the scene. If there were no sufficient reasons, as he fully believed, then he urged that the House should use its influence to secure the withdrawal of those men. There was also a more important reason why this Government and members of the House should exert all possible influence to secure a permanent settlement of the trouble. It stood as a disgrace on this Province to-day that the only way in which the Government could intervene in case of labor strikes was through the Militia or Police. There should be legislation to provide, that in the event of government intervention being expedient, the parties to the dispute could be compelled, in the public interests, to submit their respective contentions to conciliatory arbitration.

He was happy to say that he had been informed that the Government had used some influence to bring the present dispute to a settlement. It stood as a very strong evidence of the unfairness of the position of the cannery, that they refused the influence of the Government in favor of arbitration, and he would say the same thing of members of the Union, to whom, he was informed by one of the Ministers, representations looking to conciliation and arbitration had been made and that the Government's good offices were refused. Both sides had declared against arbitration. The public interests were being interfered with; what did that teach the House? It should teach the House the importance of placing on the statutes of this Province, legislation to enable compulsory arbitration to be effected; when, through the contentions of two parties to a labor dispute, the interests of the country were threatened, then it was the duty of the Government to step in to bring about a settlement, through arbitration by force of law. (Hear, hear.) He thought it a most serious thing, that any industry of this Province should receive the protection of an armed force, and in the present case he considered, that toward one party to the dispute, it was an injustice and an outrage.

HON. MR. McBRIDE said that he represented a constituency in which the fishing industry was carried on over a considerable area, and which was very much affected by the present strike. Every one must admit that it

was a most delicate thing for a politician to interfere either directly or indirectly in a matter of this kind, unless some overtures of the very strongest and most pronounced character were made for that interference. However, he felt that the strike meant a great deal, not only to the District and City of New Westminster, but to the whole Province. Now, certain representations were made to the Government (he believed the interpellations of the member for Nanaimo would elicit from what source those representations came) that the state of affairs was very serious on the Fraser. Representations were made time and again, and as they all knew, there was no question but that every fisherman from the mouth of the Fraser right up to the water did not go out to fish. The strikers along the Fraser had violated none of the laws of British Columbia or Canada, but as far as could be ascertained, kept well within the law, while urging what they considered their interests against the cannery. Now, no matter how anxious those more directly concerned were to see the trouble brought to an end, still it was absolutely impossible to move one way or the other, to offer arbitration, if conciliatory measures should be brought about, and the

Government was prepared to do its very best in that direction. As they all knew, reports from the Mainland pointed out last week that the situation was very serious, and upon the suggestion of some members of the Executive, he had thereupon taken a trip up along the Fraser River, and found that at the headquarters of the industry at Steveston, things were most quiet and orderly. There was absolutely no evidence of law-breaking, and the same condition of affairs obtained all along the banks of the River. A report had gone, considerable notoriety in that quarter that two or three cases of intimidation had taken place, and on enquiry from officials in charge he was informed that there had been instances of men sent out fishing being interfered with, but that those matters were being attended to by the Provincial Police. Every one admitted that, if the Government had sent to the district a large posse of police, the result would have been that the breach existing between the cannery and the workmen would at once have been widened. The presence of a large body of police would at once have suggested that these fishermen were going to break the laws of the country, and that protection was required. Now, he wished to explain that the Government had taken absolutely no part in the calling out of the Militia. The Government had tried, as far as possible, to keep well within the powers which the British North America Act conferred upon the Executive of the Province. While it had offered its services in the direction of intervention, and while it was most anxious to conserve the rights of all parties concerned, still he thought the House would admit that the evidence for the most part went to show that these men intended to be law-abiding, and the Government consequently acted as it thought in the interests of all the parties concerned, sending there a number of special police, and endeavoring in every other way to facilitate a settlement. They all knew that the fishing industry not only concerned the cannery and the large number of fishermen who derived their subsistence from it, but the merchants of Vancouver, Victoria, and New Westminster, and as a consequence the case was a Provincial as well as a local one. He was pleased to say that through the interference of Mr. Bremner, Dominion Labor Commissioner, it seemed at last that some arrangement would be made. It perhaps might be a matter of some regret that the Dominion Labor Commissioner had not arrived somewhat sooner on the ground. He might point out that the Dominion Government derived considerable revenue from the fishery licences. He believed that the Dominion Government had derived five times as much money from the Fraser fisheries than what had been spent upon that industry, and it looked to him only reasonable that the instrument which conveyed these licences to fish, should at the



same time give some measure of protection; and should have amicable feeling; and should have made some effort to bring about an amicable settlement of the trouble. It might be supposed that the offices of the Dominion Commissioner were offered for this purpose, and if so it was too bad that that gentleman had not arrived sooner on the ground.

MR. McINNIS: "The hon. gentleman states that the Government offered their services. I would like to know which of the parties refused to accept those services?"

HON. MR. McBRIDE said that the Board of Trade of New Westminster some days ago passed a resolution to the effect that it was perhaps possible that the interference of the Government would effect a settlement; that resolution was sent to the Boards of Vancouver and Victoria. He believed that the Premier telegraphed that the Government was anxious and ready to do all it possibly could to bring about conciliation, but neither of the parties had called upon it. That he believed was the tenor of the message that passed between the parties. So far as the canners and fishermen were concerned, those with whom he came in contact told him that they did not see any chance of arriving at a settlement. The canners on their part held that they could not do business and pay the price asked for the fish, and the fishermen claimed the same thing on their side. His trip was, however, semi-official, and he had not desired to do anything to suggest that the situation was so critical that it could not be amended, and while he was anxious to obtain information, still he could not get it in a public way. He did not go about calling meetings with the different parties, in order to lay the matter before the House in a formal manner.

MR. BROWN said that this matter had come up rather suddenly. He did not wish to blame the Government for its action or want of action in the matter, but thought that the proper course would have been for it to have made a public offer of its services to arbitrate and conciliate between the parties. In that case the blame would have attached to the party refusing such offer, for he was sure that such an offer would have been accepted. In any case, an arrangement could have been made by which the fisheries could have been continued in the meantime, and the question of price left for settlement by and by. The lesson drawn from the situation as presented by the hon. member for Nanaimo was that the Government should seek to put itself in such a position that it could intervene with authority in any case of this kind. It was evident that the Government at present was in rather a helpless position in an affair which threatened to inflict very great damage to the Province as a whole and on its commercial interests, not to mention the individuals concerned in the strike. He approved of the suggestion of the hon. member for Nanaimo. The interference of the Militia he conceived might have resulted in very great and lasting mischief in this Province, and the result of it would be that the canners would have their way right or wrong, and the cause of the other party would not be heard. It also meant that the fruits of the industry which should go to our native fishermen, would be enjoyed by the Japanese and other foreigners, who had no interest at stake in the country.

MR. NEILL cited the Militia and Defence Act, authorizing the Militia authorities to be called on to aid the Civil powers in any case of emergency, provided that the Civil authorities

were unable to deal with it. Upon this he submitted that the three justices of the peace responsible for invoking the aid of the Militia had largely exceeded their jurisdiction in calling out the Militia on this occasion. He held that there had been no evidence to warrant such a proceeding, and referred to the remarks of the Hon. Mr.

McBride in support of his contention. He thought it would be well for the House to require an explanation from those justices of the peace for the course they had taken, or by whose suggestion they were actuated to resort to such an extreme step.

MR. GREEN wished to say that he thought it was too bad that it should be published to the world that such a state of affairs existed in this Province as to call for the intervention of the Militia. It seemed to him that the justices responsible for this merited the severest censure. There was no question that trouble seemed probable in connection with the strike; but he had yet to know of a single case where the citizens of British Columbia had not been law-abiding, at least to an extent where the Civil authorities were not capable of preserving order.

MR. McPHILLIPS thought that in all fairness to these justices, the House should not sit as a judge upon the matter without the facts being before it. He was advised by his hon. friend from Richmond, that Mr. Wilkinson, Reeve of the municipality at the point where these disturbances took place, was one of those who signed the request to the Commander of the Militia. They should not criticize the National law of Canada. There was a law, the Militia and Defence Act, which entitled those gentlemen to call out the Militia, upon certain conditions, and they had done so. He thought it unfair, uncharitable, unworthy the dignity of the House, that criticism should be raised with respect to those gentlemen, without their being heard. He defended their course. He maintained that at a time as critical in the world's affairs as the present, when they were asking China to maintain order and preserve the lives of their Minister and members of the Peking Legation, and when the Japanese were assisting the other Powers to that end, it would be a travesty upon things in this Province, if the authorities thought the Japanese fishermen on the Fraser unworthy of protection.

MR. GILMOUR said he understood from the Hon. Minister of Finance yesterday that the Government had this fishery dispute under consideration. So far as he could see, that was as far as it went. The House was told by the Hon. Minister of Finance that he had taken a trip up the Fraser. So far as he could see the Hon. Minister might as well have stayed at home. They were told that the Government had offered to arbitrate this matter, but who was the offer made to? Was it made to the fishermen or canners? No: it was made to the Board of Trade of New Westminster. He thought the Hon. Minister should not condemn the Dominion Government for not sending Mr. Bremner out soon enough. He considered the Provincial Government should have taken the matter up sooner itself, and honestly endeavored to secure a settlement.

MR. OLIVER, referring to preced-

ents for calling out the Militia, mentioned the strike at the Wellington Coal Mines, in which he held it was conclusively shown that there was no justification for the course taken. The present instance he looked upon as another illustration of misguided judgment. As to the suggestion of the member for Nanaimo, he considered it a good one. There should certainly be some provision made to enable the Government to step in to compel a settlement in these cases.

MR. HUNTER asked of the Government if the report the strike had collapsed and that three thousand boats had gone out to fish was correct. If correct, he thought the presence of the Militia had had a good effect. He differed with the statement of his hon. friend from Delta (Mr. Oliver) that there was no justification for the calling out of the Militia during the Wellington strike. He was there at the time, and had some personal reminiscences on that score. He recollected that he was very glad to get away. (Laughter.)

HON. MR. EBBERTS, replying to Mr. Hunter, said that the Government had received no information.

MR. MARTIN: "Then you are not paying any attention to the matter?"

HON. MR. EBBERTS went on to explain how the Government seeing that the strike was becoming serious, in view of the important interests involved, had sent a number of special police to the scene. It had taken this course upon information that overt acts of disturbance had taken place. Men going out on their lawful avocation had been pursued, prevented from fishing, and some of them badly treated.

A Voice: "The facts, please."

MR. EBBERTS produced a letter from Chief Lister, of the Provincial Police, dated 18th July, confirming the statements he had made, and suggesting that measures should be taken to prevent further disturbance. Acting upon that, the Government had given Mr. Lister power to call for as many men as he required to maintain order. His only instructions to the officer were that he should uphold the law without partiality to either side in the dispute. There was no doubt that acts of intimidation had been committed. Boats were patrolling the river, and reports came in from day to day that certain men were being frightened and prevented from carrying on their lawful calling. He had received telegrams

believed that was done, not because any violence was anticipated, but in the hope that their presence on the scene would give confidence to those fishermen who were desirous of prosecuting their calling.

MR. KIDD said that as a canner, he was debarred from taking any side in this question. He thought, however, that much of the trouble was due to the presence of the Japanese, but he did not know that anybody in this Province was to be blamed for that, nor did he blame the Dominion Government, but he hoped that both the Dominion Government and the Provincial authorities would take measures to prevent any additional influx of these people. He referred to the formation of the Canners' Union, explaining that it had been formed, not to take advantage of the fishermen, but to prevent disagreements hitherto rife among the canners themselves as to prices paid. One cannery would be paying one price and another cannery a different price at the same time. This led to complications, and the Union was formed to harmonize matters. As to the calling out of the Militia, he knew the justices concerned. They were Mr. Wilkinson, Reeve of the Municipality; Mr. Hunt, a storekeeper at Stevenson, and Mr. Whiteside, working foreman for one of the canneries, all good citizens. Until there was some information before the House to show that those men had acted unwisely, he thought it unfair to reflect upon them in any way. Alluding to a report that the Japanese fishermen had gone out with rifles in their boats, the speaker said this was a dangerous phase of the situation. He thought if such were the case, that steps should be taken by the Government to have these men disarmed. (Hear, hear.)

MR. POOLEY defended the action of the authorities in calling out the Militia, and held that the justices of the peace were well within their rights in doing so. The time for taking such precautionary measures was not after serious trouble or bloodshed had taken place, and he considered that the presence of the Militia had had a salutary effect in preserving good order and in enabling those of the fishermen who so desired, to go on with their work. He thought the justices of the peace were not amenable to this House for the action they had taken, but to the higher authority of the Dominion Government.

MR. CURTIS disagreed with the last remark. He considered that the justices were amenable to this House. They were appointees of the Government, and the Government existed at the will of this House. He proceeded to discuss the matters touched upon in

the debate, taking the ground that police intervention was uncalled for, and that the summoning of the Militia was altogether unnecessary. Compulsory arbitration he approved of. Similar legislation existed in other parts of the world, and with good results. In the present trouble he thought the Government would be able to show that it had exhausted every reasonable resource, to bring about an amicable settlement. He thought it would be well if it were to appoint some fair-minded gentleman to join with Mr. Bremner, the Dominion Labor Commissioner, in seeking a solution of the trouble. If the Government acted in that way, he believed that inside of three days the troubles on the Fraser would cease, saying that matters were very dangerous, and that the Government should do a great deal more than it had been doing under the circumstances. But the Government thought it was doing all it should do if it sent special policemen to the district in order to protect those men who were winning and anxious to prosecute their avocation. As to the Militia being called out, the Government knew nothing about that; in fact, he was not apprised of the fact until he saw the report in the newspapers. He did not know the facts which were presented to the justices of the peace, and which led to their action, and until they were possessed of those facts, he thought criticism should be withheld. They were all agreed that the fishermen should be protected just as well as the cannerymen, but taking all these things into consideration, he thought the Government did what it should have done, and all it could do, under the circumstances. It was all very well for hon. gentlemen to say that the Government should arbitrate, but they might as well say that the Government should arbitrate between a man and his wife when a family quarrel arose.

MR. GILMOUR: "That does not affect the country." (Laughter.)

HON. MR. EBERTS: "Yes, it does affect the country." He did not think he should be blamed for not passing the suggested legislation; any more than he should criticize the previous Attorney-General for not passing such an Act. He hoped hon. gentlemen would give the Government credit for what it had done, and admit that it had done what it could in the matter.

MR. GILMOUR asked if the Hon. Attorney-General would submit the correspondence that had taken place regarding the Steveston strike.

HON. MR. EBERTS: "Ask for the papers and you will get them all."

MR. McINNES: "Do I understand that those papers will be laid on the table? It is a very important matter."

HON. MR. EBERTS: "I will be very glad to lay them on the table to-morrow."

MR. GREEN said that he had been informed that Mr. Bremner, Dominion Commissioner, was on the ground early in the strike and had endeavored to have the matter settled some time ago.

HON. MR. McBRIDE explained that his remarks as to the part taken by Mr. Bremner were based on newspaper reports. He had not wished to reflect at all on that gentleman or the manner in which he performed his duties.

HON. MR. TURNER, referring to the suggestion for compulsory arbitration, said he could not see how compulsory arbitration could be enforced in a case such as the present one. They could not make the men go out and fish for wages which they refused, nor could they, on the other hand, oblige the cannerymen to pay what they claimed they could not afford. He thought the cause of the trouble was attributable to the fact that there were too many fishermen employed. There were some eight thousand men at present in the Fraser District. Suppose these men went out at 25 cents a fish. He could assure the House that would mean a loss to the cannerymen of one dollar for every case of salmon put up. It was impossible he held for the 48 or 49 canneries along the Fraser to handle the catch of eight thousand fishermen. He thought there was something wrong in the method of licensing and that was in the hands of the Dominion Govern-

ment. In one of the canneries in which he was interested, he had seen four or five thousand fish thrown away in one evening, and they could judge the result of a large run of fish with four thousand boats on the river. The whole trouble arose through an over-supply of fishermen. The cannerymen were not blameless. The cannerymen had been in a very bad state for the past few years. As a matter of fact he could state positively that two of them had lost money during the last three years, and were just keeping on now in the hope of meeting a good season. With a fair run of fish at 20 cents, the fishermen could make from forty to fifty dollars a day. Of course, the fishing season did not last long, but they could hardly compel the cannerymen to pay an exorbitant price on that ground. As to the price of salmon in the Old Country, that was regulated by the output from Alaska and Oregon and the wages paid did not affect it. He thought there had been some intimidation by fishermen on the Fraser, and referred to the introduction of the Japanese as a misfortune, for which the Dominion Government was largely responsible. As to the calling out of the Militia, he be-



## PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT

**Mr. Martin Evinces Symptoms of Obstruction in Committee of Supply.—Vote Passed.—The Strike.—New Bills.**

From Our Own Correspondent.

## FOURTH DAY.

Victoria, July 26.

This was a day of Committee talk. The occasion for it arose in the first item in the Orders of the Day, to provide \$150,000 to meet emergency expenditures. The greater part of the afternoon was occupied in this business. A wonderful tact for kaleidoscopic oratory, in which the same thing was enunciated in many different ways, was displayed by Mr. Martin, and those who followed him in the debate, on both sides, exhibited a similar faculty. The vote was carried, but through a deluge of words, such as can only be ground out in the political mill. Time was ruthlessly slaughtered, and as a result, when the House rose at 5 o'clock there were many items on the order paper not disposed of. The Small Debts Bill, which stood for consideration in Committee, the Evidence Bill, the Notaries Bill, which were down for Committee and the second reading of the Liquor Licence Bill, the Trustees' Bill and the New Westminster Relief Bill, all these matters were left untouched. That the session will be a long one is a growing impression.

## EMERGENCY SUPPLY.

After the usual formalities of opening, the House went into Committee of the Whole to consider the following schedule of Emergency Supply:

"The estimated sum of \$150,000 is required as an Emergency Supply to provide for the payment of salaries, urgent public works, and other necessary services, chargeable to the expenditure of the financial year ending 30th June, 1901. All payments made therefrom to form part of the Estimate for the financial year ending 30th June, 1901, to be submitted to the Legislative Assembly, and apportioned to the various services and votes in Committee of Supply."

MR. MARTIN agreed that it was very essential that this grant should be voted to enable the Government to go on with necessary public works. It seemed to him, however, doubtful whether the House should leave it to the Government to expend a very considerable amount of money and then get an appropriation afterwards. He urged that the Government should submit a statement showing what special public works were to receive attention. He understood that the Government had already commenced expensive public works in different parts of the Province, and were going on with the same. This, if true, he considered very improper.

HON. MR. TURNER said that there were some roads in the Kootenay District, and at Comox and Cariboo, that he thought required immediate attention, but he could not from memory name the various sections where urgency was required.

MR. MARTIN was not satisfied. He desired to know just how the money was to be divided between the various public works. So far as the Comox Road was concerned any expenditure there was perfectly justifiable, as that road was a disgrace to the present Government, as it had been to the Government of which he was a member.

MR. McPHILLIPS could not see how the Government could very well submit a detailed statement of the expenditure to be made. As he understood it the monies were to be available for these public works which were found from time to time to be most pressing.

HON. MR. WELLS said that he had made this matter a subject of inquiry during a recent trip to various sections of the country. At Revelstoke, he found that certain road work should be completed requiring three or four

thousand dollars. The Hon. Leader of the Opposition had authorised an expenditure of \$1,000 on this very road. The member for Shocan had impressed him with the importance of proceeding with some work in his district and he (Hon. Mr. Wells) took it upon himself to authorise work there, which would amount to some six thousand dollars. He had also seen the hon. member for Nelson, who had given him assurance, however, that there was no money required in that particular district. He had not had the pleasure at Rossland of meeting the hon. member for that place to get any particulars from him, but he thought he would have some claims as well. In Nanaimo District he felt it his duty to authorise certain work there. He thought the Hon. Leader of the Opposition would agree that the road there was very badly in need of repairs. If they waited until the Estimates were brought down these matters could not receive proper attention.

MR. MARTIN said the hon. gentleman had then given the amount of \$12,000 leaving the sum of \$138,000 for salaries and public works. He thought the amount inadequate, as the country required very much more than that. He thought in addition that the hon. gentleman had violated the laws of the Province in making a trip in this way and authorising expenditure of public money. What was the necessity of the Finance Minister coming there to ask for a vote of \$150,000. The Hon. Minister of Lands and Works had not waited for that, but had authorised expenditures without the authority of the House. To provide for such special cases a statute had been passed by the House giving the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council power to appropriate money, but the hon. gentleman did not get a special warrant, but went and appropriated the money himself, because he thought it was necessary. This was a matter on which British legislatures were particularly sensitive, that expenditures should be made, not by the Government, but by the House. If it adopted the principle that the hon. gentleman had initiated, he fancied for the first time in this Province, or any other country governed by British institutions, what was the use of the House meeting at all, and having any special bill?

HON. MR. WELLS said he only referred to the preliminary part of the work.

MR. MARTIN asked what that meant. He supposed it cost money just the same.

MR. HUNTER thought there was nothing unreasonable in the position taken by the Hon. Leader of the Opposition, and he thought the House should be placed in possession of the information he asked for. As to the trip taken by the Hon. Commissioner of Lands and Works, the inference might be drawn from it that the interests of the whole Province revolved around the Kootenays. He thought an important section like Cariboo might have merited a visit.

MR. GREEN held that much ado was being made about nothing. He thought the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works quite justified in doing what he did through the Kootenay country. As to the authority given by him for work to be done that was simply a primary action until he should have opportunity to report, as he had, on the course taken.

HON. MR. TURNER also spoke defending the action of the Government, followed by MR. BROWN, HON. MR. PRENTICE, HON. MR. EBERTS and others.

HON. MR. WELLS subsequently explained that he had not acted solely on his own responsibility as understood by Mr. Martin, but had consulted the Ministry in reference to the matter.

The question was then put and the motion passed.

## JUDICIARY BILLS.

Hon. Mr. Eberts introduced a Bill to amend the Supreme Court Act and a Bill to amend the Jurors Act, which received their first reading.

## SECOND READINGS.

Mr. McPhillips moved the second reading of the Shops Bill, explaining briefly that it was designed to protect girls and other employees against ill-usage and severely long hours. The Bill passed its second reading, after a short discussion and will be referred to Committee at the next sitting of the House.

After a brief explanation by Mr. Green, the Bill respecting the qualifications of Sandom City Councillors was read a second time.

With the consent of Mr. McInnes, the second reading of the Bill Respecting Labor, introduced by him, was allowed to stand over for a few days.

## RETURNS DELAYED.

Mr. McInnes called attention to the fact that the papers in connection with the Government's interference at Stevenson, which were to have been laid on the table of the House, had not yet been brought down. The Hon. Attorney-General explained that this was owing to unavoidable clerical delays. He had ordered the papers to be prepared as requested, and they would be laid on the table at an early date. The House adjourned at 5 p. m.

## PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT

**Address of Duke of Edinburgh.—Debate on Abuse.**

From Our Own Correspondent.

SI

Owing to the Duke of Edinburgh's short stay at 2 o'clock business was hurried over. Mr. Green, the British and others, on the table, petition signers, asking build a road veying mail place gold 1 let.

ADDRESS On the moir, second ordered:

That the Duke of Edinburgh, in order to do violence to the death of the Duke of Edinburgh, burg-Gotha.

On the moir seconded by ed:

That the Duke of Edinburgh, in order to do violence to the death of the Duke of Edinburgh, burg-Gotha, jesty:

"We, Your subjects, the House of Commons, do hereby tender to the Duke of Edinburgh, in order to do violence to the death of the Duke of Edinburgh, burg-Gotha, jesty:

Your subjects, the House of Commons, do hereby tender to the Duke of Edinburgh, in order to do violence to the death of the Duke of Edinburgh, burg-Gotha, jesty:

We, the House of Commons, do hereby tender to the Duke of Edinburgh, in order to do violence to the death of the Duke of Edinburgh, burg-Gotha, jesty:

On motion of the Duke of Edinburgh, burg-Gotha, jesty:

That the Duke of Edinburgh, in order to do violence to the death of the Duke of Edinburgh, burg-Gotha, jesty: