

J A N

1914

BRILLIANT SCENE AT OPENING OF THE LEGISLATURE

Governor Paterson Reads the
Message Foreshadowing
Session's Programme.

Mr. Bowser Will Have Bill for
Regulation of Trust
Companies.

Legislation to Facilitate For-
mer Railway Measures
Is Aimed At.

Substantial Progress Has Been
Made in Fishing and Other
Industries.

Victoria, Jan. 15.—Lieutenant-Governor Paterson opened the second session of the Thirteenth Legislature here this afternoon. The scene at the formal opening was one of brilliancy. At 2:30 the 88th Fusiliers marched to the square in front of the legislative buildings, and half an hour later the Lieutenant-Governor, in his uniform of gold lace, appeared with the regimental officers as his guard of honor. The great gates at the front of the building were thrown open, and his honor proceeded up the long flight of stone steps and through into the assembly hall, the guard of honor in the meantime forming single file on either side of the aisle. In the assembly chamber the legislators were in their seats awaiting the arrival of the Lieutenant-Governor. With them on the floor of the house were about 100 invited guests, others present on invitation being seated in the north and west galleries. The general public was admitted to the galleries on the east side and the south end behind the throne.

Mr. Foster Introduced.
As soon as Lieutenant-Governor Paterson entered the chamber the company arose, remaining standing until he mounted the throne.

Prior to the arrival of his honor Mr. Speaker Eberts, preceded by the mace and attended by the sergeant-at-arms, entered the hall and took his chair. The inaugural step of the session was the introduction to the speaker of Mr. W. W. Foster, member-elect for the Islands. He was brought forward by the Premier and the minister of public works.

Lieutenant-Governor Paterson then proceeded with the reading of the gubernatorial address, which is given in full below.

On his retirement from the legislative hall, prayers were said by the Bishop of Columbia, and the House was declared by the speaker to be in session.

An adjournment was then made till tomorrow at 3 o'clock, when the reply to the address from the throne will be moved by Mr. W. J. Manson, M. L. A., of Dewdney, and seconded by Mr. W. W. Foster, member-elect for the Islands.

Prominent Folk There.

Nearly five hundred invitations were sent out by the speaker to the affair this afternoon, and every available inch of space in the public galleries and on that portion of the floor of the House allotted to visitors for the occasion was taken up. Prominent among the dignitaries present were judges of the court of appeal and the lower courts, consular agents, ex-members of the Legislature, members of the clergy, including the Bishop of Columbia and the Bishop of Victoria, and many prominent citizens of Victoria, Vancouver and New Westminster with their wives and families.

Speech From Throne.

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly:

In welcoming you to the second session of the Thirteenth Parliament of British Columbia, it affords me pleasure to state that the province has enjoyed a large share of advancement and prosperity during the past year.

Prevailing conditions in the money market have delayed the payment to the government of large sums, outstanding on account of the sale of townsite and district lands; but these amounts are bearing a profitable rate of interest. Treasury notes have been issued for the sum of \$1,500,000, and legislation affecting the Revenue Act, and providing for a provincial loan will be submitted to you. The high standing of British Columbia's credit, I am pleased to observe, still continues.

Under authority of the legislation enacted last year, the auditor-general's office has been instituted.

The liberal appropriations made by you at the last session for public works have enabled further extensions to be made to the highways of the province, and, as well, have aided in opening up the central and northern parts of British Columbia. Suitable public buildings have been constructed, where necessary, in order to increase the efficiency of the public service.

Negotiations for the site of the provincial building in London have been concluded, and work is in progress preparatory to the erection of the structure. The new Mental Hospital at Essondale has been completed and is occupied. Satisfactory progress has been made on the additions to the Parliament buildings; a portion of these will be available for use in a short time.

While there have been unfortunate troubles in the coal-mining districts of Vancouver Island, the output of our mines during the year has been most satisfactory. Based on reliable information, reports indicate that the outlook for increased development in this industry is most assuring.

Vigorous work has been carried on by the department of lands. Under the supervision of the surveyor-general surveys of large sections of the public domain have been carried out and new maps compiled. The water and forest branches, now regularly organized, have already given most valuable results. Measures will be submitted for your approval dealing with the water and timber resources.

For the more effective working of the laws with regard to the registration of land, it is proposed to amend the present act.

Following the report of the Municipal Commission you will be asked to consider a bill to amend and consolidate the laws relating to municipalities, including provision for the establishment of a municipal department under the government.

Among other important measures to be laid before you will be one dealing with trust companies; also an amendment to the School Act, and the consolidation of the game laws.

The Royal Commission on Agriculture has been steadily prosecuting its inquiries and is now engaged in preparing a report. Much good has attended the endeavors of the agricultural department to bring about co-operation among the growers in respect to shipping and marketing farm products; on the whole, the progress of this important industry throughout the province has been most substantial.

The inquiry into the conditions of labor has been completed by the royal commission charged with that duty; the evidence collected and findings arrived at will be placed before you during the present session.

It is expected that the report of the commissioner appointed under the Public Inquiries Act to investigate matters affecting the price of coal in the province will be duly laid before the House.

The organization of the new Provincial University at Point Grey has been proceeded with, the governing body formed, and the president appointed. You will be asked to sanction an appropriation toward the erection of University buildings.

The output of the fisheries of British Columbia now ranks first in the Dominion. Various questions affecting this industry, submitted jointly by the province and the Dominion, relative to certain constitutional rights, have been settled by the Privy Council. The effect of this judgment does not impair nor limit the usefulness of the provincial department.

The "Civil Service Act," having been in force for a sufficient time to test its utility, is found to be working beneficially.

The first minister, with the ministers of lands, attended, as representatives of British Columbia, the conference of the provinces held in Ottawa in October last, and a report of the proceedings will be presented to the House.

The construction of railways in the province has progressed most satisfactorily. You will be asked to consider measures aimed at facilitating the object of the legislation already approved.

By virtue of an order-in-council approved by His Royal Highness the Governor-General, Mr. Z. A. Lash, K. C., of Toronto, and Mr. E. V. Bodwell, K. C., of Victoria, have been selected to represent respectively the federal and provincial interests on the commission presently to assemble for the purpose of investigating the claims of the province for better terms. A request has been formally made to the colonial secretary for the appointment of the third member. So soon as this is complied with, it is expected that the inquiry will be undertaken. Meanwhile the case for the province has been prepared and filed with the secretary of the commission.

The public accounts for the past fiscal year will be laid before you, and the estimates of expenditure will also be submitted for your consideration.

These and all other matters which may be brought before you will, I feel assured, receive your careful and earnest attention.

MINERS' WIVES CALL ON PREMIER M'BRIDE

Remarkable Scene Enacted in
Executive Chamber at
Victoria.

Women Plead for Their Loved
Ones and Sir Richard
Replies.

Visitors Wore Red Badges and
Were Given Many
Dimes.

Charges Against Policemen
and Courts Are Made Dur-
ing Conference.

Victoria, Jan. 15.—The executive chamber of the Provincial Government buildings has probably never witnessed a more affecting scene than that which took place at noon today when upwards of sixty women, wives and mothers of the imprisoned miners from Ladysmith, Wellington

and Nanaimo appeared before Premier McBride and appealed for clemency for their loved ones. Wives asked for the liberation of their husbands upon whom they depended for support. Mothers with tears in their eyes besought Sir Richard to use his influence in freeing their sons, whom they said had really intended no wrong. Women with little children pushed them forward as living evidence of their necessity in desiring the return of their husbands and fathers.

The delegation of wives and mothers came from the North to the Capital this morning and waited no time in reaching the government buildings. All of them wore red badges and many carried cigar boxes in which they collected stray dimes from passersby on the streets in return for tags bearing the legend "In aid of the wives and children of the imprisoned miners."

An arrangement was soon made through Secretary-Treasurer H. J. McEwen of the Miners' Liberation League and Vice-president A. Watchman of the B. C. Federation of Labor for a hearing by Premier McBride.

At noon the red-badged delegation streamed into the executive chamber filling every chair that could be found and overflowing into the hall. In addition to the women of all nationalities apparently, there were many children, nearly all of whom, their mothers declare, had been without their fathers for as much as six or eight months.

Send Monster Petition.

Mr. McEwen, the first speaker, said that the deputation coming to Victoria numbered 150 persons.

A petition which he presented to the Premier asking for the release from prison of the miners was signed by every single woman in the strike district who had a male relative in jail, he declared.

Briefly, the petition read: "We, the wives and mothers, petition you for the release of our husbands and fathers from jail as they and we have suffered enough." In his remarks regarding the strike and the serious troubles which followed, Mr. McEwen was inclined to lay much of the blame upon the shoulders of the Premier. He further declared that the minister of justice at Ottawa had failed in carrying out the idea of justice and as believed by many thousands of people in the Dominion.

The minister of justice had not done his duty by the miners, he declared, and as a result he himself had telegraphed to the home secretary in England, as well as to the King, seeking clemency for the imprisoned men.

Then followed the women, each with a short plea for help from the Premier. Many of them could not keep the tears from their eyes and here and there one would break down almost completely. Mrs. Morgan asked for the release of a son of nineteen, sentenced to the penitentiary for two years.

"He is only my boy, Mr. McBride," she said, "and meant no harm. He has been a good son and I need him at home."

Say Policeman Lied.

Mrs. Caddy asked for her son not to wear convict garb. Mrs. William Bauld pleaded for the return of her husband, whom, she said, had been unjustly punished, and who had never before in his life been in the slightest trouble until the strike riots occurred.

Mrs. Portrey asked for her husband and also a son. Her husband, she said, had worked faithfully for one coal mining company for twenty-five years. Mrs. Axelson told of her husband being employed by the Wellington Collieries for thirty years. He was in bed when the troubles took place, arising out of which his arrest was made. The policeman had a grudge against him and lied to get him into jail, she declared vehemently.

Mrs. Armstrong asked for the release of the father of her three children, Mrs. Longdon for a husband who has been in jail for five months, Mrs. Mairs for the return to the parental roof of a boy of 22, Mrs. Brighton for her husband, five months in prison. Other women who urged the Premier to help them in their cause were Miss Bumberra for her father, Mrs. Slogger, Mrs. Allsopp, Mrs. Mortimer, Mrs. Bailey, Miss Stevenson and Mrs. Dawson. A foreign woman in broken English told the Premier that her husband had always been a good man.

Blamed the Courts.

That the courts had been prejudiced against the miners was declared by Vice-president Watchman. He told the Premier that a call had been issued for the workers in the province

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Continued from over page.

to go on strike on Jan. 29 and 30 as a province-wide protest against the action of the courts and the non-interference of the governmental authorities. He suggested that if the imprisoned workers were released, trouble would be avoided, as the workers certainly did not wish to cause any more fuss and had no further desire for agitation. He complained that the chief of police of Victoria had refused to allow them to carry banners in the streets for their tag day, as had been permitted in Vancouver.

His Personal Opinion.

Premier McBride gave \$20 to the tag day fund of the women but he would make no promise with regard to clemency, pointing out that such a matter as this lay with the national authorities at Ottawa. He made one significant statement, however, and it was:

"But were I situated as the minister of justice is, and if there were for the exercise of pardoning power, it would be recommended."

He announced that an account of the meeting today would be forwarded to the minister of justice and at the same time the minister would be informed of the statements relative to the possibility of a provincial strike at the end of the month. Sir Richard pointed out that while it was clearly the right of workers to strike, and many reforms had come about through cessations of work, nevertheless the government proposed at all costs to preserve order. The law compelled the strikers to preserve peace and order. This had not been done in the strike zone and now as a result punishment was being meted out to those who had been convicted of complicity in the rioting and kindred disturbances.

He referred to the fact that a few nights ago a deputation from the Trades and Labor Council of this city had waited upon him with a memorial in favor of the imprisoned miners which had been sent along to Ottawa.

"Those of you who have dear relatives in jail have my sympathy," said the Premier, turning to the crowd of women which filled the room. "I think I know what it must be like, but you must realize that I can hardly attempt to interfere with the prerogatives of Ottawa."

Not to Blame for Strike.

"Mr. McEwen has said that I, as Premier and minister of mines, am to blame for the strike troubles in the Nanaimo district. I deny this. My department has done a good deal to improve and enforce up-to-date mining regulations, helping the conditions of the workers, and the mining inspectors are selected on merit."

"I want to say that the stand taken by the government and announced at the session last year will be adhered to. The miners may strike as is their right, but they must keep order."

Referring to the statement that a provincial strike at the end of the month was probable the Premier suggested that while this was a matter solely in the hands of the workers, it seemed to him that it would be a dangerous precedent if the crown at Ottawa was affected by such a strike to the length of granting clemency to the imprisoned men. The tone of the Premier's remarks in this connection was that such a strike would bring distress in the province and would not help the cause of the men in jail to the slightest extent.

At the close of his reply to the deputation he shook hands with as many of the women who moved to the head of the table to meet him and made a few remarks relative to the personal sympathy which he felt for them. The delegation thanked him and withdrew.

ALL WAS PEACEFUL AND SOLEMN AT HOUSE OPENING

No Strike Demonstrators Appeared on Scene at Victoria Buildings.

Ceremony Was Just as Impressive and Formal as in Other Years.

Floor of House Bright With Gay Costumes of Women of Capital City.

Replies to Address from the Throne Are to Be Given Today.

Victoria, Jan. 15.—With a quiet solemnity which was unexpected by those who believed that the opening of the provincial legislature might be characterized by an outburst from the sympathizers with the miners, Lieut.-Governor Paterson formally opened the second session of the thirteenth provincial parliament yesterday afternoon. The address given by the lieutenant-governor, from the throne, was published in The Province yesterday together with brief mention of the ceremony attendant upon a commencement of the business of the present session.

The law makers of the province, following a formal start yesterday upon their work of two months, will settle down to more prosaic business details today, the House being adjourned yesterday upon motion of the premier to 2 o'clock this afternoon. Despite the fact that it was well known that no business would be taken up yesterday, or possibly it would be better to say—in view of the fact that the afternoon's programme was to consist of solemn formality, there was a large attendance in the public galleries of the legislative chamber. Long before the arrival of the speaker at 2 o'clock, brightly dressed women were walking up the carpeted aisles, guided by white-gloved ushers, to seats in the reserved sections of the galleries or to chairs on the floor of the House placed there for the afternoon. By fifteen minutes of the hour, the House was well filled, the galleries open to the general public being crowded to capacity.

Scene An Interesting One.

It was a sparkling scene—in respect to colors. The floor of the House, carpeted in red, the richness of the mahogany desks of the members, the dull crimson curtains on the walls and upon all the play of variegated light shades through the leaded windows up above. Brightly dressed women lent a charm of further color to the occasion, fashionable hats and costumes being much in evidence and forming an agreeable contrast to the sombre attire of the men.

At three o'clock Mr. Speaker Eberts entered and took his seat upon the throne for a few moments. He was attended by Sergeant-at-Arms, Cullin with the gold-plated mace. Premier McBride and the members of the cabinet, Hon. W. J. Bowser, Hon. Price Ellison, Hon. W. R. Ross, Hon. H. E. Young and Hon. Thomas Taylor entered the Assembly Hall and took their desks, to be followed by a long line of members. Mr. C. E. Tisdall was the only Vancouver member in attendance. Others absent from the opening function in addition to Messrs. H. H. Watson, McGuire and A. E. B. MacGowan, of Vancouver, included Mr. F. Carter Cotton, representing Richmond and W. M. Manson, Prince Rupert. Both Socialist members, Messrs. Williams and Place were in evidence.

Officers in Attendance.

In a few moments officers of the 88th Fusiliers, the 5th and the navy forces, resplendent in scarlet and gold and crimson and black, filed into the hall, marching to the foot of the throne and then forming two long lines down the centre of the chamber, one in front of each section of desks. The lieutenant-governor, attired in the customary formal regalia of gold lace, with his plumed hat, then entered, all present rising to do the customary honor to the representative of His Majesty. The lieutenant-governor then took his seat, vacated just a few moments before by the speaker, and read his formal address, which appeared in detail in these columns yesterday.

At the conclusion of the gubernatorial address the lieutenant-governor, nor descended from the throne and with his guard of honor left the room. Speaker Eberts resumed his place and the solemn, simple opening prayer was read by Bishop Roper, clad in his robes. The speaker then called for items of business.

New Member Introduced.

Clerk of the House Thornton Fell reported upon the election of W. W. Foster in the Islands to succeed Chief Justice McPhillips in the Assembly, and Premier McBride and Government Whip H. B. Thomson were deputed to bring in the member-elect. They accompanied Mr. Foster up the aisle and introduced him to the speaker. A hearty round of hand-clapping from the older members greeted the newest arrival as he stepped through the doorway. He was seated at the end seat in the long row of desks at the speaker's right, the usual place for the youngest member of the House.

Premier McBride moved several more or less perfunctory motions. One related to the printing of the votes and proceedings of the standing committees, which will probably be chosen next week, and a third touched upon the possibility of bribery and corruption in the election of members. As Mr. Foster, M. L. A., is the only member of the House to which this resolution could have any reference at the present time, it might have appeared as if the threat of direful consequences contained in the motion related to his election, but such was not at all the case, the resolution being simply a formality necessary by custom for the House opening.

Hon. Price Ellison presented the statement of public accounts for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1913.

Hon. H. E. Young presented a report of the minutes of the conference of provincial premiers in Ottawa last year and also the provincial schools report for 1913.

The presentation by Hon. W. J. Bowser of a short bill and the first reading of the measure was an interesting relic of older days. The bill was an act to amend the Milk Act and was of little value to the public, but its particular interest at the moment lay in the fact that the reason for its presentation arose out of the old conflict of the King and Commons in the days of Charles I. At that time the monarch insisted that before Parliament could do any business it must reply to his speech from the throne. The Commons, however, were firm in a belief in their right to do business at once, just as soon as the House of Commons was opened and without any tedious and argumentative delay in replying to the King's speech. Accordingly, in upholding this right from time to time a bill is introduced at every initial session just to show that Parliament does not need to reply to the speech from the throne at once, but can do so later. The Milk Bill did service yesterday and today the speech from the throne will be presented, Mr. W. J. Manson, Dewdney, proposing it and Mr. W. W. Foster, Islands, seconding.

Standard of Butter Fat.

This particular amendment to the Milk Act provides as follows: "The council of every municipality is hereby authorized to enact bylaws fixing the standard of butter fat and total solids of milk sold in such municipality, but milk shall not be sold for human consumption which contains less than three and one-quarter per cent. of milk fat or less than eight and one-half per cent. of milk solids other than fat."

The amendment was read a first time yesterday and the second reading will take place today.

Premier McBride moved the adjournment after the House had been in formal session for about half an hour.

Among those noticed in the visitors

galleries and in the sections reserved on the floor of the House were: Justice and Mrs. McPhillips, Miss Allan (Vancouver), Mr. Justice Macdonald, Mr. Justice Gailher, Mrs. C. E. Tisdall (Vancouver), Mr. G. B. Dawson, Mr. Justice Roper, and MacDonald, Bishops Kidston (Vernon), J. E. Messers, J. J. Shallocross, Mrs. A. E. Campbell, Mrs. Taylor, Miss Scott, Mrs. Barnacle, Miss Flinnayson, Mrs. Bowser, Miss Newsome (Whonook), Mrs. W. J. Bowser and Miss Eunice, Bowser, Miss Newsome (Whonook), Mrs. Irving (New Brunswick), Mr. Rattenbury, Mr. Shaw, Mrs. A. Lucas (Vancouver), Miss E. Raymond, Mr. Justice and Mrs. Gregory, Mr. Colin S. Campbell, Mr. and Mrs. J. Jardine, Mrs. and Miss Eberts, Mrs. W. E. Young, Mrs. H. E. Young, Mr. W. Yarrow, Mr. H. E. Yarrow Jr., Capt. and Mrs. H. E. Yarrow, Mr. C. A. Loewenberg, Mr. Troup, Mr. C. A. Loewenberg, Mr. German, Mr. Troup, Mr. C. A. Loewenberg, Mr. J. Smith, United States consul; Mr. B. H. Rickaby, Mexican consul; Very Rev. Dean and Mrs. Dowell, Rev. L. Clay, Col. H. C. Payne and many others.

Many on Outside.

Many who could not gain admittance to the galleries owing to lack of space stood outside of the building and watched the formal arrival of the lieutenant-governor. In addition to the guard of honor comprising the officers who attended him into the assembly room there was a second guard of honor of regimental soldiers which remained on the square at the front of the Parliament buildings.

The whole proceedings went through without a hitch. It had been supposed by a number of persons that the miners, the wives and mothers of the men now imprisoned, and their sympathizers might make a demonstration either before the building or in the House galleries, but there was not a sign from them. Women stationed at the end of the long walks and drives leading up to the entrance of the building, sought contributions to the tag-day fund, but insofar as could be seen there were none of them in the House galleries and it appeared evident that their mission to Victoria from the strike zone was one of peace. The fact that they met the Premier at noon in the executive chamber, and laid their case for clemency before him with what moving words they could employ, indicated that it was far from their minds to resort to threats or disturbances.

A detail of city police numbering thirty men, marched to the buildings at 2:30 o'clock, and stationed themselves outside of the great gates in front, through which the lieutenant-governor entered, also mounting guard in the corridors off the legislative chamber.

Decorated Portraits.

The Imperial Order of the Daughters of the Empire as has been their custom for some years, decorated the pictures of former premiers in the main hallway with wreaths and garlands of leaves, and paper emblems. On the portrait of Sir Richard McBride, in addition to a wreath, was placed a large ribbon rosette.

Among the questions placed on the official order paper yesterday is one standing in the name of Mr. Hayward, Cowichan, who asks what steps are being taken by the government to provide an official report of the session. This curiously on the part of Mr. Hayward may or may not be connected with the fact that upon one occasion last session he complained very strongly that his remarks in the House had been misreported by a morning newspaper in this city. There is a rumor, unconfirmed, that the same newspaper has since offered to print an official report of the proceedings of the Legislature for \$9000 for the session, but the Premier has come to the conclusion that it is not worth it.

Mr. Williams, Ladysmith, is asking on the order paper what sum was paid for the expenses of the Premier in his visit to the Port George district in the financial year 1912-1913. Mr. Place, Nanaimo, has asked leave to introduce a bill entitled "An Act to Amend the Workmen's Compensation Act," and Mr. Williams proposes to introduce a bill entitled "An Act Respecting the Payment of Wages." It is suggested that Mr. Williams hopes to have the law provide for the payment of wages at least fortnightly. The general custom at present is for monthly payments.

OPENING THE LEGISLATURE

Once more the legislature province have assembled to undertake the solemn task of looking after the interests of constituents. Once more speech from the throne, the assembled multitudes with due and proper respect is up, the legislature.

What of the work ahead?

Legislation affecting Act and providing for loan, and measures for the water and timber to be submitted; leave will amend the act regarding the consolidation of the department under the en act dealing with the companies will be laid before an amendment to the S. the consolidation of the will be considered; the labor commission was for the house; as also the report of the committee price of coal in the appropriation for the will also be asked for; lation will be facilitated; the accounts submitted attention.

All these matters will the house for discussion. They will be carefully off the members deem will in due course be the laws of the country will feel much easier legislature is sitting. Victoria is the seat of and that its representative place. If anyone was telegram will bring a happy country, happy such admirable method. If a despot were the above measures without submission to people. But under our tem the people themselves check their servants as them proceed to their well assured that the country are upon them.

OPENING THE LEGISLATURE.

Once more the legislators of this province have assembled in Victoria to undertake the solemn obligations of looking after the interests of their constituents. Once more has the speech from the throne been read to the assembled multitudes and received with due and proper respect. The curtain is up; the legislature is in session. What of the work ahead?

Legislation affecting the Revenue Act and providing for a provincial loan, and measures for dealing with the water and timber resources will be submitted; leave will be asked to amend the act regarding the registration of land and municipal laws. It is proposed to establish a municipal department under the government; an act dealing with the trust companies will be laid before the house; an amendment to the School Act and the consolidation of the game laws will be considered; the evidence of the labor commission will be laid before the house; as also, it is hoped, the report of the commissioner on the price of coal in the province. An appropriation for the new university will also be asked for; railway legislation will be facilitated and the public accounts submitted for consideration.

All these matters will come before the house for discussion in good time. They will be carefully considered and if the members deem it right they will in due course become added to the laws of the country. The country will feel much easier now that the legislature is sitting. It knows that Victoria is the seat of government and that its representatives are all in place. If anyone wants anything a telegram will bring a quick response. Happy country, happy people to have such admirable methods of government. If a despot were in control all the above measures would be passed without submission to the will of the people. But under our admirable system the people themselves are able to check their servants at Victoria. Let them proceed to their labors and rest well assured that the eyes of the country are upon them.

THE DAILY PROVINCE, VANCOUVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA, SATURDAY

FOSTER CHAMPIONS
CAUSE OF GOOD
ROADS

New Member Makes Good Impression in Maiden Speech in Legislature.

Experience in Public Works Makes Him Familiar With Many Affairs.

Changes in Vancouver Incorporation Act Are Again in Sight.

House Will Sit on Monday to Continue Debate on Reply to Address.

Victoria, Jan. 17.—The moving and seconding of the reply to the address from the throne saw the maiden speech of Mr. W. W. Foster, M. L. A. for the Islands, in the House yesterday afternoon. Mr. Foster seconded the reply, which was moved by Mr. W. J. Manson, Dewdney.

Speaking rapidly, but clearly and fluently, Mr. Foster presented a mass of information to the other members of the House in a way that won for him many commendations. He made it apparent that he had a very good knowledge of the subject to which he addressed himself in particular—the development of road-building in British Columbia, and throughout his remarks held the undivided attention of the Legislative members.

Referring to the general cost of administration in British Columbia, he declared that it cost \$5 per capita for administration here as against only 75 cents in many other places. This high cost meant a great burden upon the shoulders of the government and one which only care and strength could carry.

The speaker touched upon the ever-vexing subject of better terms, stating that he had been informed that now that the province had its case in the hands of the imperial authorities no time would be lost in having the proposed commission finally constituted and started at work. He felt sure that eventually the Dominion Government would realize the strength of the province's claim to the lands of the Peace River block and in the Dominion railway belt because the Dominion Government had failed to live up to its development promises.

From better terms he went to the coal miners' strike and riots. In defence of the action of the authorities he expressed the firm opinion that no right-thinking man could blame the administration officials for trying to carry out the law and preserve order. It was quite evident, he went on, that there was disgust and distrust manifest in the province, and he hoped that some endeavor would be made to find out the real cause of these various troubles.

The subject of lands was given a brief reference, the new member saying that only 60 per cent. of the revenue which formerly came from the sale of lands was now being received. This past year only 2 per cent. of the land was alienated by purchase, and this money went into roads. The purchase of public land was being made more difficult while the pre-emption of land was being made easier. While this was a good move it would naturally mean a drop in the land revenue.

He praised the proposal to raise a provincial loan for capital expenditures stating that never at any time was the credit of the province better than now.

"An attempt is being made in certain quarters to push forward charges that the government has been squandering its public lands," he said, "and those who live in the populous districts are being told that the government is responsible for an alleged inability to obtain cheap land close to any centre of population. Let me point out that last year there were over 3000 pre-emptors who took up land in this province and the surveyed area at present is sufficient to take care of twice the number of applicants. In 1903 the surveyed lands in the province reached 214,247 acres and in 1913 2,854,857 acres. The timber area surveyed in 1903 was 128,000 acres and ten years later 1,181,000 acres. The fisheries revenue has increased over \$10,000,000 since 1903."

The speaker took occasion to deny that the road work undertaken each year throughout the province was merely for the purpose of continuing the operation of political machinery. He went on to say that the government was using every effort to help the farmers of the province and spoke of the success which had been achieved on the publicly-owned Colony farm. The prices won by British Columbia fruit also evinced a satisfactory condition of affairs in that respect.

Applause for Foster.

Mr. Foster was greeted with applause when he rose as the second of the reply to make his initial effort in the House. He touched upon the work of the labor and agricultural commissions, the efforts directed by the administration towards the conservation of land, water and timber and mentioned that a great deal had been done in making new surveys and publishing additional maps.

Dealing with railway work, he pointed out that at the present time there was 3000 miles of railway line under construction within the boundaries of the province. This was actually a far greater undertaking than at first appeared even because railway construction in this province presented many more difficulties than the building of lines elsewhere. For one thing, it often cost \$150,000 per mile to build railways here and the average cost appeared to be about \$100,000 per mile as compared with \$25,000 elsewhere. On Vancouver Island, where there were comparatively few difficulties insofar as British Columbia went, the average cost of construction was between \$40,000 and \$50,000 per mile. He said that he was proud of the fact that the programme of railway work laid down by the government was being so well lived up to despite the fact that the difficulties before the railway builders appeared so great.

Referring to the general cost of administration in British Columbia, he declared that it cost \$5 per capita for administration here as against only 75 cents in many other places. This high cost meant a great burden upon the shoulders of the government and one which only care and strength could carry.

The speaker touched upon the ever-vexing subject of better terms, stating that he had been informed that now that the province had its case in the hands of the imperial authorities no time would be lost in having the proposed commission finally constituted and started at work. He felt sure that eventually the Dominion Government would realize the strength of the province's claim to the lands of the Peace River block and in the Dominion railway belt because the Dominion Government had failed to live up to its development promises.

From better terms he went to the coal miners' strike and riots. In defence of the action of the authorities he expressed the firm opinion that no right-thinking man could blame the administration officials for trying to carry out the law and preserve order. It was quite evident, he went on, that there was disgust and distrust manifest in the province, and he hoped that some endeavor would be made to find out the real cause of these various troubles.

The subject of lands was given a brief reference, the new member saying that only 60 per cent. of the revenue which formerly came from the sale of lands was now being received. This past year only 2 per cent. of the land was alienated by purchase, and this money went into roads. The purchase of public land was being made more difficult while the pre-emption of land was being made easier. While this was a good move it would naturally mean a drop in the land revenue.

He praised the proposal to raise a provincial loan for capital expenditures stating that never at any time was the credit of the province better than now.

On Good Roads.

Finally, Mr. Foster got to the subject of roads, in which he, as former deputy minister of works, naturally delighted.

"We have a great task before us," he said, "not only in building new roads, but in standardizing the old ones. Do you know that whereas on good roads it only costs from seven to ten cents per mile to haul produce, on indifferent highways the cost mounts to 27 and 30 cents? It has been estimated that in the four western provinces if good roads were provided there would be a saving annually of \$16,500,000. The inauguration of good roads in Canada would mean a saving sufficient to provide three breadnoughts each year."

"Although it would cost \$50,000,000 to provide just a skeleton of good roads throughout British Columbia, there are many other advantages to be gained from them in addition to the reduction in haulage costs. The scenic attractions of the province are made more valuable when roads are built. Every mile of road here means a mile of scenic beauty such as we have for example in Strathcona Park or in the park about Mount Robson."

He concluded by expressing the hope that all sections of political faith in the province would unite in an intense desire to "better British Columbia."

Hon. H. E. Young laid on the table a report from the Hospital for the Insane at Coquitlam for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1913; a report of the provincial board of health for the same year and also a report from the curator of the provincial museum.

To Help Commissioners.

The House went into committee of the whole with Mr. E. Miller, Grand Forks, as chairman to consider a bill introduced by the Premier to provide for the payment of such members of the Indian and Agricultural Commissions as are members of the Provincial Legislature. The bill is to make it certain that nothing in the Constitution Act shall disqualify these members for receiving payment for their services as commissioners. Mr. Shaw, Kamloops, is a member of the Indian Commission and one-half of his expenses and fee is to be paid by the Provincial Government. Mr. Lucas, Yale, and Mr. Hayward, Cowichan, are members of the Agricultural Commission.

The House will sit again on Monday afternoon, when the debate on the reply to the address from the throne will probably be continued. Roughly speaking, the reply, as presented by Messrs. Manson and Foster yesterday, is simply the address from the throne all over again with the words "We are pleased to learn that" placed in front of each clause.

For the first time in at least ten years that hardly annual, the private bill of Vancouver city, covering proposed changes in the city charter, will not come up at this session. Mr. C. E. Tisdall mourned today that he had lost a time-honored pleasure of introducing the Vancouver civic delegation and announcing that the visitors from the Terminal City desiring this change and that change to the number of a score or more. It is understood that the session of 1915 will see the Vancouver charter once more to the front for inspection or rather to the rear for repair.

MR. FORSTER IS LEFT OUT IN THE COLD

Seeing Him Alone in House Is Notice that Party Caucus is On.

Some Advantages and Many Drawbacks of an Official Report.

Jack Place Has Improved Much as Orator Since Last Session.

Some Sidelights on Prominent Men of the Provincial Legislature.

Victoria, Jan. 20.—Mr. H. E. Forster, the member for Columbia, sitting alone in the legislative chamber at 5 p. m. yesterday was noticed to have initiated that a Conservative caucus, the first of the session, was in progress. Mr. Forster, although he calls himself a Conservative and has never shown the slightest desire to antagonize the McBride Government, is nevertheless pointedly left out whenever the faithful assemble themselves together for a confidential talk. This, of course, is because at the last general election he ran in opposition to the regular party candidate and owed his success at the polls largely to Liberal votes. Since then he has been so to speak, with the party, but not of it. To all appearance he regards the situation philosophically enough. He sits silent and smiling, waiting for what time may bring.

Rumor has it that when Mr. Forster was elected he made a compact with the Liberal party managers of Columbia that he would not again be a candidate. Acting upon the assumption that such an understanding existed, the Liberals of Columbia in convention assembled last summer nominated a gentleman who runs a store in Golden and was at that time also postmaster. Since then, however, he has resigned the postoffice in order to be able to devote more of his time to matters political.

Now comes Mr. Forster with what amounts to a denial of ever having entered into any such compact. He says he has not yet made up his mind whether he will quit politics or not. This, being interpreted, means that he will not quit unless and until he has to. He also in his conversation conveys the impression that he thinks the Liberal nominee is not serious, but will retire from the field before the next election time comes around. This attitude can only mean that Mr. Forster is manoeuvring to retain his position as a candidate of the Liberals allied with a small and vanishing minority of Conservatives. He has set himself a difficult task, and observers from his district are convinced that he will not be able to put it over.

That Official Report.

Mr. Hayward's idea that the Legislature should have its debates reported officially has been received among the members with pretty general indifference. No province of Canada now has such an official report, although an approximation to one is still made in Nova Scotia, where the Halifax newspaper supporting the administration receives an annual subscription for printing a fairly full account of the proceedings from day to day. Ontario, which abandoned its official report about twenty-five years ago, has found that the daily editions of the Toronto newspapers keep the public informed whenever a statesman says anything worth while. In Manitoba, where politics for the past decade have been intense, not to say bitter, the newspapers print practically complete the utterances of men on their own side but ignore to a great extent what is said by the enemy. Incidentally, though not intentionally, this practice is found to help the circulation of the two leading Winnipeg newspapers, because a man who wants to know what is really going on is compelled to buy them both. Neither Alberta nor Saskatchewan has ever had anything in the shape of an official report. Their political journalism for the most part follows the good old rule, the simple plan of seeing that the other side never gets the best of it. British Columbia, prior to the session of 1912, had at least one daily paper which gave its readers a full and faithful, if dilatory, report of all that was said on the floor of the Legislature. Even this journal, however, has been overtaken by the spirit of progress and has discovered that the public doesn't particularly want that kind of thing.

Advantages—And Otherwise.

If the Provincial Legislature decides that it wants an official report of all the speeches made on its floor, the first thing to happen will be that the sessions will become considerably longer. Half the time of the House of Commons at Ottawa is taken up by men who contribute no illumination whatever to the matter in hand. They merely repeat what has already been better said by somebody else. They go through the performance because, the speech being taken in a sort of hand for the official report, the rules enable them to procure hundreds of copies at a nominal price, which they sell free of postage to their constituents. In British Columbia the postage is not free but it is paid from the provincial treasury during the session, so it comes to the same thing as far as the members are concerned. Having thus lengthened the session the provincial legislators, if they are like those at Ottawa, will forthwith contend that as the sessions have grown longer the remuneration should be increased to correspond. It's a costly system. It is, moreover, of greater value to an opposition than to a government, in that it enables them to place their criticisms before the public at a minimum expense to the session because the cost is borne almost altogether by the provincial treasury. Also an official report is a species of nightmare to many men in public life, when the unconsidered utterances of hot debate are brought forward to confront them in calmer hours.

An Improved Talker.

Jack Place, M. L. A. of Nanaimo, who held the floor for nearly an hour yesterday, shows a decided improvement in his oratorical style as compared with his first appearance a year ago. His voice is still husky from the effects of an attack of diphtheria, and he complains that the anti-toxin injected by the doctors has seriously affected his legs. He declares that should he ever get diphtheria again, he is going to take his chances without any anti-toxin, provided of course, he is in a place where he will be allowed a choice. Meantime he is shaping up as a good second of the efforts of Parker Williams in the cause of Socialism. Jack, however, has the defect of being too earnest in his convictions. He lacks the genial humor which secures for Parker Williams a hearing on all occasions. Also, some friend should whisper to him that he is ceasing to look the part. He is beginning to dress too well for a man whose business it is to proclaim that all things here are out of joint. His fate may be that of a once famous member of Congress from Kansas, who arrived in Washington without any socks, and went home six months later in a dress suit, with his watch on his wrist. What happened to him then is a mystery, but his political career was confined to one term.

MR. PLACE HAS RAPS IN PLENTY FOR ADDRESS

Member for Nanaimo Hits at Every Head Within Reach in the House.

Does Not Appear to Like Any Features of Formal Speeches.

Debate on Reply to Speech from the Throne to Continue.

Second Reading Given Bill to Protect House Members on Commissions.

Victoria, Jan. 20.—The debate on the address in reply to the speech from the throne is in full swing. Yesterday afternoon Mr. John Place, M. L. A. for Nanaimo, occupied more than half of the time of the House session with critical references to the remarks contained in the speech from the Lieutenant-Governor and to the reply as advanced by Messrs. W. J. Manson, Dewdney, and W. W. Foster, Islands.

Mr. Place's comments appealed to the risibilities of many in the public gallery and on two or three occasions the speaker had to call for order. Prior to getting into the full flow of his arguments, he took occasion to draw the attention of the attorney-general to the fact that a young boy, a member of a party which had been in some dispute with Chinamen at Nanaimo, had been shot while running away from a constable and was now in a serious condition in the hospital. The member contended that no policeman should be allowed to use a gun except in self defence. He then alluded to the case of young Duffey, who, he said, although now out on \$500 bail in connection with the miners' riot cases, had been confined for sixteen months without a trial. This was not British justice, contended Mr. Place, and should be remedied.

Lauding the Premier.

"The reply to the speech from the throne was nothing more or less than one continual lauding of the Premier for what he has done and what he has not done," he went on, referring to the speeches on Friday of Messrs. W. J. Manson, Dewdney, and W. W. Foster, Islands. "I do not take any great interest in the question of land alienation, but if the Premier is to be given credit for the fact that in ten years since 1903 the annual return from the mines has increased from \$17,000,000 to \$32,000,000, then he should also take credit for the fact that his department shows the largest death rate of any in the world. His department of mines is producing other such department on the globe. If he is given credit for the one let him take it for the other. They make a good pair."

"When the honorable members refer to the provincial revenues, let them remember that in two years this province received over \$3,500,000 from the entry of Chinese. There are Chinese now working in the mines at Comberland. If they take credit for the increase in revenue, they can recall also that they are having Chinese enter the province to take miners' places. Yet the Premier stands for a white British Columbia. I have heard him say so."

No Sacrifice, He Says.

Mr. Place had something to say too about the reference made by Mr. Manson to the government ministers sacrificing themselves in order to serve the province.

"They would have to get up early in the morning to make any more money than they are making now," he observed. "If they are not making money someone else is. Who is getting away with it? With all these royal commissions we have we ought to have one to tell us how reputedly wealthy men, who are in politics, made their money, when they made it, and how much they got."

"The member for Dewdney spoke of the prosperous year in fishing that the province has just had. Let me say that one day I counted 300 Japanese and eight white men fishing for her- and-ing off Nanaimo. In the fishing industry in that district 97 per cent. of the men are Japs. That is the kind of prosperity there is in the business."

"The same member casually mentioned that there was no political machine in the province. Well, he is the only man I have ever heard claim that. As a matter of fact, the amount of work a man gets on the public jobs depends on what he has done and will do for the McBride government."

There Was No Back Talk.

"Mr. Foster on Friday expressed the hope that there would be some investigation into the causes of so much labor unrest. When the member for Newcastle and myself asked for an investigation last year into the coal troubles, did we get one? No. The Premier told the House members what to do, and you bet your life they did it, and without any back talk either. There were only two of us favoring such an enquiry. "As to the references to land policy, I have a few acres of land, and I notice that my provincial taxes have gone up 100 per cent. Pretty soon the government can have the land, taxes and all."

"We had some talk from the member for the Islands about saving enough each year on good roads to build three Dreadnoughts. About the time the three would be built, the Old Country would build three more for Japan, and how far ahead would you be? Let the Old Japan if you are afraid of the Yellow Peril."

"We have heard in the speech about prosperity in the province. Who has enjoyed the prosperity? In the next breath to telling us about it, the speech goes on to speak of the weakness of the financial market. I am mighty sure that if the wealthy men did not enjoy prosperity the workers would not. For one thing, they would not be so prosperous. I was not one of them though. I enjoyed another kind of prosperity and I'd like to have a few other members of the House try it."

His reference to his sojournment at New Westminster jail raised quite a laugh.

Rapped the Act.

The next head he hit out at was the Workmen's Compensation Act which, he said, was a disgrace and only served as an excuse to pay to lawyers money which should be given to widows and orphans. The Coal Commission, he characterized as a cheap subterfuge and a trick of a cheap politician. Going into the history of the creation of the commission, he declared that there had been an agitation in Vancouver last winter on account of the scarcity and high price of coal. When the Socialist members declared that the cause lay in the fact that no coal was being produced on Vancouver Island and conditions there should be remedied by an investigation, the Vancouver members slavishly voted in favor of a commission to investigate merely the high price of the coal—not to go into the source of the whole difficulty. This commission had not even yet made any report.

"We are told of the high state of British Columbia securities on the world's markets. My advice to the government is: 'Get aw' with it' the borrowing you can before they get wise to you."

Finally, before he sat down, the member for Nanaimo caustically said that the reply to the speech from the throne contained such words as "gratifying," "happy," "satisfying" and so on in seventeen places. "Far be it from me to strike a discordant note amid all this gratification on the part of the government," he said.

That ended the debate on the address in reply for the day. Mr. Corry Wood, Alberni, moving the adjournment.

It will be continued today and will probably not end for three or four days.

Mr. Williams' Amendment to rule 110 provide that the members of the House shall not enter the House journals, instead of required. He pointed out that the number stipulated was the number of members of the House and Alberta. Motion was designed to oppose or two Social opposition of all votes to have any or all votes.

"I have difficulty in occasion when the member castle and Nanaimo were cord with the government Premier, so it is always where they stand upon a The government has been ways ready to move a bill upon the journal when the members desire it, but I see now for changing the rule House, which were care up by a committee of wh representative for Newcastle ber."

On this motion, on wh sessional division of the place, Mr. Williams receiv support of his colleague Nanaimo. The vote was the Newcastle members Mr. Williams desired to sum was paid for the ex Premier's visit to Fort 1912-1913. Hon. W. J. reply, said that the Prem visited the district since 1 time the expenses of the \$1617. Hon. Mr. Bowser answer today on Mr. Pl as to the number of spee now employed at Nanaim points in the district. E the House in answer to a question on the order pa sums had yet been paid vinal Government in with the cost of the con Indian affairs in the prov

Mr. Williams asked to covering the amount of from the provincial funds to Messrs. Lucas (Yale) (Cowichan) in connection work on the Agriculture sion. The question had of the members in questi the suggestion of the P were altered and will be the government itself, stating that he has the readiness.

Second Reading o This matter was foll lengthly discussion betw mler and Mr. Williams a the second reading of t bill which proposed to possible cloud upon the members of those who upon commissions and I or will receive money f penses. This bill relate to Messrs. Lucas and Ha Agricultural Commission upon the Indian Commis Premier McBride ex there was ample precede bers of Parliament serv missions and receiving this had been done at the country. The members cultural Commission nee serve only at his person The commission had made tive enquiry, he announce addition to sending repr other countries had points in the province. agriculture had been look good legislation arising a port would be looked f He declared that the co now preparing its final would be ready within t or four weeks. No one would wish to see the H of the services of the tw bers now serving with commission and it was move any doubt arising wording of a clause in Constitution relating to ceiving funds that the bill He pointed out in conn case of Mr. Shaw, Kam on the Indian Commissi this is a federally cons the province is required half the cost arising out Mr. Williams could not the bill was. He said quite evident the gover believed the members war to sit in the House att collected expense money the bill would not have b In any event it was of cause he believed, he as members, having receiv penses, had violated the stitution and therefore er entitled to sit in the bill could place them th

Mr. Williams' Amendment.

Mr. Williams, Newcastle, moved an amendment to rule 110 in order to provide that members might have the yeas and nays entered upon the House journals, instead of three being required. He pointed out that two was the number stipulated in Saskatchewan and Alberta. Mr. Williams' motion was designed to permit the opposition of two Socialist members to have any or all votes recorded.

"I have difficulty in recalling any occasion when the members for Newcastle and Nanaimo were ever in accord with the government," said the Premier, "so it is always apparent where they stand upon any question. The government has been and is always ready to receive a division entered upon the journal when these members desire it, but I see no good reason for changing the rules of the House, which were carefully drawn up by a committee of which the representative for Newcastle was a member."

On this motion, on which the first sessional division of the House took place, Mr. Williams received only the support of his colleague, Mr. Place, Nanaimo. The vote was recorded at the Newcastle member's request.

Mr. Williams desired to know what sum was paid for the expenses of the Premier's visit to Fort George in 1912-1913. Hon. W. J. Bowser, in reply, said that the Premier had not visited the district since 1910. At that time the expenses of the party totalled \$1417. Hon. Mr. Bowser promised an answer today on Mr. Place's question as to the number of special constables now employed at Nanaimo and other points in the district. He informed the House in answer to Mr. Williams' question on the order paper, that no sums had yet been paid by the Provincial Government in connection with the cost of the commission on Indian affairs in the province.

Mr. Williams asked two questions covering the amount of the payment from the provincial funds, of expenses to Messrs. Lucas (Yale) and Hayward (Cowichan) in connection with their work on the Agricultural Commission. The question had been asked of the members in question, and upon the suggestion of the Premier they were altered and will be put today to the government itself, the Premier stating that he has the replies in readiness.

Second Reading of Bill.

This matter was followed by a lengthy discussion between the Premier and Mr. Williams arising out of the second reading of the Premier's bill which proposed to remove any possible cloud upon the right to sit as members of those who are serving upon commissions and have received or will receive money for their expenses. This bill relates particularly to Messrs. Lucas and Hayward on the Agricultural Commission and Shaw upon the Indian Commission.

Premier McBride explained that there was ample precedent for members of Parliament serving upon commissions and receiving expenses, as this had been done at times in the old country. The members on the Agricultural Commission had agreed to serve only at his personal solicitation. The commission had made an exhaustive enquiry, he announced, and in addition to sending representatives to other countries had visited sixty points in the province. All phases of agriculture had been looked into and good legislation arising out of the report would be looked for next year. He declared that the commission was now preparing its final report, which would be ready within the next three or four weeks. No one, he thought, would wish to see the House deprived of the services of the two useful members now serving with others on this commission and it was in order to remove any doubt arising out of the wording of a clause in the Act of Constitution relating to members receiving funds that the bill was framed. He pointed out in connection with the case of Mr. Shaw, Kamloops, who is on the Indian Commission, that while this is a federally constituted body the province is required to pay one-half the cost arising out of its work.

Mr. Williams could not see what use the bill was. He said that it was quite evident the government believed the members were not entitled to sit in the House after having received expense money for otherwise the bill would not have been prepared. In any event it was of no value because he believed, he said, that the members, having received such expenses, had violated the Act of Constitution and therefore were no longer entitled to sit in the House and no bill could place them there.

"Forfeited Seats."

"This bill is in effect an amendment to the act. It appears to be retroactive also. If the situation is in need of remedy then it is past remedying, I claim. If these men have violated the act of constitution then they have forfeited their seats. If they have not, why the bill? As the matter stands now it will be open for any elector to sue them."

"As a matter of fact I am told that the members for Cowichan and Yale were exceedingly anxious to be on the agricultural commission and they can well stand for the situation, as they must have known the conditions laid down in the act. I am informed that the Premier had great difficulty in keeping peace between them, as both desired to be chairman and on two occasions the Premier had to leave a room by the window in order to avoid being importuned to death."

The bill was given its second reading.

More members trooped in yesterday for their first session this year. Among them were Messrs. Watson, MacGowan and McGuire, Vancouver; Gifford, New Westminster; Mackenzie, Delta; W. Manson, Prince Rupert; Campbell, Rossland, and Fraser, Cariboo.

Hon. W. J. Bowser yesterday presented the report of W. Donaldson, superintendent of the provincial industrial school, Vancouver, for the year 1913.

Mr. Place, Nanaimo, has given notice of a question to be asked of the attorney-general on Wednesday as to what proof of citizenship is required of special constables.

The petition from the City of Victoria for leave to introduce a private bill giving enlarged powers was received by the House yesterday.

HOUSE REMOVES ALL DOUBT IN BILL'S PASSAGE

Legislation to Safeguard Messrs. Lucas, Hayward and Shaw Goes Through.

Socialist Urges that Status of Others Be Looked Into.

Debate on Address Is Continued by Messrs. Wood and MacLean.

"Votes for Women" Says the Member for Alberni—Kettle Valley Work.

Victoria, Jan. 21.—The Provincial Legislature yesterday passed its "bill to remove doubt," described as an act to authorize the payment of certain expenses in connection with commissions issued under the great seal. This bill is to render it certain that Messrs. Hayward (Cowichan) and Lucas (Yale), as well as Shaw (Kamloops), may sit in the House without any fear of attack because they have received or will receive expense money on account of being members of commissions—the first two of the Agricultural Commission and Mr. Shaw of the Indian Commission.

Premier McBride and Attorney-General Bowser both took a hand at explaining the purposes of the measure as they saw them to Mr. Parker Williams, member for Newcastle, but Mr. Williams remained deaf to explanations from the government side of the House and persisted in his original declaration that if the members were in such a position that they required assistance in making their places as members secure, they were beyond all aid that could be rendered in a House bill.

Mr. A. H. B. MacGowan took the position of deputy chairman and chairman of ways and means yesterday, the Vancouver member being reappointed at the instance of Premier McBride. He filled the chair during the consideration of this particular measure while it was in the committee of the whole stage.

Attorney-general Gives His Views. Answering a question from Mr. Williams as to the exact position in which the bill placed matters, Attorney-general Bowser declared that even if it were true that the members now on commissions had forfeited their seats by accepting expense money, there was power vested in the Legislature, which made the act under which forfeiture would take place, to rescind them.

"The legislature is all powerful," he said. "It can save them from penalties or the forfeiture of their seats. As a matter of fact, though, the view of the member from Newcastle is an extreme one. The bill is simply designed to remove any shade of doubt which may be cast up on the right of these members to sit on the floor of the House."

"I would propose, then, that the bill be made wide enough to include other members of the House," answered Mr. Williams. "It would be a good idea to look through the public accounts to see how many of them require the shelter it will afford."

He passed on to a reference to limited liability companies, in which members were interested, doing business with the government, and Premier McBride rose to remark that it would be an extreme situation if such companies were prohibited from having transactions with the government upon pain of the members concerned dropping out of public life. He recalled that fifteen years ago the legislature went so far as to postpone the election trials of two members on the ground of public policy, in order that a necessary validation bill might be brought in.

Sat at Last Session.

"The two members on the Agricultural Commission sat during the session of 1913, when they were members of this commission," he pointed out, "and the representative of Newcastle did not at that time raise the point. There is no question of any wrong interpretations being reached. The point is simply a fine technical one. As a matter of fact, Mr. Hayward, chairman of the commission, brought up the matter himself and urged that the government consider the advisability of introducing a bill which would remove all possible doubt as to the right of the members for Cowichan and Yale to sit in the House. No one would suggest that, because they do sit here, they should be deprived of their out-of-pocket expenses while working on this important commission."

"I suggest that ten per cent. of the members of the House need the protection of such a bill," put in the member for Newcastle again. "It would be wise to extend the scope of your bill. In one instance a man formerly sat in this House, supplied the government of the province with everything from fish hooks to road rollers under the trade name of H. G. Parsons Limited. I believe that there was no other member of this firm than Mr. Parsons himself unless it was his wife. His position certainly needed fixing at that time, and others may now be in the state that he chronically found himself."

The House in committee of the whole went ahead with the second reading of the bill and it was also given its formal third reading.

Debate Was Continued.

The debate on the address in reply to the speech from the throne continued yesterday. Messrs. J. G. C. Wood, Alberni and W. R. MacLean, Nelson, having the floor. Both spent most of the time at their disposal in praising the sections of the province which they represent and commenting on the great growth and prosperity which their districts were falling heir to.

Mr. Wood left the beaten track when he urged that a measure be brought down extending the franchise to women. If something along that line was not done during the present session at all events the laws of the province ought to be improved to such an extent as to better the conditions of married women, he claimed. He pointed out that whereas at the present time unmarried mothers had the custody of their children, the married mothers did not enjoy this right. A mother under the age of 21 could not appoint a guardian in a will although a father under 21 had this power.

A valuable suggestion was put forward by the member when he proposed that a survey of the value of the food fishes to be found off the west coast of Vancouver Island be made. He expressed the view that the biological office at Nanaimo would achieve more practical good in this work than in the scientific studies it was now pursuing. The deep sea fishing on the west coast was practically an unknown resource, he pointed out and while at the present time British Columbia in its fisheries led the Dominion, this industry here was principally confined to rivers and estuaries.

Bright for Mines.

The mining situation in the Alberni district was bright, he said, and this time next year two copper mines would be shipping. In refuting a statement previously made by Mr. Place, Nanaimo, respecting the alleged high death rate for British Columbia in mining, he quoted figures to show that Washington, West Virginia, Colorado, Alabama, Oklahoma and New Mexico in the United States all had higher death rates than British Columbia. Alberni appreciated the work of the agricultural department, he went on, and its project for the importation of high-class grade dairy stock was generally believed to be a good one. The member also praised the good roads plans of the public works department.

That the completion of the Kettle Valley line to the Coast from the Kootenay would have a wonderful effect upon the advancement of his particular district, was the contention of Mr. MacLean, Nelson, who followed Mr. Wood in the debate. He announced that this line would be finished from the Nelson and Grand Forks end west to Penticton about the middle of the coming summer and would be through to the Coast at the beginning of next year. It would provide a line from Winnipeg to Vancouver 290 miles shorter than the main line of the C. P. R. and much shorter than any other railway now being constructed or under consideration.

Output Increased.

He expressed the view that, as in other times of more or less financial depression, the Kootenay and Boundary would now rally to the support of the remainder of the province. The mineral production there was increasing and during the past year had reached the total of \$14,000,000 for metalliferous mines and \$6,000,000 for coal and coke. This comprised two-thirds of the value of the total mineral output of the province for the year. The Kootenay was a fine district for fruit, he said, the best in the world. Lumbering during the year had been at a low ebb but the mill owners, after fighting unfair American competition, had hopes for the future. He referred to improvements of a public works nature in the immediate vicinity of Nelson, mentioning the establishment of a ferry on the Kootenay river at Nelson, the commencement of construction on the Tagun bridge, a short distance away, which would give access from the city to a great many important roads, and the construction of 25 miles of highway along the lake from Nelson.

He expressed pleasure in the promises held out that there would be amendments to the Game Act and that there would be some legislation brought down in order to give the provincial officials better control over the Doukhobors in the Kootenay, who had heretofore refused to comply with the vital statistics regulations. He said he believed that the game laws should be so amended as to provide for the slaughter of dangerous wild animals, which were increasing in the interior. He expressed interest in the expected reports from the Labor, Agricultural and Coal commissions, said that the railway work, which continued in the province despite the financial condition of the world's markets, proved the value of the McBride policy, hoped that some system would be evolved which would do away with strikes of industrial workers such as had tied up the coal mining districts on Vancouver Island, and finally denied the truth of a statement previously made by Mr. Place (Nanaimo) as to the existence of a government political machine in the province. No such machine operated in Nelson at any rate, he concluded.

The adjournment of the debate was moved by Mr. Williams (Newcastle). He will probably open it today.

Mr. H. H. Watson (Vancouver) introduced a petition from North Vancouver for a private bill validating certain bylaws.

Mr. A. H. B. MacGowan (Vancouver) presented a petition from Messrs. A. Shaw and G. E. Winter, Institute of Chartered Accountants of British Columbia, seeking an amendment to the Chartered Accountants' Act.

Upon motion of Mr. Williams, an order of the House was granted showing the total sums overdue the provincial treasury from the sale of townsite lots, the sale of agricultural land, timber licenses, timber royalty and the purchase, lease and rental of coal and petroleum lands. The Premier stated that while details had already been obtained in respect to some of the items mentioned by Mr. Williams, it might take a day or two to secure information on all.

Answering order paper questions from Mr. Williams, Attorney-general Bowser informed the House that the sum of \$1059.75 had been paid the member for Yale as expenses while engaged on the Agricultural Commission and \$1252.36 had been paid to the member for Cowichan for the same purpose. He gave the dates of payment and mentioned that further moneys would be paid to these two gentlemen.

Mr. W. W. Foster (Islands) has asked leave to introduce a bill entitled "An Act respecting the B. C. Association of Architects."

Is in Panic.

WHERE IS MISS TAXI

HOUSE PA TO MEI STRA

Provincial Le Sympathe and

Premier McE ing Referer High Co

"Of Great Faith a Unl

Motion Sec Parker W for

Victoria, Ja resolution of adjourned yes respect to the

The resolut lows, was pro bride and sec Williams, Nev

"That this deep regret of Honorable Mount Royal, Canada, and high apprec vices he yend honored care to the Emph

"That on British Colur to extend its able Margare members of t

"And that Governor be through the Royal Highn of Canada ar garet Howar lion."

The Prem ences to the Lord Strath resolution. motion pres the most str history, a m romance, I perience of a youth in t Bay Compai ing post, but official, the the compan ually chair great organ

Wa "Notwiths I am told I last to take fair of th Premier. was sponsor able invest Donald A. tion and a sioner, he making for Dominion t He did mu

"He was way with t ocean proj umberia, wh at the dela line, know obstacles ti taking had termination troubles w

HOUSE PAYS TRIBUTE TO MEMORY OF STRATHCONA

Provincial Legislature Passes
Sympathetic Resolution
and Adjourns.

Premier McBride Makes Feel-
ing References to Work of
High Commissioner.

"Of Great Courage, Splendid
Faith and Optimism
Unbounded."

Motion Seconded by Mr.
Parker Williams, Member
for Newcastle.

Victoria, Jan. 22.—After passing a
resolution of sympathy, the House
adjourned yesterday afternoon out of
respect to the late Lord Strathcona.

The resolution, which was as fol-
lows, was proposed by Premier Mc-
Bride and seconded by Mr. Parker
Williams, Newcastle:

"That this House has learned with
deep regret of the death of the Right
Honorable Lord Strathcona and
Mount Royal, high commissioner for
Canada, and desires to express its
high appreciation of the great ser-
vices he rendered, during a long and
honored career, to the Dominion and
to the Empire:

"That on behalf of the people of
British Columbia, this House desires
to extend its sympathy to the Hon-
orable Margaret Howard and the other
members of the family:

"And that his honor the Lieutenant-
Governor be requested to forward,
through the proper channels, to His
Royal Highness the Governor-General
of Canada and to the Honorable Mar-
garet Howard, copies of this resolu-
tion."

The Premier made feeling refer-
ences to the life and work of the late
Lord Strathcona in speaking to the
resolution. He remarked that the
motion presented dealt with one of
the most striking figures of Canadian
history, a man whose life read like a
romance. He touched upon the ex-
perience of the high commissioner as
a youth in the service of the Hudson's
Bay Company, a clerk at a fur trad-
ing post, later a responsible company
official, then chief commissioner of
the company for Canada, and event-
ually chairman and president of the
great organization.

Worked to the Last.

"Notwithstanding his advanced age,
I am told he was able almost to the
last to take an active part in the af-
fairs of the company," went on the
Premier. "As a citizen of Canada he
was sponsor for many large and valu-
able investments here. Even as Sir
Donald A. Smith, prior to his eleva-
tion and selection as High Commis-
sioner, he was always foremost in
making for the development of the
Dominion and particularly the west.
He did much for education, too.

"He was connected in an intimate
way with the great C. P. R. ocean-to-
ocean project. Those in British Co-
lumbia, who, in the early days chafed
at the delay in the construction of this
line, know well what difficulties and
obstacles the promoters of the under-
taking had to overcome. But by de-
termination and courage these
troubles were finally surmounted.

"Those who have studied the devel-
opment of British Columbia, or who
desire to do so may derive much in-
struction from the pages of the Han-
sard of the days when Sir John A.
Macdonald and Sir Charles Tupper
pronounced specifically upon the pol-
icy of pushing the C. P. R. on to the
western seaboard. Behind that effort
of the federal government of the day
was the unswerving loyalty of Sir
Donald A. Smith and his colleagues
in their endeavor to achieve success
in this national undertaking. No one
can question the great courage of this
man, his splendid faith and the op-
timism unbounded that he had in this
country which he loved so well.

Aided Charities.

"In later years he amassed consid-
erable wealth, but he did not forget
to use a portion of it for the benefit
of his fellowmen, particularly of the
Dominion. There was hardly a com-
mendable charity that was brought to
his attention which did not meet with
a quick and generous response.

"He filled the office of High Com-
missioner with honor and dignity for
many years. He was always anxious
to leave nothing undone which would
help on the business of this province
in particular. I may say that while
on visits to the old country I had
pleasure in seeing him upon a num-
ber of occasions. He surprised me
with his detailed knowledge of con-
ditions in British Columbia."

Touching upon the trip to this pro-
vince made by Lord Strathcona in 1909,
the Premier said that such was his
desire to ascertain all he could of the
resources of the province that he did
not content himself with a run over
the C. P. R. mainline but went down
the Okanagan Valley and visited other
sections as well. In order that he
might get into close touch with the
position of affairs.

Park Named After Him.

"As a recognition of his many and
obviously valued favors to British Co-
lumbia the government of the pro-
vince named the provincial park on
Vancouver Island after him and he
was deeply sensible of this, referring
to it as a handsome compliment. Four
months ago I delivered to him several
volumes of views of the park, and I
know that he took great interest in
the fact that his name was stamped
in perpetuity along the coastline of
British Columbia.

"Personally, I am under many obli-
gations for kindness done to me and
I know that many other Canadians
are in the same position. Our agent-
general, Mr. Turner, several times in-
formed me that the High Commis-
sioner was always interested in his
work as a representative of this pro-
vince."

In seconding the resolution, Mr.
Williams briefly mentioned that the
fates were kind to the late Lord
Strathcona in life and he was given
great wealth. He was quite evidently
a son of the mountains, his long life
and extended activities indicating
that. His mental vigor remained un-
impaired to the last and sleep hid
from his vision the coming of that
which men so much dread. He pos-
sessed much that wealth could not
give and it was for this reason that
the House was paying its tribute to
his memory.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 27, 1914.

SPECIAL ENQUIRY FOR SHAUGHNESSY QUESTIONS

Victoria Lawyer Being Sent
Over by Government to
Investigate.

Will Look into Financial, Fran-
chise, Traffic and Other
Matters.

Ald. Crowe Thinks that Seces-
sion Will Mean Divorce
from City.

While on the Other Hand Mr.
Rounsefell Seeks Imme-
diate Action.

Victoria, Jan. 27.—Before the pri-
vate bills committee of the Provincial
Legislature makes any recommenda-
tion with regard to the secession of
Shaughnessy Heights from Point
Grey, a commission will take evidence
in Vancouver upon the question.

The provincial executive has ap-
pointed Mr. H. W. R. Moore, a Vi-
ctoria barrister, to go to the mainland
for the purpose of investigating the
situation. He is empowered to take
evidence with regard to the applica-
tion of the residents of Shaughnessy
Heights and adjoining territory for
the right to secede from Point Grey
and set up a new municipality; he
will hear the views of the Point Grey
council and may possibly also obtain
expressions of opinion from the au-
thorities of Vancouver, inasmuch as
some Vancouverites claim that the se-
cession of Shaughnessy Heights will
delay the completion of the Greater
Vancouver project. They consider
that if Shaughnessy Heights becomes
a separate district it is apt to remain
so for many years, whereas if its for-
tunes remain bound up with Point
Grey, annexation to Vancouver is like-
ly to come within a few years.

On All Questions.

Commissioner Moore will look into
the financial question as well as the
traffic and franchise situation. The
last time the private bills committee
considered the application, it was
eventually rejected on the ground that
the problem of differentiation between
Point Grey and the Shaughnessy
Heights, Strathcona and D. L. 472 dis-
trict in the matter of the B. C. Elec-
tric Railway franchise and the bonded
debt of the whole municipality was
practically insurmountable.

The appointment of a commissioner
to go into such secession difficulties
as this is no new proposal. When Al-
berni and Port Alberni sought sepa-
rate fortunes Mr. Thornton Fell, clerk
of the House, was sent as commis-
sioner to hear the views of both sec-
tions, and largely upon his report the
private bills committee acted.

Mr. Moore's visit to the Mainland
is not expected to consume any great
amount of time and his report ought
to be in the hands of the committee
by the middle of next month, or the
end of the month at the latest. He
will probably start upon his duties
within a day or two. His report and
recommendations will go direct to the
committee for consideration prior to
the reception of the usual delegations,
which no doubt will come to Victoria
to press their several views.

Ald. Crowe's Views.

It was the opinion of Ald. S. J.
Crowe this morning that if Shaugh-
nessy Heights should secede, the pro-
posal to annex Point Grey to the city
would be killed, since the most valu-
able property of the municipality
would be taken away. On the other
hand, Mr. F. W. Rounsefell, one of
the promoters of the secession move-
ment, declared to The Province that
the new municipality, he believed,
would always be willing to come into
the city when the propitious time ar-
rived.

"Property owners in Point Grey,"
said Ald. Crowe, "would never con-
sent to the taxation that is in the city
that would result if the city annexed
it. Take away Shaughnessy Heights
and you take away the most valuable
and taxable property in the munic-
ipality. They would not have so much
to gain by coming into the city either
as to warrant such a raise, for there
are most of the improvements
through the municipality."

A Point Grey property owner said
that the tax rate there at present was
12 mills on a lower assessment than
in Vancouver. Vancouver's rate is 20
mills net on an assessment that is
supposed to be 60 per cent. of the
market value.

As a result of the discussions about
secession and annexation, the City
Council may pass a resolution safe-
guarding itself for the future. It is
the opinion of many on the council
that the whole of the lower peninsula
should be under one government and
it is believed that if Shaughnessy
Heights were to become separate, it
would not want to become annexed to
the city.

Mr. Rounsefell's Opinion.

Mr. F. W. Rounsefell, however,
took the other view, saying that even
if Shaughnessy Heights was allowed
to secede it would be willing to join
Vancouver at any time in the future
when a good opportunity offered.

"We are all interested in Vancou-
ver," he said. "We have our business
here and I for one would be quite
willing later to come into Vancouver,
and I am satisfied that the ma-
jority of the residents of Shaugh-
nessy feel the same way about it. So
far as other matters are concerned, I
prefer not to make any statement just
now, in view of the appointment of
the commission."

FIERCE ONSLAUGHT BY PARKER WILLIAMS

**Socialist Leader in Legislature
Took Swipe at Everyone
in Sight.**

**Sprinkled His Speech With
Many Allegations of
Graft.**

**Drew Pathetic Picture in Con-
nection With Death of
Young Mairs.**

**Expected that Premier Will
Reply in Legislature This
Afternoon.**

Victoria, Jan. 23.—In a two-hour attack upon the Provincial Government in the House yesterday, Mr. Parker Williams, Newcastle, made as fierce an onslaught upon the McBride administration as has been attempted by any public speaker in years. Mr. Williams had not a single good word in the two whole hours which he could apply to the government.

He reviewed the speeches on the address in reply to the speech from the throne which had been made by the various Conservative members who have addressed themselves to this subject during the present session; he literally tore their efforts to shreds. He charged graft in the conduct of the provincial road superintendents, extravagance in the trips taken by ministers, members and those on royal commissions, he claimed that money was wasted in every department, that the attorney-general had absolutely failed in the performance of his duty and that in fact the conduct of the administration was deplorable from start to finish.

Mr. Williams was interesting. At times, particularly during the latter end of his remarks, a number of the other House members slumbered for a few minutes—the attorney-general caught time for a light nap and the provincial secretary closed his eyes upon occasions but, speaking generally, he was given rapt attention and received a hearty hand of applause when he brought his array of sweeping charges to a close.

The Premier moved the adjournment of the debate upon the address and presumably will have something to say today. Members and others are looking forward to a lively session this afternoon when Sir Richard Bowser will bring up the heavy artillery with a counter volley.

Death of Prisoner.

Referring at the outset to the recent death at the Burnaby prison farm of a young man named Joseph Mairs who had been sentenced to a prison term in connection with the Ladysmith riots, Mr. Williams made a violent attack upon Judge Howay, who he said, in investigating the Ladysmith situation had made the mistake that "only the weakest and cheapest brand of a man could make." The speaker said that his own boy had been in the same band of youths as Mairs and he had been given to understand that if he would plead guilty to the charge he would be released forthwith. He, however, would not plead guilty and eventually in his trial got off. The other boy, however, pleaded guilty and then received a year's sentence from Judge Howay who, prior to imposing sentences at Nanaimo went to Ladysmith and "rubbed noses" with one section which was "vigorously, villainously and poisonously" opposed to the miners. Only the limitations of the Criminal Code prevented him from inflicting more severe sentences, charged the speaker. What sentences he did give were out of all proportion to the alleged crimes.

Mr. Williams claimed that he doubted if proper food was given the boy who died in prison and said that another young man in the Victoria jail had asked his relatives to send him some decent food that he might keep alive. Mairs was not given a chance to see his parents before he died, no voice cheered him in his last hours, his final view was of prison walls and the only recollection left for his relatives would be a hatred of the government which permitted such a thing to take place.

"The whole trouble in the mining district lies in the incapacity and the domineering methods of the McBride Government," he said. "I will not ask this government for its sympathy in this case; that would look like mocking the father and mother of the dead man."

He went on to say that he would be prepared to furnish the name of another young man in either the Burnaby or the Coquitlam jail who was now in a very low condition and needed attention. He admitted, he said, that such matters as this more properly came under the jurisdiction of the minister of justice at Ottawa but, anyway, all of the Conservatives were "linked up together like thieves at a fair."

"Our Revered Premier."

Passing on, he proceeded to poke fun at what he described as the reverence which the "common file" accorded Premier McBride.

There seems to be a disposition to worship him," he suggested, "and observe that in a dignified way he receives this adoration with becoming modesty. It has grown by degrees. Now, when a good Conservative wanders from the reserve and wants to come back he begins to talk about 'Our beloved leader,' and all goes well. When a renegade from the other camp seeks to cross over, he talks about 'Our revered premier.' People seem inclined to credit to the Premier even the bounty of nature and the mercy of God; neither does the Premier ever refuse to accept even these. The government press seems to make it a duty to sneer at those who find other things to do in this House besides glorify and honor Sir Richard McBride, members who do not seem inclined to tinkle the vanity of the honorable Premier, which, Heaven knows, is sufficiently well developed now."

"Like all other religions this should not be taken too seriously. There are feeble-minded folk in this province who think that the Premier can at a word increase the price of copper or back somebody else's note without impairing his own credit. There are others, though, who worship for an entirely different reason. At the well-selected moment, when the Premier appears on the stage at a mass meeting there is some man who is behind him on his payments on a piece of government land in the upper country and he is the one who jumps up to sing 'God Save the King.' He is thinking of his back payments all the time, don't forget that."

In Same Category.

There is the morning paper in this city, as well as the others owned by the same proprietor, daily devoting a large amount of space, with photos, all for the glory and honor of Sir Richard McBride. The proprietor is in the same category as the landowner with payments due the government. He has a pax to the treasury, and he wants to keep it as long as possible."

Being apparently through with the Premier, for the moment at least, the Socialist member for Newcastle turned his fire upon Mr. Justice McPhillips, formerly president of the provincial council, whom, he said, had been "promoted or kicked upstairs to the Appeal Court."

"I suppose he will assay as good as any other judge of the high courts, but I know when he was in this House he was as ardent a politician as ever sat on the floor here. He was as blind a partisan as ever a man could be. There was no one less likely to take a position in any matter, which he was not quite certain would be the correct one from a politician's point of view. There was no one who could more effectively blind himself. He spent most of his time attending to oiling the political machinery, but suddenly in a morning he becomes the impartial judge."

From this the speaker drew the conclusion that judges should not be appointed, but should be elected by the voters as in the United States, and ought also to be subject to the recall.

He declared that while the member for Dewdney, Mr. W. J. Manson, was moving the address in reply to the speech from the throne he was in nothing more or less than a mental tangle. The Dewdney representative, in laudation, exceeded all of the fond praises of the Premier ever sounded in the past. From the remarks of

Mr. Manson and others, he said he was forced to believe that any person in British Columbia who did anything not in line with the Conservative party's wishes was visited with penalties of a grave nature. Mr. Manson, he pointed out, had suggested that certain persons went about the islands constituency attempting to inflame the minds of the voters against the government as if that were not permissible against those who were not forced to seek jobs as special policemen, and by having private means could speak as they wished, the government ought to bring down a disabling bill, he facetiously proposed.

World a Void Then.

"According to the member for Dewdney, before Sir Richard took the reins of government in 1903 the whole world was a void and without form, and darkness covered the land. When this giant moved the void disappeared and darkness fled. The mills of the province were filled with orders, all merchants obtained custom, even the thugs who made the night dangerous, became special policemen. The Conservatives sang a psalm of praise, 'Praise God from whom all blessings flow,' the Premier being in this case the Deity."

"But where was the giant for the five years he sat in the House before he became Premier? Did a pigmy leap to a giant-like form in a twinkling? Where was the voice that should have been crying in the wilderness for five years?"

That being sufficient in the mind of the speaker for the member for Dewdney, he passed along in his course of criticism to the public accounts. He claimed that the huge revenues for which the government had been given credit did not mean anything other than that the government had robbed the taxpayer to obtain these large sums. In the same way the man who recently held up the Bank of Montreal at Hazelton could not be described as prosperous. He stated that as a matter of fact when the McBride Government came into power there was an overdraft of a million, which now stood at a million and a half.

"The public moneys of this province have been handled just as the Kitchikan Indians handled the funds which the attorney-general in his insanity gave to these children," he went on. "Previous governments scribbled and saved but this one sold up everything in sight and now attracts the admiration of the simple and the cupidty of the covetous. Extravagance led to extravagance. The natural resources failed two years ago to fill the maw of the camp followers rapidly enough. The alienation of the natural resources was too slow, the surplus laid up by Capt. Tallow was thrown into the tacklet. Now it is dangerous to alienate any more natural resources. If the government tried to sell off the rest of its timber it would have its neck wrung like that of a chicken by the timber interests. If dare not sell more land; those in on the ground floor do not want to have this take place for fear prices will drop. They don't want any more peddling or pollatching of land now they have had their share."

Cost Was Too Much.

He complained that it cost \$40 per capita to administer the province, that Ontario spent \$15,000,000 for the administration of government for 2,700,000 persons and British Columbia, with \$50,000, spent the same. He said that the public accounts of the past fiscal year were issued in such a condition that it was almost impossible to trace any item through them.

He claimed that ten years ago government was administered at a minimum cost and the people had nothing more now except the Premier, the attorney-general and a hugely-increased expenditure.

The mention of the attorney-general brought something more to Mr. Williams' mind and he veered off to take it a "swipe" at Hon. Mr. Bowser. For the administration of law and order the attorney-general seemed to believe, he said, that one-half of the people should be set to watch the other half. His department cost far too much, he thought. The attorney-general never drafted a bill, he only issued orders. He always had outside legal assistance but nevertheless found it necessary to provide a flood of amendments to each bill while it was in the House.

The member wanted to know why there were always about 100 civil servants travelling, why Agent-general Turner "had not the decency to know that he should not give contributions to the Tariff Reform League and then charge them up to the province," why the finance minister should charge the cost of his trip to Buttle Lake to the government and that of his daughter as well, and why the minister when he travelled at the cost

of the province, went like rajahs and eastern potentates.

Brought Forth Nothing.

"The Premier's trip to England reminds me of that story of Mark Twain of the cow that every year went off to the woods and a little later came out with a wabbly-legged calf, except that the Premier comes back with nothing at all but a few generalities about the health of the agent-general and how British Columbia looks to the English investor."

"For his trip to Fort George in 1910 it cost the province \$135 per mile and he only went there to patch up a racket between two Conservative factions. He seemed to ooze money at every pore."

"Now I see that this makes the attorney-general envious," he added with a smile across the aisle at Hon. Mr. Bowser.

"When Mr. Robert Green wanted to have an expert examine his coal fields in the North this work was done at the cost of the province. When Hon. Mr. Bowser desired an expert to look into the mud flats at Boundary Bay he has for oyster culture—or should it be lobster culture?—the work was paid for out of public funds. The whole policy seems to be to borrow from posterity because posterity is not old enough to have a vote. Another course though would be to cut off the heads of some of the people we have and I know which one I would pursue."

Velled suggestions of money being made by the ministers in an improper way were thrown out. Mr. Williams said that "Richard McBride" without a good income was not an inconvenience, but "Sir Richard" without a good deal of money would be a cumbersome load. Some of the ministers, he charged, saved more than their total salaries. There was no other business that they were engaged in except politics and where did the money come from. There should be a commission to find out.

He decried the work of the labor and agricultural commissions and claimed that postage stamps would have secured more information than was obtained by Messrs. Hayward and Lucas on their trips to Europe and the Antipodes.

Made Charge of Graft.

He wanted to know why some of the provincial road superintendents were able to put in 355 days in the year at \$5 per day, how it happened that they all graduated into the rank of auto owners with clerks and chauffeurs and how it appeared that in the public accounts some of them could put through vouchers for fifteen months in years currently said to possess only twelve. He openly charged that there was graft in this connection.

Why were men able to make "clean-ups" such as was the case in the Songhees reserve deal, or as Mr. Alexander got in the Kitchikan reserve transaction?" he queried.

His asked how it came about that the member for Columbia, Mr. Foster, who was evidently not a "blown-in-the-bottle Conservative," was not admitted into the circle. If it was because he could not subscribe to all of the party conditions then he should receive some honor, he thought.

If the government had done its duty there would have been an observance of law and order of a real kind on Vancouver Island, he declared, in a review of the situation there.

In discussing general conditions in the province he gave it as his opinion that matters were in a bad state, the mills were shutting down, farms were failing and general business was poor. The government shouted prosperity, but was the first to run to cover to the money lenders. If the pilfering of the camp followers was "cut out" this would not be so necessary.

Finally, in closing his long and in many respects remarkable speech, the member for Newcastle asked that all bills introduced by the government be allowed to lie on the table for a few days in order that the press could give notice of them to the public before they were passed; he also urged that there be no rushing through of legislation in the closing week of the House when, in the past, the government members could work in shifts, but the small opposition had to be there all the time.

TO BORROW FOR ROAD BRIDGE

**Government Cou
Without Loan
Works S**

**If Development
to Pause, Ordin
Would S**

**Details of Mr. Co
Are Reporte
Legisla**

**Inspection of Ca
culosis May
Over to D**

Victoria, Jan. 23. Provisions of the A report to be made general was present yesterday. It from April 1 to Se being the first six rent fiscal year, formation which, tem of keeping th would not have of the meeting of the 1915. By this cha public are able to while they still ret than an antiquaria In brief, the sto ator-general in 13 months the provi was \$10,020,102.10 35,471,766.74, or a 348,336.26. In co parent deficit it is that at the begin year the govern substantial surplus adopted the polic surplus rather the bank. The necess was not felt to as tl after September minister of public zontal cut of ten amount to be spent works of develop course, together Hon. Thomas Tayl templated expendi year by \$2,500,000, is calculated that bring the account the end of the fis ay, the revenue spent as will als over from the pre will be no deficit. government propo London market summer is for the ing the constructio useful public wo would be necessar tion were to con ary functions and to pause.

How It I

The total expe over ten millions over ten millions following items: 509.23; civil w \$583,602.26; adm tice, salaries, \$2 13680.78; public 425.65; hospitals 155.42; administ than salaries, \$2 333,548.01; in works and build roads, streets, b \$8,125,757.19; s boats, ferries and miscellaneous, \$1

TO BORROW MONEY FOR ROADS AND BRIDGES

Government Could Get Along
Without Loan If Public
Works Stop.

If Development Were Allowed
to Pause, Ordinary Revenue
Would Suffice.

Details of Mr. Cox's Auto Hire
Are Reported to the
Legislature.

Inspection of Cattle for Tuber-
culosis May Be Handed
Over to Dominion.

Victoria, Jan. 23.—Pursuant to the provisions of the Audit Act, the first report to be made by the auditor-general was presented to the Legislature yesterday. It covers the period from April 1 to September 30, 1913, being the first six months of the current fiscal year. It thus gives information which, under the old system of keeping the public accounts, would not have been available until the meeting of the Legislature in 1915. By this change of method the public are able to get the figures while they still retain something more than an antiquarian interest.

In brief, the story told by the auditor-general is that in these six months the provincial expenditure was \$10,020,102.10, and the revenue \$5,471,756.79, or a difference of \$4,548,345.31. In considering this apparent deficit it is to be remembered that at the beginning of the fiscal year the government had on hand a substantial surplus, but deliberately adopted the policy of spending the surplus rather than let it lie in the bank. The necessity for retrenchment was not felt to any great extent until after September, at which time the minister of public works made a horizontal cut of ten per cent in the amount to be spent on roads and other works of development. By this heroic course, together with other savings, Hon. Thomas Taylor reduced the contemplated expenditures for the fiscal year by \$2,500,000, or thereabouts. It is calculated that this saving will bring the accounts out about even at the end of the fiscal year. That is to say, the revenue for the year will be spent as will also the surplus left over from the previous year, but there will be no deficit. The reason why the government proposes to borrow in the London market during the coming summer is for the purpose of continuing the construction of roads and other useful public works. No borrowing would be necessary if the administration were to confine itself to ordinary functions and allow development to pause.

How It Is Made Up.

The total expenditure of slightly over ten millions for the six months under discussion is made up of the following items: Public debt, \$167,509.22; civil government salaries, \$589,502.26; administration of justice, salaries, \$22,644.01; legislation, \$3560.78; public institutions, \$249,425.65; hospitals and charities, \$223,165.42; administration of justice, other than salaries, \$207,236.89; education, \$338,343.01; transport, \$42,989.92; works and buildings, \$1,392,689.28; roads, streets, bridges and wharves, \$2,115,787.19; subsidies to steamboats, ferries and bridges, \$32,077.15; miscellaneous, \$1,051,356.33.

Among the sources of revenue the largest single item is \$1,052,113.92 for timber licenses. Land sales yielded \$666,047.49; succession duty, \$184,939.37; real property tax, \$428,955.66; land tax, \$565,979.58; income tax, \$326,362.67; timber royalty, \$249,655.54. Marriage licenses, which are generally supposed to be an index of prosperity, yielded \$13,800 for the six months, while for the previous twelve months they were \$25,550. This would seem to indicate that the general condition of the people has not materially altered, despite the talk of dull times in some quarters. Nothing is credited to the revenue for the six months for the province's share of the Chinese head tax. This, apparently, is paid over by the Dominion annually

and will all be credited to the latter half of the fiscal year. From this, and other sources, sums will be received which will make the total revenue for the year ending March 31, 1914, not much if at all less than for that ending March 31, 1913.

Cattle and Disease.

Special warrants were issued since last session for \$317,966.31, of which \$468,433.97 was spent. These special warrants are for expenditures which were not foreseen when the last estimates were laid before the Legislature. They comprise such items as \$12,000 for extra assistance in the printing office; \$10,000 in aid of destitute poor and sick; special constables, \$70,000; jurors and witnesses, \$20,936; transport of constables and prisoners, \$33,177; game protection, \$7472; inspection of nursery stock, \$11,535. For compensation to owners of cattle slaughtered for tuberculosis there was paid \$7,525.59. The cost under this last mentioned head was expected to be about \$15,000 for the whole year but a few months ago it was abruptly stopped, owing to the vigorous protests of cattle owners who thought the rate of compensation not high enough. It is said that the minister of agriculture is inclined to agree with this view, being willing to take cognizance of the fact that the value of cattle has risen since the scale of compensation was fixed, and to raise the schedule of rates accordingly. Some of the members from rural constituencies have expressed the opinion that a better plan would be to drop the whole business, as being an expense which should be borne by the Dominion rather than the province. The officials of the Dominion department of agriculture are willing to take full charge of the problem of tuberculosis in cattle and there is considerable feeling in the Legislature in favor of letting them do it.

So far as the report discloses there was a difference of opinion between the auditor-general and the treasury board in only two cases. One of these was as to which year's estimates two items should be charged against. The other concerned a payment of \$650 to A. A. Cox in connection with Burnaby prison farm. This amount was for auto hire and Mr. Cox claimed it should be paid, in addition to the \$4100 which he received as his 5 per cent commission on the total cost of the structure. The treasury board ruled in favor of Mr. Cox and the account was paid. In cases where the auditor-general objects to an expenditure and the treasury board agrees with him, that would be the end of the matter, but if the treasury board over-rides the auditor-general, the law requires the matter to be reported to the Legislature at its next session with a statement of the reasons for the action of the board.

TO HOLD AN ENQUIRY

Judge Howay to Sit on Songhees Reserve Railway Matter.

Victoria, Jan. 24.—As foreshadowed some time ago, the Provincial Government has appointed His Honor Judge Howay to hold an enquiry as commissioner into the value of the lands on the Songhees reserve apportioned to the Esquimalt & Nanaimo Railway and Canadian Northern Pacific Railway companies. The first session, of which notice is given in the Gazette, will be held on Wednesday at the courthouse here.

Yarrows Ltd., on taking over the plant of the B. C. Marine Railway at Esquimalt, is formally gazetted as a company under the laws of the province. A new company with unusual objects, incorporated with headquarters here, is the Automatic Vending Co., "to carry on the business of vending goods, wares and merchandise, by means of automatic vending machines, coin-in-the-slot machines, and to carry on business of operating and dealing in all kinds of automatic coin-in-the-slot devices," with capital of \$100,000. The Valdez Island Copper Company is also to have its headquarters in this city, the company being formed on the non-personal liability system.

Other companies are the Prudential Security Co., Vancouver; Prince George Publishing Co., Vancouver; McKinnon Heating and Plumbing Co., Kamloops; Coast Range Cedar Shingles and Lumber, Vancouver; St. Regis Hotel Co., Vancouver; Canadian Mexican Oil Lands Ltd., Vancouver; Callophone Co., Vancouver, and Kootenay Liberal Publishing Co., Nelson.

COMMITTEE SESSIONS

Shaughnessy Heights Petition to Be Considered on Monday.

Victoria, Jan. 24.—The committee of the House on private bills will hold its first meeting of the session on Monday morning at 10:30 o'clock to consider petitions as follows: City of Victoria, Methodist Theological College, Chartered Accountants, Methodist Church, Northern Telephone Company, Shaughnessy Municipality, New Westminster, Dominion Trust Company, Penticton Municipality and North Vancouver.

The municipal committee will meet on Monday next at noon. The mining committee is to meet at noon on Tuesday, February 3; the committee on agriculture on Wednesday, February 4; the public accounts committee on Monday, February 9; the committee on printing on Tuesday, February 10, and the railway committee on the same day. All of these committee meetings will be at 12:30 o'clock noon.

LIMIT LIABILITY FOR FERRIES

Delegation from North Vancouver Was Heard at Victoria on Tuesday.

Ask Amendment to Municipal Clauses Act to Cover Question.

Victoria, Jan. 22.—Legislation is desired by North Vancouver city which will place it upon the same basis as limited liability companies if it takes over the North Vancouver ferries, as is proposed. Yesterday afternoon a delegation from the north shore of Burrard Inlet comprising Mayor Irwin, Alderman Vance, Ald. Paul, ex-Mayor McNeil, of North Vancouver and Mr. R. L. Reid, barrister at Vancouver, met the private bills committee of the House upon the subject following a conference with Attorney-General Bower.

North Vancouver desires to operate the ferries on Burrard Inlet through a municipal department instead of by a special company as is now the case. The reasons given by the delegation for the proposed change are: Conflict between members of the City Council and of the Ferry Board, expense of maintaining special staff for ferry business, inability of the council and company to give that close attention to ferry business which is desired. It was pointed out to the committee that if the company, which is simply created for the purpose of carrying on this particular business for the city was done away with the city authorities themselves operate the system through a department much more cheaply and at the same time the desirous of the public would disappear. The difficulty facing the city was this, however, it was claimed: A limited liability company in the event of accident could only be made liable up to the amount represented by the difference between its gross assets and its liabilities. There is nothing in provincial legislation, however, to give a municipality any exemption whatever and if such a thing as a North Vancouver ferry were established with another vessel negligent sailing damages might sell up the whole city.

The delegation asked the private bills committee to recommend to the House the inclusion of clauses in the Municipal Clauses Act providing that municipal corporations operating ferries would only be liable for damages to an extent similar to that which can be enforced against limited liability companies. The gross assets represented in the North Vancouver ferry system total \$400,000, it was declared yesterday and the debture is about \$125,000. Authority was also desired to enable the city to levy a tax rate up to one mill on the dollar for ferry purposes; this to cover any deficit which might occur in the operation of the system.

Some of the members of the legislative committee were inclined to consider a general amendment somewhat dangerous in that in the future possibly municipal ferries might not be kept up to the mark and consequently the risk of accident would increase. The introduction of a private bill giving special powers to North Vancouver was suggested.

Mr. F. Carter-Cotton put forward the proposal that the clauses drafted by Mr. R. L. Reid for the delegation be adopted with a rider to the effect that the ferries would have to be accounted for by the government inspector who inspects them under the provincial license. He thought that government inspection from time to time would ensure good ferry boats in any municipal undertaking of the kind.

Mr. Reid agreed to redraft his clauses in the manner indicated and they will be laid before the committee next week. These clauses provide for all the machinery for the conduct of a ferry service by a city or municipality and if admitted into the Municipal Clauses Act will form an important change. At the present time the act simply says that municipalities may operate ferries but does not define the extent of liabilities, give power for the putting into use of local machinery required or provide for the levying of special taxes.

It is likely that representatives of North Vancouver will appear before the private bills committee at its next meeting.

MODEL TRUCK FARM FOR THE DELTA ADVOCATED

Nearly Million and Half of Products Grown in that Section Annually.

More Arguments for Ladner Ferry Are Adduced by Mr. Mackenzie.

S. A. Cawley of Chilliwack in "Back to the Land" Movement.

Thinks the Government Might Fairly Clear Large Tracts of Land Here and There.

Victoria, Jan. 22.—The establishment by the provincial agricultural department of a model truck garden in the Delta and the construction of a permanent highway from the end of the Westminster bridge to the international boundary line through the same constituency, were among the suggestions made by Mr. F. J. Mackenzie, Delta, who spoke in the House yesterday in the debate on the reply to the address. Mr. Mackenzie spent much of his time in extolling the advantages of his district, which he claimed was about the greatest ever. Instancing the fertility of the dyked lands of that section, he said that one season's yield of a tract of less than 30,000 acres comprised \$400,000 worth of hay, \$375,000 worth of grain, \$150,000 of potatoes and roots, \$130,000 of milk, \$16,000 of eggs, \$150,000 of cattle, sheep and hogs, \$100,000 of horses and \$600 miscellaneous, making a total of \$1,350,000. He proposed that, in view of the fact that the Delta municipality in particular was such a good district for model farming, the Provincial Government should expend some portion of the Dominion grant in aid of agriculture for the establishment of a truck garden farm.

Incidentally, in detailing the growth of the Lower Fraser valley, Mr. Mackenzie contended that the time had gone by when a crate of eggs would sell for a New Westminster market, or when a farmer entering that city to do business would have to wait until noon before finding anyone to whom he could dispose of his produce.

Arguments for Ferry. He gave figures to show the development of traffic between the Delta and Vancouver by way of Ladner and Woodwards Landing since the establishment of a ferry there. In less than two months 585 autos had used the ferry, and 573 teams had crossed over with passengers on the ferry to the number of 1874. Two and one-half tons of milk daily was transported across the Fraser from Ladner. This showed the necessity for the installation of a large up-to-date ferry boat, he claimed. The member stated that in 1912 the British Columbia Electric carried 1,730,110 cans of milk out of the Fraser Valley to the two coast cities of Vancouver and New Westminster, and in 1913 the total reached 2,024,520 cans.

Showing how the landowners and farmers of the district were improving the whole section he pointed out that Surrey reclaimed 17,000 acres with the expenditure of \$123,000, while Glen Valley, in Langley, had been dyked, and Barnston Island in the Fraser, had also been dyked, with the result that an increasingly large amount of arable land of the richest description had been added to the agricultural wealth of the province. He proposed that the new Municipal Clauses Act provide for the investment of dyking sinking funds in farm lands as was permitted under the old act.

Referring to the fact that the heavy motor traffic through the district resulted in the destruction of good roads, Mr. Mackenzie urged that the government consider the advisability of constructing a permanent road to the boundary line from the New Westminster bridge. Otherwise, it would be only fair, he thought, for the municipalities in the constituency to be permitted to charge up to motor owners an amount equal to the cost of keeping roads in repair there, by means of a toll or otherwise.

For Potato Growers. The speaker pronounced himself as being in favor of the land policy enforced by the government of selling a quantity of land in order to procure funds for the development of the whole province by means of construction of roads and bridges.

He asked that regulations be drawn up which would protect the potato growers of the Lower Fraser against those of the United States. When prices were high here potatoes were rushed across the boundary line, but when prices were high in the States it always appeared that the American inspectors found some mythical diseases in the Fraser Valley potatoes in order to shut them out. The member said he believed there should be just as strict inspection on this side of the line in order to demonstrate to the Americans that the thing could work both ways.

Mr. S. A. Cawley, Chilliwack, was another speaker on the debate and he had quite a long list of suggestions to offer the government. For one thing he said, in many districts the land registry offices seemed to be hopelessly behind and he thought that more assistance could be provided in order to have the public better served. He complained of the slow work of the offices and also of the high fees, which he suggested were double what they ought to be.

He proposed that the new Municipal Act make provision to give mayors and reeves a vote in council similar to the privilege enjoyed by aldermen and councillors.

Back to the Land. He asked that provision be made in the School Act to have agricultural instruction in the public schools and said that he was glad to be able to announce that the minister of education had informed him that this matter was now being considered with a view of providing some elementary teaching along that line. The minister of education had also told him that the Asylum farm was to be devoted to the purposes of the agricultural department of the new University of British Columbia. Such a move as this, he thought, was along right lines in cultivating a general back-to-the-land movement.

He praised the Provincial Government for its policy of bringing in dairy stock for sale to the farmers, but added the suggestion that instead of demanding cash for the stock the agricultural department should sell the cattle on time and thus give the farmers increased encouragement to buy high-grade dairy cows.

The two Socialist members applauded loudly when Mr. Cawley expressed himself as being against any policy which permitted the large land holders to keep the land they had purchased from the government without making prompt payments. He proposed that the government of the wild land tax against these owners, failing which they should be made to pay up promptly. Then there would be no need of the government going to the financial markets for money. Touching on this matter of a proposed provincial loan, the speaker was strongly of the opinion that expenditure from it should be used chiefly for the encouragement of agriculture and mining.

Clear Large Tracts. "It would be wise for the administration, in my opinion," he went on, "to set to work and clear a large tract of rich land here and there, provide transportation means, subdivide it and then dispose of it to settlers. This may be an experiment but it should work out well and would eventually be of great value to the province."

While not wishing to be understood as desiring to have his district appropriated cut down, Mr. Cawley offered the suggestion that insofar as possible the appropriations in future be centered more or less on the newer districts of the province for roads and bridges in order to open up new fields for settlement.

He touched upon the labor question and the coal miners' strike, going on to say that 80 per cent. of the labor element in the province desired peace, but so long as the laboring men listened to paid agitators brought in from across the boundary line so long would they be in trouble.

Mr. R. E. Tisdall, Vancouver, was another speaker on the debate.

DROP IN ESTIMATES MAY BE THREE MILLIONS

Figure for Coming Fiscal Year to Be in Neighborhood of \$6,700,000.

Expected Decline in Expenditure, However, Probably Not Above \$1,500,000.

Losing Year's Estimates Not Lived Up to Because of Stringency.

Public Works Progress Not to Be Impaired, Declares Premier McBride.

Victoria, Jan. 22.—While the provincial public works estimates for the year ending March 31, 1914 were \$9,632,000 and the actual expenditure for the fiscal year now almost at an end were about \$8,100,000, according to Hon. Thomas Taylor, minister of public works, it is believed here that the 1914 estimates, to provide for work up to the end of March, 1915, will not be more than \$7,000,000 at the outside. Indeed, it has been said that the estimates will not reach that sum so that the assumption that the decrease in totals from the 1913 estimates will be \$2,000,000, is considered to be a safe one.

In other words, about one-third will be cut from the estimates for the year now closing and the public expenditures if kept to the same proportion will show a similar decrease.

It is explained that the reason for the drop of over \$1,000,000 from the estimates in the expenditures for 1913 came about as a result of the financial stringency at the beginning of the year caused by a decrease in revenue later on. The government during 1913, accordingly, trimmed its sails, so to speak, and did not carry out all that the estimates had provided for. During 1914 and the first three months to 1915 it is supposed that the estimates will be lived up to, by reason of the closeness of the sailing to be done now.

The Expenditure Decreases. That will mean that although there will be a \$5,000,000 reduction in estimates, the reduction in actual expenditures will possibly be not more than \$1,500,000, or the difference between about \$6,700,000 as the possible estimates total for the forthcoming fiscal year and \$5,200,000, the expenditures of the closing fiscal year.

Discussing the question of estimates for the year, Premier McBride said today: "The estimates will be kept within conservative limits, having in mind obtaining monetary conditions. This does not mean that public works progress will be at all impaired, although some of the newly-projected works, such as new highways in the interior, particularly in the North, may have to be deferred until next year."

Many New Buildings. The Premier pointed out that a great deal of the expenditures of last year went into permanent buildings, which are now nearly all finished. These included such fine structures as provincial buildings at Quana, Atlin, Fernie, Cranbrook, Nelson, Kaslo, Grand Forks, Kamloops, including an addition to the Old Men's Home as well; Revelstoke, Nelson; improvements to the buildings at New Westminster; addition to the Vancouver courthouse; construction of a new prison in Vancouver; improvements at Burrard Inlet; new buildings at Parliament buildings here; additional buildings at the Comptroller's Office, and many other permanent offices, having practically only Prince Rupert and some of the towns on the Grand Trunk Pacific yet to be taken care of in this way.

"This means, you will see," said the Premier, "that generally speaking we have only roads and bridges to build in 1914, and the government is therefore in the position that it can adapt itself to the world-wide stringency without eliminating any pressing work. Our programme of office buildings is about finished, and one of the few projects for which appropriations will have to be made, outside of roads and bridges, is that in connection with the university buildings."

THE DAILY P LEMIEUX'S STORY FALSE, SAYS TISDALL

Unemployed in Vancouver Mainly Not Near 17,000 Declares.

Vancouver Member at V Says Business Conditions Here Are Good.

Describes General Progress of Province. Referring Particularly to Okanagan.

Hon. W. R. Ross Gives Figures as to Amounts Over to Treasury.

Victoria, Jan. 22.—Flatly the truth of statements attributed to Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux re unemployment in the city of Vancouver, Mr. C. E. Tisdall, speaker of the Provincial House here, stated that the former Liberal leader had apparently deliberated over his way to make an for attack upon the principal city on the Pacific Coast. Mr. Tisdall reported that he had declared that there were persons out of employment in the city.

"While I was never favorable to extreme optimism in Vancouver indeed all through British Columbia during 1913, 1914 and other years," said the Vancouver member, "neither do I lean to the view now rampant that British Columbia is in a shape."

Relative to the statement attributed to Hon. Mr. Lemieux, he said that in the Dominion of Vancouver, which goes the city boundaries, there are names on the voters' list, who would have it that there are adult males out of work in the city. He is manifestly wrong.

Poor Advertising. "It is true that employment is not brisk in Vancouver as in British Columbia does not verting of the description. Liberal member is giving it over and the other coast city help the fact that the air is cold weather in the East great many persons to the shores for a milder winter naturally result that all of not get the work they expect this winter. I am sure that any of the actual city employment have been out of that. I doubt if there are them without employment."

Conditions in Vancouver present moment are as good as in any other city in Canadian cities, and certainly ahead of those prevailing across the line. It is a great member of the Dominion Commons so far forgot to make such an assertion, a entirely false statement, and the actual state of affairs must know that his statement liberally untrue."

The Vancouver member long and careful address yesterday. He was in a vain and asserted that the conditions, while possibly as during the past were on the whole such as all with confidence in the far discussing Vancouver situation there, he devoted a time to outlining the advantages of the Okanagan Valley, also the Fraser Valley and the Mr. Tisdall was warmly in close of the session for his of provincial conditions a cheerful tone of his utterance. Kamloops and the the admiration of the speaker, who will reopen a soon.

Flow of Money Re-

Discussing the flow of the British Isles into British Columbia, Mr. Tisdall said:

"With this money we are attempting to evolve a developed community for the province. Naturally, the money ceased to some extent in the building of the Empire building and now that we have put to the plow we do not put back until British Columbia opened from end to end, carrying criticism that we day to day. It is interesting to see one well a needs of the Anglo-Saxons."

Conditions at the present time, a repeat and with the commencement of the year's programme of building permits, a 1913 the total was about the total for 1912 was \$1,000,000, however, that was not all, one had said that the total was about \$1,000,000 in the provincial building programme."

"The decrease in building permits in the last year, however, was not all, one had said that the total was about \$1,000,000 in the provincial building programme."

LEMIEUX'S STORY IS FALSE, SAYS TISDALL

Unemployed in Vancouver Certainly Not Near 17,000, He Declares.

Vancouver Member at Victoria Says Business Conditions Here Are Good.

Describes General Progress of Province, Referring Particularly to Okanagan.

Hon. W. Ross Gives Figures as to Amounts Overdue to Treasury.

Victoria, Jan. 29.—Flatly denying the truth of statements attributed to Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux relative to unemployment in the city of Vancouver, Mr. C. E. Tisdall, speaking in the Provincial House here yesterday stated that the former Liberal minister had apparently deliberately gone out of his way to make an uncalculated attack upon the principal Canadian city on the Pacific Coast. Hon. Mr. Lemieux was reported recently to have declared that there were 17,000 persons out of employment in the Terminal City.

"While I was never favorable to the extreme optimism in Vancouver and indeed all through British Columbia during 1911, 1912 and other banner years," said the Vancouver member, "neither do I lean to the pessimistic view now rampant that business in British Columbia is in very poor shape."

Relative to the statement attributed to Hon. Mr. Lemieux, let me point out that in the Dominion constituency of Vancouver, which goes outside of the city boundaries, there are 28,000 names on the voters' list, and yet he would have it that there are 17,000 adult males out of work in the city itself. He is manifestly wrong.

Poor Advertising.
"It is true that employment is not so brisk in Vancouver as it was, but British Columbia does not wish advertising of the description that the Liberal member is giving it. Vancouver and the other coast cities can not help the fact that the approach of cold weather in the East drives a great many persons to the Pacific shores for a milder winter with the naturally result that all of them do not get the work they expect. This is the first winter, I am sure, however, that any of the actual citizens of Vancouver have been out of work. At that I doubt if there are 2000 of them without employment."

"Conditions in Vancouver at this present moment are as good if not a great deal better than in the Eastern Canadian cities, and certainly much ahead of those prevailing in the cities across the line. It is a great pity that the member of the Dominion House of Commons so far forgot himself as to make such an assertion, as he apparently did without first enquiring as to the actual state of affairs here. He must know that his statement was deliberately untrue."

The Vancouver member delivered a long and careful address in the House yesterday. He was in an optimistic vein and asserted that general business conditions, while possibly not so lively as during the past two years, were on the whole such as to inspire all with confidence in the future. After discussing Vancouver and the situation there, he devoted a good deal of time to outlining the advancement of the Okanagan Valley, also referring to the Fraser Valley and the Kootenays. Mr. Tisdall was warmly praised at the close of the session for his able review of provincial conditions and for the cheerful tone of his utterances. Mr. Shaw, Kamloops, also spoke yesterday and the adjournment of the debate was moved by Mr. William Manson, Skeena, who will reopen it this afternoon.

Flow of Money Reduced.
Discussing the flow of capital from the British Isles into British Columbia, Mr. Tisdall said:

"With this money we have been attempting to evolve a civilized and developed community from this new province. Naturally, when the flow of money ceased to some extent with the troubles in Europe, things became quieter here. The Conservative party, however, has always been noted for its Empire building characteristics and now that we have put our hands to the plow we do not propose to look back until British Columbia is developed from end to end, despite the carrying criticism that we receive from day to day. It is intended to make this country one well adapted to the needs of the Anglo-Saxon race."

"Conditions at the present time are good, I repeat and will get better with the commencement upon this year's programme of public works. There has been a recess in Vancouver in building permits, and while in 1913 the total was about \$15,000,000, for 1914 it is about \$9,000,000. I am sure that figure. When one says, however, that building has slowed up, one has said about the last word in connection with any building in the Terminal City."

The speaker in building has had to stand upon the mills and other lines of industry connected with building. Vancouver, though, has been building steadily and at a very rapid rate since the war broke out, and the building industry is now in a very active state.

feature in the life of Vancouver just as marked as has been the influence of the San Francisco assay office on the activity of that city.

"Touching again upon the question of building, I do not think that just now there are more empty houses in Vancouver than is usual with a city of that population. It compares favorably in this respect with other cities of Canada and the United States. There are simply as many as would be required to give newcomers a reasonable choice. There is no reason at all to be pessimistic."

Growth of Okanagan.
The member declared that the most serious difficulty the government had to meet lay in the agricultural situation. This he believed the administration had handled well. He referred to the Okanagan Valley; the increase in fruit and vegetable production there had been a great surprise, he said. Last year the settlers in the valley shipped out 1550 carloads of fruit and vegetables valued at over \$500,000 and the canneries had purchased another \$150,000 worth.

"We can easily remember the time when all there was coming from the Okanagan could be included when we said, 'a little grain and a bunch or two of steers,' he went on. Now the valley is exporting from its orchards and gardens about \$1,000,000 worth of produce every year. The young fruit trees are coming on by the thousand, or even the million, and in three or four years the production will be increased four-fold."

"This naturally means that the question of markets arises. There is, though, ready a good market in sight on the coast for the Okanagan. It is almost impossible to buy Okanagan fruit in Vancouver and the complaint about it there is, 'There is not enough, tell us how to get it.' The construction of the Kettle Valley line through Penticton and on to the coast and the building of the Canadian Northern branch to Kelowna will answer that demand, however. Instead of sending money to Wenatchee for fruit Vancouver will spend it in the Okanagan. That district will then still have the great Northwest, Australia, New Zealand and the motherland. The Panama Canal opening will mean an increase in shipments to England and the Antipodes will provide fine off-season markets. The Northwest market can still be developed as well, for although Calgary and Edmonton are well supplied, the cities from Saskatoon to Winnipeg could still absorb a great deal more fruit from this sunny valley."

Work of the Canners.
The speaker gave figures to show what the canneries in that section are doing. He pointed out that during last year the Western Canners of Kelowna packed 40,000 cases of fruit and vegetables, using 1310 tons of produce and requiring 800 freight cars to carry away the pack. Canners here declared, completed a natural adjunct to the fruit district's business and saved the expenditure of a large sum of British Columbia money in buying from the canneries of the East.

He touched briefly on the growth of the Kootenays, saying that in a recent trip he saw a great change there since the conditions prevailing a few years ago and he was not at all astonished that the Kootenay members of the House felt so "perky." He suggested that in his opinion there would always be a close and ready market for Kootenay fruit in the mining towns along the Crows Nest.

Mr. Tisdall deplored the fact that the railway belt in the Fraser Valley had not been developed to a greater extent. Three or four years ago he took up this subject, he said yesterday, and was instrumental in introducing a resolution in the House drawing the attention of the Dominion Government to the lack of development there. He was at that time accused of simply making a political attack upon the Liberal administration.

"I will say now, with a Conservative government in office at Ottawa, that it seems to me this section will never be properly developed until the Provincial Government is permitted to handle it or until the Dominion Government appoints a commission to take charge of the railway belt in the Fraser Valley, with instructions to encourage settlement there," he said. "I am glad to see by the speech from the throne that that subject will be taken up by the Better Terms Commission."

Pleased With Ferry.
He congratulated the Provincial Government upon establishing a ferry service between Ladner and Woodward's Landing, at the same time expressing the hope that the minister of works would improve the service by constructing a new ferry boat. Its importance in connection with the feeding of Vancouver by the Delta district could not be overestimated, he believed.

He deplored the fact that so much money went to New Zealand for butter and cheese, declaring that cheese and butter should be produced in the Fraser Valley, and it was "up to the government to turn its attention to the establishment of factories in British Columbia in order to put a stop to such a serious financial drain."

He turned his attention to mining in the province, facetiously suggesting that many of the members had packed away in their trunks nice lithographed share certificates in mine long since deceased, which they could turn up to look at on a rainy day. Speaking in a more serious vein on the subject, he told the House that the mines of British Columbia last year earned in dividends a sum in excess of \$5,000,000. Fifteen thousand men were employed in deep sea fishing, he went on, and the value of the products reached \$14,500,000 in 1913. Halibut fishing was increasing and a good market was being opened up for this fish in the Old Country. There was no doubt also that an enormous increase in the amount of herring fishing would follow when this industry was more fully exploited.

White Fish in Lakes.
The action of the government in placing 5,000,000 white fish in the interior lakes was commendable, he thought, this step eventually no doubt

leading to the building up of a fishing industry in the Upper Country. The construction of the G. T. P. would help fishermen to a material extent in providing transportation from the fishing beds of Prince Rupert, probably the finest along the coast.

"I am glad to see the provincial authorities taking action to preserve the industry for the white race," he commented. "Our natural products should be in the hands of our own people and this policy will be welcomed by all well-wishers of the province."

The Vancouver representative had something to say about lake lumbering. He said that the 1913 cut of logs was probably as good as that of the previous year but unfortunately owing to a decrease in building there were more logs in the water now than at other times and probably also more sawn timber still in the mills, the millmen being unable to sell much of their high-priced timber.

When the Panama Canal opening resulted in a halving of freight rates to the Atlantic and the influence of the money now being made by the prairie farmers was felt there would be a great increase in the Pacific coast and mountain lumber business, he felt sure. In this connection he said he hoped that the government would advertise its timber by using as much as possible in the new provincial building in London. Much was to be done as well in placing timber exhibits in Winnipeg and other eastern cities. He expressed pleasure at the progress being made by the Powell River pulp mills.

Welcomes Municipal Bill.
He welcomed the announcement that an up-to-date municipal bill would shortly be introduced, as conditions shortly the passage of the present act had materially changed. He pointed out that it would be a good move for the province to take some charge of the borrowing powers of municipalities such as is done to some extent in Saskatchewan and Alberta. In Saskatchewan a government commission has authority to superintend municipal loans with the result that there is an increase in the confidence of investors. He regretted that the speech from the throne had not mentioned the 45,000 mile trip of the battleship New Zealand. The echo of this Imperial voyage would be heard throughout the empire for a long time, he declared, and he was glad that before the Ottawa House rose some measure would be passed to provide defence for these defenceless shores and to enable Canada and British Columbia as a portion of it to contribute to the Imperial defence coffers.

Mr. Tisdall was given hearty applause at the close of his constructive and optimistic address.

"In my trip with the Indian commission during last year I was greatly impressed with the development particularly along the line of public works," said J. P. Shaw, Kamloops, who followed the Vancouver member. "One of the greatest undertakings during the year is the addition to our parliament buildings. When the present buildings were planned over fifteen years ago it was said then that they would do for fifty years but in a third of that time we find they are much too small. This is a good indication of the advancement being made all over the province."

What About Cheap Loans?
He expressed a desire to know what the government was about to do with regard to cheap loans to farmers, urging that if the agricultural commission reported on this matter action be taken as early as possible.

Touching upon general farming conditions, he spoke of the progress in dry farming particularly in the semi-arid district near Kamloops and said that although at one time this area was supposed to be good only for stock-raising last year 110 farmers engaged in dry farming there produced 250,000 bushels of grain 1000 tons of hay and had three dairies supplying milk to Kamloops as well as owning 1200 head of cattle and 1400 horses. This of course in addition to the herds of the large ranches.

Fruit men in the Kamloops irrigated districts were anxious to know, he informed the House, what would follow as a result of the railway construction in the North Thompson and desired the government to provide that the railway would not interrupt their irrigation schemes. The railway act, he thought, ought to contain a clause providing that railway companies must not interfere

with irrigation works in the building and operation of railway lines.

On Grazing Fees.

The subject of a complaint voiced by Ex-Premier Semlin in an interview given The Province recently relative to charges of grazing in the railway belt was referred to by Mr. Shaw. He said that the forestry department of the Dominion Government had blanketed all of the open land in the railway belt with a forest reserve and this meant that no longer could the ranchers' stock graze free on these lands. This was a great blow to the stockmen of the province. It appeared also that the provincial lands department contemplated similar action. He said he hoped before any such steps were taken the government would consider the matter very closely. The charging of ranchers for stock grazing on forest reserve lands, which their stock had fed on for years and did not injure in the slightest would result in crippling the whole industry.

Mr. Shaw, in closing, decried the action of Liberal papers and speakers in saying that there was no land in British Columbia for farmers.

"This is hurtful to the province," he mentioned, "and possibly by the time they get over the next election they will desist."

New Petitions and Bills.

Mr. W. W. Foster, Islands, presented a petition yesterday for a private bill for the Saanich Water and Sewer Act enabling the district to create drainage areas, build sewer and water system and sell water and electric light purchased in bulk.

Mr. Speaker Eberts referred yesterday to the petition for an amendment to the Sumas Drying Act suggesting that possibly the commissioners could not obtain an amendment to a private act for the original company without the signature of the company, nor could a public act amend a private act unless introduced by the government.

The Architects' and Dentists' bills were read a first time.

Mr. Williams, Newcastle, introduced a bill to amend the Master and Servant Act.

Mr. Place, Nanaimo, has asked leave to introduce an amendment to the Coal Mines' Regulation Act.

Hon. Dr. Young presented his report of Coal Commissioner Burns yesterday.

The bill containing the amendments to the Municipal Clauses Act desired by the City of Victoria was read a first time.

Replying to a question from Mr. Place relative to the number of acres of unsurveyed land staked by agents from January, 1908, to December 31, 1913, Hon. Mr. Ross replied as follows:

"No record has been made of land staking affected by agents. As the privilege of staking by agency has always obtained, there appeared no reason for making a record of the occasions upon which it has been exercised."

Amounts for Papers.

According to answers returned by Hon. Price Edson to questions of Mr. Williams during the financial year 1913-1914, the Colonial Printing & Publishing Company, Victoria, received from the government, \$28,875.12, the Herald Publishing Company, Nanaimo, \$297.56, and the News-Advertiser, Vancouver, \$7857.15.

Replying to Mr. Place, Attorney-General Bowser stated that chief constables were given instructions that all special constables as well as regular must be British subjects and when sworn must take the oath of allegiance. The member for Nanaimo had enquired as to proof of citizenship required of special constables.

Figures relative to the total sums overdue the treasury were furnished by Hon. Mr. Ross yesterday. He stated that the amount overdue from the

sale of townsite lots was \$2,127,695.47, with \$9,867,617.63 overdue from the sale of agricultural land, nothing overdue from timber licenses, but \$187,666.84 from purchase, lease and rental of coal and petroleum lands, making a grand total overdue the Provincial Government of approximately \$13,000,000.

MORE MIXED FARMS; LESS IN FRUIT TREES

Lorne Campbell of Rossland
Thinks Latter Industry Is
Overdone.

Handling of Doukhobors Now
Very Live Question at
Grand Forks.

Mr. Manson Supports the Land
Administration of
Mr. Ross.

Prince Rupert as Home of the
Northern Fishing
Industry.

Victoria, Jan. 30.—Lorne Campbell, member of the House for Rossland, gave it as his opinion in the debate on the address yesterday that the fruit industry in the province was overdone. He declared that when all of the fruit trees now planted in British Columbia came into bearing there would not be a large enough market in Canada to absorb the fruit, particularly when it was remembered that strong competition from the American fruit districts would have to be met.

Mr. Campbell urged that the fruit farmers in the province as well as all other agriculturists, go more for larger farms of about one hundred acres and take up mixed farming in addition to raising fruit.

"In the Rossland district we are attempting this," he said, "and we find that it is a good scheme to obtain about 100 acres, clear and plant five or ten and after brushing the remainder, sow hay between the stumps. We can get about two tons of hay to the acre."

Mr. Campbell found some fault with the fact that there are apparently a good many fire and forest rangers and game wardens in the province.

"One can hardly go ten miles without falling over one of them," he declared. "To my mind the government might better establish a corps of mounted police and have these men handle the duties of wardens as well."

Handling the Doukhobors.

He spoke of the Doukhobor question, saying that it would be difficult to get these people to obey the laws of the province and about the only thing to be done would be to have an agent live among them just as is done with the Indians.

The Rossland member pressed for the construction of a wagon road connecting up the Nelson and Rossland sections with the Boundary country, stating that at the present time the only wagon road outlet from Rossland was through American territory. He urged an amendment to the Forestry Act which would give greater encouragement to the lumber industry, and said that the mountain lumbermen for the past two or three years were not doing more than breaking even. He thanked the government for the legislation which had resulted in the construction of the Kettle Valley line from the Boundary through to the coast, thus giving a railway outlet to the West from Rossland. Mr. Campbell produced figures bearing on the mineral output of his district and was firm in the opinion that there was no depression there, business conditions being excellent.

Other representatives from the mining sections of the province spoke yesterday. Mr. William Hunter, described himself as being from the Silver Slope with his predecessor in the Senate, Mr. Campbell, from Rossland. "The Golden City," he was

equally sure that mining in the upper country had just seen a good season and was facing another. One of the subjects which Mr. Hunter devoted a good deal of attention to was that of prospectors and mineral claims. He pointed out that instead of mineral claims forfeited to the government being put up at auction when rediscovered by prospectors they should be allowed to go to the man who had staked them in order that he might enjoy the fruits of his industry and not be at the mercy of some bidder with more money. This matter was made the subject of a resolution at the recent Conservative convention.

Development of Esquimalt.

Mr. R. H. Pooley, Esquimalt, devoted most of his remarks to a consideration of the shipping future of the coast dealing particularly with the development of Esquimalt harbor. He pointed out that no doubt the shipping interests would sooner or later take hold of the large iron ore fields of the province. What was needed was more activity along the line of industries, he declared. In this connection he commented upon the fact that the British ship-building firm, Yarrow Limited, had come to Esquimalt.

The most lengthy speech in the debate yesterday was that of Mr. William Manson, Skeena. The Northern member defended the land policy of the government, commending Hon. W. R. Ross upon his success in carrying it out. Mr. Manson took the view that it was impossible for any government to develop a new country such as British Columbia without selling some of its natural resources, for otherwise it would have no money with which to build expensive roads and bridges.

He scored the Liberal leaders for their "blue ruin" speeches and their comments upon the expenditure of the surplus. Holding a surplus for any great length of time was not good business, he contended, and the present administration went about the expenditure of its surplus in a careful, well considered way, desiring to expend the money year by year in public works.

The large sums now outstanding on land payments, he said, he looked upon as comprising a splendid asset which would be of great assistance to the province when the sale of public lands lessened as would naturally follow with the continued reservation of crown property. He did not think the government should make any effort to call in all the money owing it in this way but should provide for reasonable and well-defined terms of instalment.

Experimental Farms.

He dwelt at some length on the needs of "New British Columbia," as he called the northern portions of the province, giving it as his opinion that the government should have reserved a good deal of the land there until it had been surveyed, thus providing for more compact settlement and making road construction expenses lighter. Referring to pre-emption entries last year he gave the following totals for northern land offices: Prince Rupert, 442; Hazelton, 167; Fort George, 531; Fort Fraser, 490. For the whole of British Columbia in 1912 there were 2665 pre-emption entries covering about 500,000 acres and in 1913 there were 2855 entries.

Experimental farms were needed in the newer districts, he declared.

He spoke of mining conditions in the North, considering them to be bright. He announced that the Granby Bay smelter would be opened within a few days. Good work was being done in the driving of a tunnel on the Portland Canal, which was now in 2500 feet. Hazelton mines were also in excellent shape.

Mr. Manson expressed his pleasure at the fact that the coming of white fishermen into the fishing industry of the province was being encouraged by the authorities. Prince Rupert was destined to be the centre of this industry, he prophesied. Speaking of the growth of that city he gave an account of some of the chief projects under way, including the construction of new drydocks, railway station and hotel, drill hall, Dominion postoffice and provincial building. The G. T. P. through trains would be running to the city by June 1, he declared.

The adjournment of the debate was moved by Mr. Neil Mackay, Kaslo, who will speak today. It is probable that the debate will come to an end today. Hon. H. E. Young, minister of education, is to speak on the work of his department for the year.

Mr. Williams' Questions.

Mr. Foster moved the second reading of the architects' bill, but Mr. Williams obtained an adjournment. The Premier obtained an adjournment of the second reading of the Dentists' Bill, moved by Mr. Mackenzie.

Mr. M. Manson, Comox, introduced a petition from Penticton for a bill to provide for an increase in the interest on certain municipal debentures.

Mr. Williams asked the honorable the minister of public works the following questions:

1. Why was a refund of \$2000 paid to John Hopp on construction of "Jack of Clubs" road, as appears on page C 148, public accounts, ending 31st March, 1912?

2. Was there any agreement made with Hopp before the work was done? If so, what?

3. What evidence was there to show what work was done?

4. What were the names of the men employed, wages paid, and materials furnished to show what the work cost Hopp?

The Hon. Mr. Taylor replied as follows:

"1. Mr. Hopp constructed the road at a cost of \$3,322.42, the government agreeing to pay \$2000.

"2. Yes. Agreement made between the road superintendent and Mr. Hopp.

"3. Certificates of government agent and road superintendent.

"4. The names of the men employed are not in the department, but the government agent at Barkerville has been instructed to transmit copy of time-sheet. Wages paid, \$3,257.43; material, \$664.89."

Mr. Williams asked the honorable the minister of public works the following questions:

1. What amount of money has been spent during the four years prior to December 31 last on Pacific highway from New Westminster to Blaine, Wash.?

2. How many miles in length is said road?

The Hon. Mr. Taylor replied as follows:

"1. 1910-11, \$32,75; 1911-12, \$34,092.78; 1912-13, \$39,965; 1913-14 (to date), \$47,881.30; total, \$121,972.81.

"2. Twenty-one miles."

BLAKEMORE R ON DOUKHOBOR ATTACKED

Ernest Miller Dem
Colonist Be Comp
Obey Laws

Cites Instances of
Evade Regulations
District.

Boundary Country
ceedingly Well in
ing Way.

Submits New Pro
Possible Changes
men's Compensation

Victoria, Jan. 31.—A new famous Blakemore report, Mr. Ernest Miller, strongly urged yesterday afternoon the Government, in any down to deal with this province strictly lived of the land. The debate was brought to a close by Mr. Miller and other Doukhobors. Mr. Miller contended that the Doukhobors had not been treated fairly in the price of land at Grand Forks. He said that the Doukhobors had gone up during the year the issuance of the report.

Explains the Statement.

"I hope that the report is not based on information led to that particular statement," Mr. Miller yesterday, said which the commission which was made. He at that time said to me asking me if it had said in a Vancouver interview that the price of Grand Forks had gone that I had no knowledge of the policy of the Government. The value of city property was unfair to twist such into a declaration supporting the Doukhobors. He said that the Doukhobors had not been treated fairly in the price of land at Grand Forks.

There was no doubt which way Mr. Miller was with respect to the Doukhobors. He said he did not advocate harsh measures with them, but he certainly wanted to see that the Doukhobors were made to comply with the law. "We can not force

BLAKEMORE REPORT ON DOUKHOBORS ATTACKED

**Ernest Miller Demands that
Colonist Be Compelled to
Obey Laws.**

**Cites Instances of How They
Evade Regulations in His
District.**

**Boundary Country Doing Ex-
ceedingly Well in a Min-
ing Way.**

**Submits New Proposals as
Possible Changes in Work-
men's Compensation Act.**

Victoria, Jan. 31.—Attacking the now famous Blakemore Doukhobor report, Mr. Ernest Miller, Grand Forks, strongly urged in the House yesterday afternoon that the Provincial Government, in any bills brought down to deal with this question, provide measures which would see to it that the Doukhobor colonies of the province strictly lived up to the law of the land. The debate on the address was brought to a close yesterday by Mr. Miller and other speakers. Mr. Miller contended that the conclusions reached in the Blakemore report were incorrect, and to give an instance he showed where in his opinion no proper basis had been obtained for one statement which had been made by the commissioner. This statement was in connection with the allegation that the advent of the Doukhobors had not resulted in a depreciation in the price of land. The commissioner in his report quoted Mr. Miller as saying in a telegram that the price of land at Grand Forks had gone up during the year previous to the issuance of the report.

Explains the Statement.
"I hope that the report as a whole is not based on information such as led to that particular statement," said Mr. Miller yesterday. "The conclusion which the commissioner drew in that connection was most unfair to me. He at that time sent a message to me asking me if it was true that I had said in a Vancouver newspaper interview that the prices of land at Grand Forks had gone up. I replied that I had no knowledge of any such interview, but that it was quite true that there had been an increase in the value of city property, due solely to the policy of the C. P. R. in making Grand Forks a divisional point. It was unfair to twist such a statement into a declaration supporting the view that the Doukhobors had not depreciated land values in the district as a whole."

There was no doubt yesterday as to which way Mr. Miller's views lay with respect to the Doukhobors. He said he did not advocate taking any harsh measures with them, but he certainly wanted to see that they were made to comply with the laws. "We can not force them to leave

the province," he complained, "nor could we prevent them coming in as they came from another province of the Dominion. A good deal of blame, yes all of it, for the coming of these people to Canada where they have been a constant source of trouble, can be laid at the doors of the Laurier government. This government made an agreement to bring the Doukhobors to this country and as a matter of fact paid a concern \$5 a head in the first instance and later an additional \$1.50 per head to assist in bringing them here. The government also made an agreement that these people would not be called upon to bear arms in defence of the Dominion."

Message from Veregin.
"The Doukhobors from Grand Forks, and I suppose also those in the colonies farther east in British Columbia, have openly stated that they subordinate the laws of the province to their own beliefs. Not content with quietly refusing to obey the regulations, they come into Grand Forks and parade their refusal. They obey neither the marriage laws nor the divorce regulations, doing their own marrying and divorcing as they please. They will not send their children to school, neither will they register births. They do not take care of their sick. They refuse to give evidence in courts."

"Peter Veregin, their leader, is said to have sent them a letter urging that they allow their children to attend schools but a good many think that there was another message from the same man of entirely different import and nothing was ever said about it. It would be strange if they refused to obey such a request from Peter Veregin, because he holds them as slaves and they dare not disagree with him. Those, indeed, who have the temerity to strike out for themselves get little consideration in connection with compensation for their work in building up the communities."

"These people are referred to as being peaceable, but they did not hesitate to take up trails and hoses and picks with which to drive off court officials when the latter attempted to serve subpoenas upon them."

"Peter Veregin is quoted as having made a threat that the Doukhobors would buy land in British Columbia at their own prices. At one time I know, he approached the editor of a paper in Grand Forks with an advertisement which stated that land was wanted for 6000 Doukhobors, who proposed to move to British Columbia."

Bright Mining Outlook.
The Doukhobors did not comprise the only topic taken up by the Grand Forks member. He had a happier story to relate of mining, when he told the House that 60 per cent. of the metalliferous production of the province came from the Boundary country. He referred to the existence of large areas of low grade ore there, pointing out the value of developing such property from the point of view of the community as low grade propositions meant the employment of many persons.

There had been no mining troubles and no labor disputes in his district, he said. He urged that the Kettle Valley Valley Railway Company be required to go ahead with its charter scheme for the construction of a spur line of the north fork of the Kettle River. Such a spur would tap the camp at which the Union copper claim, worked by district owners, was making such a showing. This claim produced ore worth from \$80 to \$100 per ton and made money for its owners despite the enormous cost of transportation.

Mr. Miller incidentally touched upon the Workmen's Compensation Act and suggested that as this provided a most expensive method for the workmen to obtain compensation, the whole question be taken up by the government with a view of adopting a different scheme. He said that trials under this act were often more expensive than Supreme Court actions and frequently the solicitors' costs were double the amount of the award.

His idea seemed to be that the proper thing would be the establishment of a board to settle compensation claims out of a fund to which each manufacturer would contribute. Another speaker on the address was Mr. Neil MacKay, Kaslo. He com-

plimented the government upon the negotiations which led to the C. P. R. taking over and improving the K. & S. line and said that the residents of the district would not soon forget the aid rendered by Victoria. This line opened up a good district.

Speaking of mining, he described conditions at Kaslo as being of the best. The Canadian Consolidated Smelting Company was employing 250 men at Alsworth camp, probably the oldest in the province.

Kaslo fruit was of the best, although not yet remarkable for quantity on account of the rather small area under cultivation as yet.

He claimed that more roads were needed to open up mining and agricultural sections and urged the government to continue its present policy.

Praise was given by the speaker to the minister of lands for his efforts in extending dry farming throughout the province.

He touched upon the fact that a large sailing vessel is to be launched on the Pitt River where it was constructed. This boat, the largest of the kind built in British Columbia, should be but the first of a fleet all built in British Columbia and carrying British Columbia timber to world ports, he declared.

"People in Kaslo are satisfied with the development efforts of the Conservative government," said Mr. MacKay, concluding, "and the Liberals' message of lamentation and woe will only fall on deaf ears."

TECHNICAL SIDE OF EDUCATION PLAN EXPLAINED

**Hon. Dr. Young Makes Notable
Speech in Legislature
Friday.**

**Prophesied that the Essondale
Farm Would Soon Support
Hospital for Insane.**

**Pays Special Tribute to Work
of Dr. Doherty and Dr.
Mackay.**

**Contributions of Province to
Municipal Schools Will Be
Lessened.**

Victoria, Jan. 31.—The proposals of the provincial educational department covering technical education were outlined by Hon. H. E. Young, minister of education, yesterday. In this connection he announced that it was not expected that the Dominion Government would extend any material financial assistance towards technical education in the provinces and British Columbia would therefore have to look out for itself in this respect. He expressed the hope that the proposed technical education department would be well under way within a year or two under the charge of Assistant Superintendent Dean of the education department. Mr. Dean recently made a trip through Eastern Canada, also visiting Europe for the purpose of obtaining information upon the subject. His report is now in the hands of the minister, and in speaking in the House yesterday Hon. Dr. Young gave a brief synopsis of it.

In outlining the departmental proposals covering technical education he said: "Any school system that becomes satisfied with its own accomplishments and neglects to consider both the general educational movement of the times and the specific educational problems of other communities, will of necessity tend to deteriorate. It is very important that a department become informed as to the best educational efforts that are being put forth elsewhere. For this purpose the department authorized Mr. Dean, assistant superintendent of education, to investigate more particularly the schemes of technical instruction. Our elementary schools provide good preparatory training along broad cultural

lines, no better anywhere. The department aims, however, to extend the manual training and domestic science work to districts which at present do not benefit from this important branch of work; to revise the nature study course so as to give rural districts the opportunity of emphasizing on elementary agriculture in connection with school gardens. Our public schools will thus provide a good general education and preparation for all classes of students.

Details of Plan.
The present course in secondary schools provides a preparation with a decided bias towards the professions. The aim is to enlarge the scope of secondary work so as to give:

(A) Boys and girls who are able to take a three or four years' course in the High Schools a good grounding in the common essentials; a differentiation in special work to suit requirements of all classes, such as university matriculation courses, teachers' non-professional courses, special commercial training, technical training for those who enter applied science colleges or higher technical institutions, technical training for those taking up agriculture or intending to enter agricultural colleges, and training for home life.

(B) For boys who can only remain in High Schools two years; special technical training to fit them for their chosen vocations, together with good general training.

(C) Boys and girls who have to leave school at fourteen; the opportunity of attending a few hours each week at continuation schools.

(D) For adults; technical evening classes to extend their knowledge and practical training.

(E) All technical work to be adapted to the particular needs of the community.

(F) The Victoria Normal School is to be the centre of special training of teachers to qualify them to give technical instruction. There will be summer classes.

Fourth Year Work Here.

Speaking of the work of the university, Dr. Young informed the House that arrangements had been made to add a fourth year to the work of the Royal Institute of Learning in Vancouver, generally known as McGill, in order that the students now in attendance there would not have to go east for their final year, prior to the opening of the provincial university, which will, of course, supersede McGill. The minister of education told of the work carried out in connection with the formation of the university plans and showed that matters had now progressed to a stage where the site was being cleared, the president was in Europe for the purpose of selecting faculty deans, and construction of the wings would commence within a short time. He claimed that when the university threw open its doors it would have 1000 students enrolled. The first two buildings to be started, he said, would be the administration building, in which the arts and science classes would be housed for some time and the college dormitories.

Dr. Young took occasion to answer certain criticisms which had been levelled against the university programme on the ground that it was too utilitarian. He claimed that the institution would be a college for all men—would provide utilitarian training, but at the same time would give ample scope for development along the line of fine arts and culture.

In Aid of Camps.

Passing on to the consideration of the subject of civil service, he pointed out that the rearrangement of the service made by his department a few years ago and brought into effect more recently was working well. The provincial printing office, he claimed, was the best of the kind in Canada, and although now practically up to capacity because of lack of room, would eventually be housed in a fine new printing office wing. There would also be a new wing for the museum, the provincial secretary announced, the government having the idea of providing more space for this institution.

He told of the addition of another wing to the Old Men's Home in Kamloops at a cost of \$200,000, which was almost completed and which would increase the accommodation of the home by 40 per cent.

The work of the board of health would be reorganized to some extent, announced the minister. This board, which came under his direction, arranged for sanitary inspection of railway and logging camps, hospitals and the medical inspection of schools, road work having been done during the past year, he said.

A mass of material was being obtained for the provincial archives and when the time came for the historian of British Columbia to write of the development of this province he would find ample original material in the archives in the legislative buildings.

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VOL. 44.

THIRTEENTH PARLIAMENT NOW IN SECOND SESSION

Lieutenant-Governor Paterson Opens British Columbia House This Afternoon—Land, Municipal, Trust Companies and Educational Legislation Mentioned

With the customary formalities the second session of the thirteenth parliament of the province of British Columbia was opened at 3 o'clock this afternoon by his honor Lieutenant-Governor Paterson. His honor was accompanied from Government House to the legislative chamber by his private secretary, H. J. Muskett, and by Captain B. H. Tyrwhitt Drake, A.D.C.

In front of the buildings there was drawn up a guard of honor from the Eighty-eighth Foot, in charge of Captain C. A. Moorhead and Lieutenants Collinson and Major. The band was also in attendance and played the National Anthem as his honor arrived. There was a considerable attendance of the general public on parliament square to watch the outdoor part of the ceremony, which was favored by good weather.

The staff of the permanent corps stationed in this district, the officers of the ships of war at present in port and the officers of the several regiments of militia in the city were waiting in the lobby for the party, and they preceded his honor into the chamber, forming a double line up the corridor, between which his honor and his attendants walked to the speaker's chair. Mr. Speaker Eberts stood to the right while the speech from the throne was being read and attended his honor, in company with the ministers, as he was leaving the chamber.

In the assembly chamber the legislators were in their seats waiting the arrival of the Lieutenant-governor. With them on the floor of the House were about 250 invited guests, others present on invitation being seated in the north and west galleries. The general public was admitted to the galleries on the east side and the south end behind the throne.

As soon as the Lieutenant-governor entered the chamber the company arose, remaining standing until he mounted the throne.

Prior to the arrival of his honor, Mr. Speaker Eberts, preceded by the mace and attended by the sergeant-at-arms, entered the hall and took his chair. The inaugural step of the session was the introduction to the speaker of W. W. Foster, member-elect for the Islands. He was brought forward by the premier and the minister of public works.

Lieutenant-Governor Paterson then proceeded with the reading of the address, which was as follows:

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly:

In welcoming you to the second session of the Thirteenth Parliament of British Columbia, I would like to place on record that the province has enjoyed a large share of advancement and prosperity during the past year.

Previous conditions in the money market have deferred the payment to the government of large sums, notwithstanding the sale of lands and timber, and the fact that the Treasury has been forced to the sale of its bonds, and the fact that the Treasury has been forced to the sale of its bonds, and the fact that the Treasury has been forced to the sale of its bonds.

Under authority of the Legislature passed last year, the Auditor-General's office has been instituted.

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Among those present were: Mrs. Paterson, in a blue cloth gown and wearing a velvet coat with hat to match trimmed with white plumes; Lady McBride, in wine-colored brocade trimmed with lace and fur, and hat en suite; Mrs. Bowser, wife of the attorney-general, in a blue velvet gown trimmed with skunk, and Miss Bowser, in an elegant navy blue suit with a black hat. Mrs. Bowser's party also included Miss Bowser, from Vancouver; Miss Newcome, from Whonnick, and Miss Irving, from New Brunswick. Mrs. Young, wife of the minister of education, was in a white tailor-made dress, with handsome mink fur, consisting of stole, muff and hat to match; Mrs. W. E. Scott wore a black and white striped suit with a small black hat, and Miss Scott looked charming in navy blue whipcord with an Alice blue blouse with white cloth skirt and a black satin coat and plumed hat; Mrs. Eberts looked elegant in a black cloth costume with velvet hat and Miss Eberts was smartly attired in rose color; Mrs. W. W. Foster wore a dainty peach-colored gown and a white cloth coat, and a black hat with blue ostrich feathers; Mrs. J. A. Macdonald was beautifully gowned in pale yellow satin with a Copenhagen blue broad-brimmed wrap and hat en suite; Mrs. Gregory looked handsome in a violet satin suit with hat of the same color, and Mrs. Blakemore wore a becoming brown beaver morning suit with a black astrachan hat trimmed with white feathers. Mrs. Barnacle and Miss Finlayson arrived together. Mrs. Muskett, Mrs. R. H. Pooley, and Mrs. Dennis Harris were unavoidably absent.

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Wellington Coal
Hall & Walker
1233 Government St. Phone 67

Vic

VOL. 44.

THIRTEENTH PARLIAMENT NOW IN SECOND SESSION

Lieutenant-Governor Paterson Opens British Columbia House This Afternoon—Land, Municipal, Trust Companies and Educational Legislation Mentioned

With the customary formalities the second session of the thirteenth parliament of the province of British Columbia was opened at 3 o'clock this afternoon by his honor Lieutenant-Governor Paterson. His honor was accompanied from Government house to the legislative chamber by his private secretary, H. J. Muskett, and by Captain B. H. Tyrwhitt Drake, A.D.C.

In front of the buildings there was drawn up a guard of honor from the Eighty-eighth Fusiliers, in charge of Captain C. A. Moorhead, and Lieutenants Collinson and Major. The band was also in attendance and played the National Anthem as his honor arrived. There was a considerable attendance of the general public on parliament square to watch the outdoor part of the ceremony, which was favored by good weather.

The staff of the permanent corps stationed in this district, the officers of the ships of war at present in port and the officers of the several regiments of militia in the city were waiting in the lobby for the party, and they preceded his honor into the chamber, forming a double line up the corridor, between which his honor and his attendants walked to the speaker's chair. Mr. Speaker Eberts stood to the right while the speech from the throne was being read and attended his honor, in company with the ministers, as he was leaving the chamber.

In the assembly chamber the legislators were in their seats waiting the arrival of the lieutenant-governor. With them on the floor of the House were about 300 invited guests, others present on invitation being seated in the north and west galleries. The general public was admitted to the galleries on the east side and the south end behind the throne.

As soon as the lieutenant-governor entered the chamber the company arose, remaining standing until he mounted the throne.

Prior to the arrival of his honor, Mr. Speaker Eberts, preceded by the mace and attended by the sergeant-at-arms, entered the hall and took his chair. The inaugural step of the session was the introduction to the speaker of Mr. W. Foster, member-elect for the Islands. He was brought forward by the premier and the minister of public works.

Lieutenant-Governor Paterson then proceeded with the reading of the address, which was as follows:

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly:

In welcoming you to the second session of the Thirteenth Parliament of British Columbia, it affords me pleasure to state that the province has enjoyed a large share of advancement and prosperity during the past year.

Prevailing conditions in the money market have delayed the payment to the government of large sums outstanding on account of the sale of townships and district lands, but these amounts are bearing a profitable rate of interest. Treasury notes have been issued for the sum of \$1,500,000, and legislation affecting the "Revenue Act" and providing for a provincial loan will be submitted to you. The high standing of British Columbia's credit, I am pleased to observe, still continues.

Under authority of the legislation enacted last year, the auditor-general's office has been instituted.

The liberal appropriations made by you at the last session for public works have enabled further extensions to be made to the highways of the province, and, as well, have aided in opening up the central and northern parts of British Columbia. Suitable public buildings have been constructed, where necessary in order to increase the efficiency of the public service.

Negotiations for the site of the provincial buildings in London have been concluded, and work is in progress preparatory to the erection of the structure. The new mental hospital at Esquimalt has been completed and is occupied. Satisfactory progress has been made on the conditions to the parliament buildings; a portion of these will be available for use in a short time.

While there have been unfortunate troubles in the coal-mining districts of Vancouver Island, the output of our mines during the year has been most satisfactory. Based on reliable information, reports indicate that the outlook for increased development in this industry is most assuring.

Vigorous work has been carried on by the department of lands. Under the supervision of the surveyor-general surveys of large sections of the public domain have been carried out and new maps compiled. The water and forest branches, now regularly organized, have already given most valuable results. Measures will be submitted for your approval dealing with the water and timber resources.

For the more effective working of the laws with regard to the registration of

land, it is proposed to amend the present act.

Following the report of the municipal commission, you will be asked to consider a bill to amend and consolidate the laws relating to municipalities, including provision for the establishment of a municipal department under the government.

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By virtue of an order-in-council approved by his royal highness the governor-general, Mr. E. A. Lash, K. C., of Toronto, and Mr. E. V. Rodwell, K. C., of Victoria, have been selected to represent respectively the federal and provincial interests on the commission presently to assemble for the purpose of investigating the claims of the province for better terms. A request has been formally made to the colonial secretary for the appointment of the third member. So soon as this is completed with it is expected that the inquiry will be undertaken. Meanwhile the case for the province has been prepared and filed with the secretary of the commission.

The public accounts for the past fiscal year will be laid before you, and the estimates of expenditure will also be submitted for your consideration. These and all other matters which may be brought before you will, I feel assured, receive your careful and earnest attention.

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FEDERAL PARLIAMENT.

The Borden government is proving faithful to its creed, "let well enough alone." This was its battle cry in 1911, and no doubt its members feel that they would be guilty of a most inexcusable excess of zeal were they to depart one iota from the reactionary principle it embodies. So they evidently are determined to let well enough alone all the way along the line. Mr. Burrell's agriculture legislation and Mr. Foster's treaty with the West Indies sum up the main achievements of two fairly long sessions, and a glance at the programme announced to-day shows that there is no intention of disturbing the record. Recognizing this, the government press is impelled to publish a list of the expenditures on public works to prove that one department at least is alive. We would simply point out that the spending of money is not in itself an evidence of statesmanship; on the contrary, often it is the reverse. In the face of a falling revenue it cannot be continued without destroying the credit of the country in the money markets of the world. Already Canada has come in for very severe criticism in London because of the frequent application for loans by the enthusiastic Mr. White in the last six months.

There is to be no navy legislation this session, as the Times frequently has predicted. The reason alleged therefor is that it probably would not be accepted by the senate. The emergency is to be kept in cold storage until the government has a majority in the upper house, which means that it will rest snugly in its cold and clammy haven for at least two years. What has become of Mr. Borden's heroic assurance last year that if parliament did not speedily pass his proposal he would dissolve it and appeal to the people? It has gone to the limbo now comfortably filled with similar broken pledges. On one point, however, the prime minister is consistent, and that is his determination to give no thought to a permanent policy as such. It must be clear as daylight that Mr. Borden intends that his contribution proposal shall be his permanent policy or else he does not propose to have a permanent policy at all. Either alternative is objectionable.

But although the naval aid bill is not to be reintroduced because it was not accepted last year by the senate, we observe the government clings with remarkable tenacity to the highways bill. This is Bob Rogers's pet political device, designed, as a Tory senator out of the house explained, "to enable the government to break into the Grit stronghold, the rural constituencies." The opposition wants the money appropriated under this bill apportioned among the provinces and expended under provincial supervision along the lines of the provisions of Mr. Burrell's agricultural aid bill. Mr. Rogers insists upon the federal government controlling the expenditure so as to permit the erection of a formidable vote-getting machine, which, in the opinion of the father of the bill, is the highest object of statesmanship. Twice has the senate amended the measure along the lines outlined and twice the government has rejected the amendment. Why is the same inflexible determination not shown in regard to the naval aid bill?

One important measure is to be passed this session—redistribution. It should have been disposed of last year and the temper of the west has become so threatening that any further delay would be politically dangerous. If the government is as fair in its readjustment of constituencies as the Laurier administration was ten years

ago it will be deserving of commendation. The last redistribution measure was the result of conference, compromise and mutual concession and was satisfactory to both parties. If, however, the legislation shows the eleven hoot of the Rogers methods it will be vigorously fought. If an unfair arrangement is forced through the house by closure it will be the duty of the senate to make the necessary amendments ensuring the protection of Liberal constituencies, and we have no doubt it will do so.

THE LEGISLATURE

The proceedings of the legislature which begin to-day will be followed more closely by the public than has been the case in the last few years. The slackening in the economic conditions of the country will cause the people to exhibit an unusually vigilant interest in the course of their representatives, whom they expect to do more than draw their indemnities and vote for everything set before them with mechanical precision of automata. There are forty government members in the House, comprising six ministers, the speaker and thirty-three private members. The country demands from these thirty-three the exercise of more independence of thought and action than they have shown. They are men of intelligence, capable of criticizing the weaknesses of measures the ministry has placed on the order paper. These measures are supposed to be in the interest of the province. When members detect flaws they should expose them fearlessly. If they or their constituencies are penalized for doing so, they have at hand the same weapon with which Mr. Roosevelt used to subjugate an insubordinate Congress. They can appeal from Caesar to the people, and they may be sure this will be effective.

The private members of the legislature, Conservative and Socialist, should see that the farce of last session is not repeated this year. The proceedings then were without a parallel in any legislature within our knowledge. Scores of bills affecting the interests of the public were passed, "deformed, unfinished, sent before their time into this breathing world; scarce half made up," at the rate of a dozen or more a day. Some of them were not even read, and still the free and unfettered tribunes of the people seemed quite content to vote them upon the statute books. This was not legislating. It was an exhibition of callisthenics such as school children are taught during recess.

We trust the committee on public accounts will be called together early in the session. There is plenty of work ahead. We must know more about the expenditure which, according to the attorney-general, has laid upon the province the burden of a deficit of more than \$12,000,000. We must know the precise financial condition of the country. How much do we owe the bank? Why was it necessary to issue short term treasury notes? Has any of our balance been diverted to the account of the Canadian Northern Pacific Railway Company? Is the interest due the province on the \$12,000,000 owed to it on land sales being collected? These matters all affect the public pocket and we should be informed accurately in regard to them.

LEGISLATIVE BILL
OF FARE SLIGHT ONE

Speech From Throne Does Not
Promise Much; Private Leg-
islation is Light

FORMAL PROCEEDINGS
MARK THE OPENING

Brilliant Scene While Military
and Naval Officers Are in
Chamber; Few of Public

In spite of its length the speech from the throne, with which the session opened yesterday afternoon, does not contain a very extensive bill of fare for the legislators. It foreshadows very little government legislation, and the private legislation to be asked for is much less than usual. Unless something unforeseen turns up the session should not extend beyond eight weeks.

There was not quite as large an attendance of the public on the floor and in the galleries as there has been at some previous openings. On the floor the space surrounding the desks of the members was comfortably filled. The ladies' gallery was in the same condition, and the public gallery on the east side of the chamber also, but the west side of the gallery was not half filled.

An imposing array was made for the passage of his honor, the lieutenant-governor from the entrance to the chamber to the dais, the double row of officers so completely occupying the space that at the head of the line the ranking officers of the navy and permanent corps had to stand around to the side. The navy officers, as always, looked well in their dark blue and gold, and there were more of them than usually. On the other side there were representatives of the various branches of the permanent corps, and of all the local militia regiments, and the scene was a brilliant one, while they were in the chamber.

Among the officers in attendance on his honor were: Captain R. Corbett, R. N.; Lieut. H. M. Garrett, R. N.; Lieut. W. S. Chalmers, R. N.; Lieut. Silthwick, R. N.; Col. Roy, D. O. C.; M. D. No. 11; Capt. Moore, D. S. A.; Capt. J. F. Boult, C. A. P. C.; Capt. Almon, R. C. A.; Capt. Bray, C. O. C.; Capt. Martin, C. O. C.; Capt. Sherman, C. O. C.; Lieut.-Col. Flick, R. B. C. Horse; Capt. Longstaff, corps of guides; Capt. R. V. Harvey and Lieut. Bromley, 88th Regiment; Major W. Ridgeway-Wilson, Capt. H. H. Woolson, Capt. R. P. Clark, Lieut. F. A. Robertson, Lieut. Gordon Smith, Lieut. T. B. Monk, Lieut. C. E. Birch, Lieut. W. B. Shaw, Lieut. A. E. Sargison and Lieut. A. E. Craddock, Fifth Regiment, R. C. G. A.

The speech having been delivered and his honor having retired from the chamber, Mr. Speaker Elerts took the chair, and the mace was placed on the table, and the ordinary routine of the daily sitting began with the reading of prayers. This is always done by the Bishop of Columbia on the opening day, and his lordship, who had been sitting to the right of the dais, took his place at the reading desk in his robes.

It was announced by the clerk of the house, Thornton Fell, K. C., that a vacancy had occurred by the resignation of Hon. A. E. McPhillips, and that William Wasbrough Foster had been elected in his place to represent the Islands electoral district.

Mr. Foster was escorted into the chamber by the premier and H. B. Thomson, chief government whip, was introduced to Mr. Speaker, and took his seat at the end of the front row on the government side of the house.

Sir Richard McBride moved the usual formal resolutions as to the publication of the proceedings of the house.

ity of election of members of the assembly by proceeding "with the utmost severity against all such persons as shall have been wilfully concerned in such bribery or corrupt practices."

The constitutional right of the house to legislate of its own will, and without any reference to the business which the representative of the sovereign commended to it was expressed this session by the introduction of a bill to amend the Milk act by the attorney-general. This empowers municipal councils to pass by-laws fixing the standard for butter-fat and total solids in milk sold, but fixing an irrevocable minimum of three and one-quarter per cent. of butter-fat and eight and one-half per cent. of other solids.

Parliament having thus asserted itself the premier moved that the speech from the throne be taken into consideration to-morrow. The address in reply is to be moved by W. J. Manson, Dewdney, and seconded by W. W. Foster, the islands.

Hon. Price Ellison presented the public accounts for the year ending March 31, 1913, and Hon. Dr. Young brought down the forty-second annual report of the department of education and the minutes of the recent inter-provincial conference. The latter document contains the minutes of the conference, and is largely taken up with the question of the representation in parliament of the maritime provinces. British Columbia was represented at the conference by the premier and the minister of lands.

Among the distinguished citizens who had seats of honor were Chief Justice Macdonald, of the court of appeal, Mr. Justice Gallier, Mr. Justice Gregory, Mr. Justice McPhillips, Rt. Rev. John C. Roper, Bishop of Columbia; Rt. Rev. Alexander Macdonald, Bishop of Victoria; Senator Macdonald, Senator Riley, Dean Doull, Rev. W. Leale Clay, D. D., Rev. John Inkster, Rev. T. W. Gladstone, Rev. J. B. Warnicker, Rev. C. D. Scott, Rev. Herman Carson, Hon. Robert Beaven, a former premier of the province; Hon. J. S. Helmcken, first speaker of the legislature of the province; A. W. Vowell, Hon. Abraham Smith, American consul; Carl Lowenberg, Imperial German consul. There was a large and fashionable attendance of ladies, among them being Mrs. Paterson, Lady McBride and her daughters, Mrs. Young, Mrs. Bowser, Mrs. Taylor, Mrs. W. W. Foster, Mrs. Riley, Mrs. F. B. Gregory, Mrs. Abraham Smith, Mrs. Gallier, Mrs. J. A. Macdonald, Mrs. Dunsmuir and Miss Dunsmuir, Mrs. Roper.

There were little more than half the members of the house in their places. Parker Williams, Newcastle, came in at the beginning, but John Place, Nanaimo, did not enter until the lieutenant-governor had left the chamber. In view of the pendency of a charge against Mr. Place arising out of the strike troubles there was some curiosity as to whether or not he would

take his place, as of course he had a perfect right to do at the present stage of the session proceedings in his case.

So far the notice paper does not contain many notices of coming business. Mr. Williams intends to reintroduce his bill amending the Workmen's Compensation act in several particulars, and Mr. Place his bill respecting the payment of wages.

Mr. Williams would like to know what the premier's trip to the Port George region during the fiscal year 1912-1913 cost the country, and will question him about it on Monday.

W. H. Hayward, Cowichan, deputy speaker of the house, is going to ask if an arrangement has been made for an official report of the proceedings of the house this session, and if so what the arrangement is.

Seen From the Gallery

Vantage Point of View Occupied by "Hoi Polloi" in Legislative Chamber—Doing and Undoings on Floor of the House—Uncouth Metamorphoses in Passing Years—Manson and Foster in Reply to Address

(Written for the Times.)

The public gallery of the legislative chamber, from which one may view the doings—and undoings—on the floor below, undoubtedly affords the most interesting and fascinating entertainment to the patron of free exhibitions that is offered by any of the play-houses of the capital city during the legislative season. To one gifted with a measure of imagination the scenes enacted there transform themselves, like dissolving views, into drama, melodrama, comedy and tragedy, with that degree of regularity that has given the chief characterization to history in the proverb which says it "repeats itself." Year after year the play is staged in the same old way, maintaining, as it should, the few historic features which preserve the dignity of the assembly, and, after the fitting opening ceremonies, the "pomp and splendor" that do not, even in the twentieth century, seem much out of place, the assembly relaxes and takes up the burdens of the session.

The first free linguistic fling of the session occurs when the chosen members move and second the resolution that a respectful address be presented to his honor the lieutenant-governor in reply to the speech from the throne. Members "chosen" is a good word, for it is a mark of singular approval and confidence to be permitted to move the address. The seconding goes, when there is a new member, to the latest accession to the ministerial side. In less autocratic assemblies than the legislature of British Columbia these speeches usually set the pace for subsequent debate by outlining, to some extent, the policy of the government and in some partial explanation of the measures to be brought before the house. The mover of the address is supposed to be one of the seasoned (not pickled) members of the assembly high up in the confidence and good graces of the government, and the seconding, when there is a junior member, makes his maiden speech.

These things were to have happened on Friday last, and that is why the hoi polloi congregated in the gallery. That they did not happen according to rule was only another illustration of the oft misused adage "the best laid schemes of men and mice gang aft a-gley."

Manson (the hon. member for Dewdney) was to have moved the address. In fact Billy did move the address, and in doing so put himself in the first rank as one of the defenders of the record and policy of the government. To those who know Billy Manson his denunciation of "those who dare to go up and down the country misleading the people" was one of the best exhibitions of histrionic talent the gallery has witnessed for many years, and when he rose to the height of his dignity and broke into stentorian tones with the declarations, "Mr. Speaker, Mr. Speaker, I will, I will not permit it!" striking his desk with a sledge-hammer blow, it is no wonder the gallery suppressed its applause with difficulty. But it is a wonder the "house" was so silent.

All the way through Billy's speech he seemed overcome with a sense of overpowering gratitude for the honor conferred upon him, "and his constituents," by the government in choosing him to move the address. It might have been something else, of course, and a man from William's constituency who sat beside me remarked that it might have been the effort it cost Billy to attempt the task of justifying the government record in a speech that would be printed in the government organs and go everywhere and be read by nobody. Another man who knew Billy in his younger days and who had often talked with him in the rosy morning of budding manhood of the high ideals

that should beckon statesmen forward and onward in their thankless work, the unselfishness that should actuate them and the unsullied reputations they should ever bear, their heroic and unswerving loyalty to the people rather than to party or to themselves; this man said it was Billy's "conscience" that was troubling him. There were people in the gallery who had shared Billy's early confidences and high ideals respecting the duties and responsibilities of members of parliament, but Billy did not know they were there, so it could not have been that.

There are three Mansons in the house, and Billy is the youngest, so there is hope yet. He came in handy for the premier in the days when Sir Richard was known as "Our Dick" and when he needed somebody to hold the seat in his pocket borough in case things should not go well with the new premier in the house. Manson has faithfully kept the seat warm and done other things for the premier ever since he was set on the pedestal of legislative membership, and, on Friday, he got his reward. Sir Richard had no other honor for him, and so William, though rather more eloquent as a listener than as a speaker, essayed the address in reply.

Singularly enough, William had a new set of figures when he dealt with the land and timber policy of the government, as also when he attempted a review of the financial history of the province. But why should he not have his own figures? Mr. Bowser has one set, Hon. W. R. Ross has another, and Sir Richard McBride has still another. When these three sets do not, and cannot be made to agree, why should not William spread himself and show a little originality and independence? His figures were quite as authoritative and quite as reliable as those of any of the ministers of the crown. Many people who heard William, avow that it was courageous of him to seize the one opportunity he had to display initiative and get away from the beaten path of frozen subservience.

W. W. Foster, the new-laid member for the "Islands" constituency, who seconded the address, showed, from his first orotund sentence, that he does not lack confidence in himself, told the house that he regarded his own recent election as indisputable evidence that the people of British Columbia endorse "to the fullest extent" the policy and record of the government. Now, there's a politician for you. Foster knows that his intrusion into a constituency where he had no political or moral claim to the suffrages of the electorate could not have won him his seat. He knows that nothing in his winning personality or in his record as a public servant entitles him to election to a seat in which he was a comparative stranger and with which he could have no active or personal sympathy. He knows all that and on the floor of the house, in his maiden speech, admits it frankly. Nothing but the overweening anxiety of the Islands electorate to tumble over each other in their eagerness to "endorse the government" could ever have secured his majority. Now that he is safe in his seat until the next general election he does not hesitate to admit it.

Wise, my Foster. His prescience was, in that declaration, on a level with his subsequent explanation that the government was about to float a loan because the credit of the province was never so high and it is therefore a good time to float a loan.

It is only in the gallery that one hears some mysteries explained. I heard one explained yesterday, for I, in common with many other people, have frequently wondered why Foster was taken out of the semi-portfolio of deputy ministry and "reduced to the ranks" of the Rubber Stamps.

Various explanations had intruded themselves, one of them being that the government needed somebody on the floor of the house who could answer "off-hand" the thousand and one questions about public works that may be asked by the remnant of opposition during this session. Everyone knows that Foster can tell more in a minute about the cost of this, that or the other, than the actual minister could tell in a year. Also, when, where and why, some things which nobody but Foster can answer and which Foster will not.

Another explanation was that Foster had put himself too much in the limelight to the eclipse of the actual minister of public works. That is, of course, a prejudiced and unworthy view to take of the strange metamorphosis of a deputy minister into a private member. A far more probable one—and yet not the real one, as it appears—was that the government found out, during the construction of the traffic bridge over the Columbia river at Revelstoke, what a master manager of political machinery Foster is and decided, there and then, that his talents are too protuberant to be covered in a napkin. Foster is the only man who can explain in detail how it happened that a bridge which was contracted to be built for \$43,700 cost the province \$97,600 before it was finished.

And a man like Foster, who knows as much as that, has to be taken care of. When the portfolio of public works gets too narrow for two such men as Hon. Tom. Taylor and W. W. Foster, something has to be done with one or the other, and perhaps with both.

Foster did not give the impression on Friday that he is a Frankenstein product and will be a difficult creature for his creator to manage. Nor did he look it in the twenty minutes in which he announced himself body and soul the servant of the dear public. He undoubtedly created a favorable impression when he rounded out a period with the statement that "whatever differences of opinion we may have on political matters, the people of the province are a unit in their desire to see the government carried on wisely and properly." No, he didn't look like a Frankenstein production. Still, he must have said something, some time, somewhere, waking or sleeping, which gave that impression, for just as I left the gallery—which was as soon as Foster finished his speech—a man tugged at my coat-sleeve and whispered, "That man will be the next premier of British Columbia." Nobody but Foster would ever have thought of that.

But what will Bowser say?

members of the assembly "with the utmost such persons as fully concerned in rupt practices," right of the house in will, and with to the business of the assembly. It was expressed introduction of a bill act by the assembly empowers municipalities by-laws fixing street-fat and total of butter-fat and one-third and one-half of butter-fat and per cent. of other

thus asserted that the speech taken into consideration. The address in reply by W. J. Manson, ended by W. W.

presented the public year ending March 31. Young brought and annual report of education and recent inter-provincial conference. The latter document, up with the question in parliament. He represented at the premier and the

ingulished citizens honor were Chief of the court of appeal, Mr. Justice McPhillips, Rt. Bishop of Columbia, Senator Macdonald, Dean Dault, Rev. D. Rev. John Inkstone, Rev. J. B. D. Scott, Rev. Her. Robert Beaven, a he provinces; Hon. at speaker of the province; A. W. am Smith, Ameri-owenberg, Imperial ere was a large endance of ladies, fra. Paterson, Lady daughters, Mrs. Mrs. Taylor, Mrs. Riley, Mrs. F. B. ahm Smith, Mrs. Macdonald, Mrs. is Dunsinuir, Mrs.

more than half the use in their places. Fewcastle, came in at John Place, Nar until the lieutenant the chamber, in any of a charge arising out of the so was some curl- or not he would

of course he had a at the present stage edings in his case. Ice paper does not ices of coming busi-ns. Intends to re-in-menting the Work-on act. In several fr. Place his bill re-ent of wages, ould like to know a trip to the Fort ring the fiscal year e country, and will ut it on Monday.

rd, Cowichan, deputy use, is going to ask if has been made for an t the proceedings of sation, and if so what is.

HE WOULD DEVELOP DEEP SEA FISHERIES

Member for Alberni Makes
Proposal; W. R. MacLean
and Canadian Navy

It is probable that more interest than usual is being taken in the proceedings of the legislative assembly of British Columbia this session. Every day since the house opened the galleries have been full to overflowing, and yesterday was no exception to this rule. Fortunately for the onlookers there was much interesting matter before the house, and only one bill was put through committee, so that visitors had an opportunity of hearing two members contribute to the discussion of the address from the throne. In addition to an interesting and lively debate on the premier's bill. During the afternoon the premier announced the appointment of A. H. B. Macgowan, member for Vancouver, as assistant chairman of the house and chairman of the Ways and Means committee.

An excellent suggestion was made by J. G. C. Wood, member for Alberni, in the course of his address to the house yesterday, in continuing the debate on the address of the lieutenant-governor. This was to the effect that inquiry be made and expert investigation afforded into deep sea fisheries off the west coast of Vancouver Island. This work, he averred, could be very well done by the biological station at Nanaimo, which was at the present time occupied with other and less practical business. It was all very interesting, he remarked, to discover through them that seaweed was not seaweed, but a mass of animalcules, but he ventured to suggest that a practical issue like inquiries into deep sea fisheries would be of infinitely greater commercial value.

This suggestion came in the midst of a dissertation on the fisheries of British Columbia, which, the member remarked, again headed the list of all the provinces. These, however, were practically all estuary and river fisheries. British Columbia could boast of practically no deep sea fisheries. He commended his suggestion to the consideration of the house.

Mining Figures.

Taking up the question of mining, the member for Alberni proceeded to attempt to disprove a statement made on Monday by the member for Nanaimo. Mr. Place had said that the mining deaths per rata were greater here than in anywhere else in the world. He had collected, he said, figures on this point from different states in the United States, and proceeded to give the house the benefit of his researches.

In British Columbia the death rate from the years 1903-1913 was 4.87, while in Washington for the same time it was 4.98; West Virginia, 5.64; Colorado, 10.66; Alabama, 6.7; Oklahoma, 5.71, etc.

Franchise to Women.

Continuing, the member for Alberni said that he had hoped to see in the address of the lieutenant-governor some indication of a measure to be brought forward for the extension of the franchise to women. He had been vastly disappointed to see that it was not there. If such a bill could not be passed this session, he hoped that some change in the laws could be accomplished to give married women a better standing in the province than they hitherto have had. He hoped later on in the session to have further opportunity to discuss the matter on the floor of the house.

The remainder of Mr. Wood's address dealt for the most part with good roads. The province, he averred, was the leader in Canada in the good roads movement. The building of roads was a prime necessity of life; without them every industry might well fail. Much had been done, he averred, through the great programme of road building carried out by the minister of public works, but much remained yet to be done, for there were still many pre-emptors who were without means of communication. Larger appropriations still were wanted. The member for Alberni sounded a sympathetic note when he referred feebly to the unfortunate illness of Lord Strathcona.

The Doukhobors.

The member for Nelson, W. R. MacLean, followed Mr. Wood and spoke with some acrimony on the subject of the Doukhobors, a community of Russian peasants whom a paternal government has allowed to settle near that gentleman's constituency, and who, according to him, are entirely irresponsible of the laws of the province.

These people, he remarked, refused altogether to obey the laws, refused to be educated, refused to subscribe to the marriage laws, nor would they consent to record deaths or births as was commanded on all others who resided within the four corners of the province. Many deaths, he alleged, had been brought about because Peter Yeregin prevented people reporting severe illnesses to the medical authorities. He was glad to hear that the attorney-general had had an expert on the ground and was taking the matter up speedily. In his opinion urgent investigation was needed.

Mr. MacLean indicated that he had some sympathies with the liberal policy of a Canadian navy when he spoke of the Yarrow's starting building on a large scale in Victoria. He hoped, he said, that the step would pave the way for the construction of any ships that the government might feel enabled to build for the proper protection of the Pacific coast.

The member for Nelson also had the temerity to refer to the Oriental question in a non-committal sort of way. The problem of the Japs and Hindus, he stated, was a hard subject to discuss on the floor of the provincial house, because the question belonged rightly to other parliaments. On this head, however, he stated: "British Columbia must, and will remain, as it has always been, a 'white man's country,' and the white man's interests must be well protected at all times." (At this point there was some sardonic laughter in the gallery.)

That he did not know what a political machine meant was a remarkable statement made by the member for Nelson during the course of his address. The member for Nanaimo had referred to such an instrument in his speech of the previous day. He could assure the house that in Nelson there was no such thing, at any rate.

The remainder of Mr. MacLean's remarks were exclusively confined to the handing out of carefully prepared information on the subject of Nelson and the Kootenays, he dealing in turn with the lumber and fruit industries, dubbing the latter as "the great future industry of British Columbia."

Parker Williams moved the adjournment of the debate.

DEBATED ON PASSING OF COMMISSIONS BILL

Parker Williams Says More
Names Might Have to Be
Legislated For

The premier's act to authorize the payment of certain expenses in connection with commissions issued under the great seal, went through committee and third reading, and was finally passed in the house yesterday afternoon. It awaits only the assent of the lieutenant-governor.

It did not reach this final stage, however, without some comment from the opposition. Ever since the bill was first brought to the attention of the house, Parker Williams has urged strongly that the bill is insufficient to fulfill the purpose it intends.

It is the member of Newcastle's contention that by the section 23 of the constitution of British Columbia the members forfeited their seats immediately they accepted moneys from the provincial treasury other than seasonal allowances.

"The moment," he said, "that they are in a position to require any remedy at all, that remedy passes beyond the powers of this assembly."

In replying, the attorney-general could not see the force of Mr. Williams' contention. The legislature was all-powerful, and if it wanted to reseat members, it was certainly in a position to do so.

Mr. Williams stated that in that case it would be necessary to amend the Interpretation Act as well as the Constitution Act.

He urged that it would be well to hold over the bill for a time and see whether there were not other gentlemen in the house who needed similar attention in special bills. He was prepared to say that there must be nearly ten per cent. of the gentlemen of the house who might be included in the measure which the premier was seeking to bring down. He was under the impression that many of the members were connected with companies whose dealings with the government might well come within the four corners of section 23 of the constitution. These gentlemen also should be legislated for. Mr. Pearson had sat for some time in the legislature and he (Parker Williams) noted by the public accounts that the present chairman of the labor commission was selling everything from a fish-hook to a road-roller to the provincial government.

Mr. Williams said he would mention no names of men in the house who might come under the same category. He had often hard things to say of Conservatives in a bunch, and of their policies, but he did not intend vindictively to attack any individual in the house. Finishing, he had doubts as to whether the bill the premier had brought down had the power it presumed to have.

The premier felt it incumbent on him to reply to this attack. He said he appreciated the concern of the member for Newcastle. He knew that the member for Newcastle had studied assiduously, no man more, that important document known to all and sundry as the "public accounts." That state of affairs, the premier averred, was well known to more the people of British Columbia. He asked the house to endorse the measure. The bill passed.

make it a car upon a combined with durable material. Indeed, that is the keynote.

QUESTIONS ON EXPENSES

Attorney-General Gives Information as to Amounts Paid Members of Agricultural Commission.

Questions were put to Acting Minister of Finance Hon. W. J. Bowser yesterday by the member for Newcastle as to the amounts paid to Messrs. Hayward and Lucas, the members for Cowichan and Yale, respectively, for expenses and incidentals in connection with the agricultural commission. Answers were given immediately by the attorney-general, who, however, informed the member that some of the vouchers for expenses were not yet in, and therefore could not be included in his reply.

The questions put by Mr. Williams and the answers given were as follows:

What sum (if any) has the member for Yale received from the provincial treasury as expenses or travelling incidentals while engaged in work of royal commission on agriculture?

What was the amount, and when was such sum (if any) paid?

Mr. Bowser replied as follows:

\$1,068.75.
March 31, 1913, \$230; June 9, 1913, \$231.15; June 9, 1913, \$280; July 16, 1913, \$327.50; total, \$1,068.75.

What sum (if any) has the member for Cowichan received from the provincial treasury as expenses or travelling incidentals while engaged in work of royal commission on agriculture?

What was the amount, and when was such sum (if any) paid?

Mr. Bowser replied as follows:

\$1,352.95.
March 31, 1913, \$330.50; June 9, 1913, \$291.50; June 9, 1913, \$164.40; July 31, 1913, \$566.55; total, \$1,352.95.

A resolution put by the member for Newcastle and seconded by the member for Nanaimo, to find out what debts are outstanding to the province on townships, timber lands, royalties, etc., was approved by the government and the attorney-general offered to provide the information required within a few days.

GOVERNMENT TAKES TIME

Premised to Take Important Mining Case Under Adversment.

Argument was heard by the whole of the provincial executive this morning on the application of John Hopp for a lease of the Cloud Forks mining property, on which the Guggenheims under the name of the Cariboo Gold Mining company had expended almost \$5,000,000 in improvements. Hopp stated the property recently, claiming a lapse in the title of the Guggenheims due to their having failed to keep their mining certificate renewed up to date. His application for a lease was opposed by R. T. Ward, who had purchased the property from the Guggenheims shortly before the action of Hopp.

No decision was given by the executive this morning, but the premier promised to take the matter under advisement. W. J. Taylor, K. C., supported by Mr. Wheeler, of Vancouver, upheld Mr. Ward's interests, while J. B. Pattello, of Vancouver, represented the Guggenheims. James Murphy and H. A. Maclean, K. C., presented Mr. Hopp's application.

INDEPENDENT

Fourteen years ago members of the found themselves penalty provided through technical provision safeguarding of parliament were represented deemed themselves few minor salesment officials of their employees learned of the once resigned however, they elected. This 1892, and the Hon. J. H. Turner E. McPhillips. pursued by, who found their predicament.

These members under section 2 which says: "holding or enjoining, directing, or with any other interposition of party, any contravention of His Majesty, or of or depart from public service or order which any province is to or work, shall be of the legislative assembly or vote in.

This section which Messrs. Lucas were disallowed the two seats the case four the members that at the time of constituted an 1 in the present 1 missioners must when they accept the treasury the eligible to sit assembly.

The Attorney-General is own members, he qualified them from the Crown constitution or from penalizations. After a like, the constitutional or ethical ney-General? posed giving legislature an of service to 1 had been ele accordance w four years; as Times had di finiquity and posed that it few years ago house who h the firms with nected sold a significant va of coal, a rev the service of pelled to resig to their cons But times ha dictator enth superior to a stitution and members may from the pub see not only that they sh legal conseque

Editorials
Jan 21st 1914

INDEPENDENCE OF PARLIAMENT.

Fourteen years ago a number of members of the provincial legislature found themselves liable to the severe penalty provided by the constitution through technical violations of the provision safeguarding the independence of parliament. Three of them were representatives of this city, who deemed themselves responsible for a few minor sales or services to government officials on the part of some of their employees. As soon as they learned of the transactions they at once resigned their seats, to which, however, they were returned by the electors. This took place in February, 1899, and the three members were the Hon. J. H. Turner, Richard Hall and A. E. McPhillips. A similar course was pursued by mainland representatives who found themselves in a like predicament.

These members were disqualified under section 29 of the Constitution, which says: "No person whatsoever, holding or enjoying, undertaking or executing, directly or indirectly, alone or with any other by himself or by the interposition of any trustee or third party, any contract or agreement with His Majesty, or with any public officer or department, with respect to the public service of the province, or under which any public money of the province is to be paid for any service or work, shall be eligible as a member of the legislative assembly, nor shall he sit or vote in the same."

This section is not the same under which Messrs. Shaw, Hayward and Lucas were disqualified, but in principle the two sections are the same. In the case fourteen years ago, however, the members themselves knew nothing at the time of the transactions which constituted an infringement of the law. In the present instance the three commissioners must have been aware when they accepted allowances from the treasury they made themselves ineligible to sit as members of the Assembly.

A DICTATOR.

The Attorney-General says the legislature is omnipotent. It can seat members, he contends, who have disqualified themselves by accepting pay from the Crown in violation of the constitution or it can exempt them from penalties in case of such violations. After all, what is a little thing like the constitution to a man of the moral or ethical stamp of the Attorney-General? Last session he proposed giving the members of the legislature an extension of their term of service to five years, although they had been elected by the people in accordance with the constitution for four years; and it was only after the Times had drawn attention to the iniquity and brazenness of the proposal that it was withdrawn. Some few years ago several members of the house who had unwittingly through the firms with which they were connected sold a few articles of insignificant value, such as some tons of coal, a revolver, etc., to persons in the service of the crown, were compelled to resign their seats and appeal to their constituents for re-election. But times have changed. We have a dictator enthroned who is above and superior to such trifles as the constitution and the people. He says members may draw practically at will from the public treasury and he will see not only that they are seated but that they shall be immune from the legal consequences of their actions.

THREE COMMISSIONERS TAKE THEIR SEATS

Premier's Bill Receives Sanction of Lieutenant-Governor; Members Affected Resume

The lieutenant-governor made his appearance in the house yesterday in order to give his consent to the premier's bill for the authorization of the payment of certain expenses in connection with commissions issued under the great seal.

Immediately on the opening of the house, Mr. Speaker Eberts announced that there would be a recess of twenty minutes in order to await the arrival of his honor.

It was noticed that immediately that the lieutenant-governor had given his consent to the bill, which in reality is a measure to legalize the position of the members of Cowichan, Yale and Cariboo as members of the legislative assembly, these gentlemen immediately took their seats, and were present at the moving and seconding of the resolution later put forward.

The bill attempts to relieve the three members named from any of the penalties which the Constitution Act says shall be inflicted upon any member of the house receiving any moneys from the treasury other than sessional allowances.

This exemption is contained in the following important clauses of the act:

Nothing in the "Constitution Act" contained shall apply or extend, or be deemed to have at any time applied or extended, to render ineligible or disqualify as a member of the legislative assembly either of the said members thereof so appointed a commissioner under the "Public Inquiries Act," as appearing in the preamble to this act, by reason of his acting under such appointment, or by reason of his receiving from the province an allowance for his travelling, incidental, and necessary expenses while engaged in the work of the said commission appointed the fourth day of December, 1912, whether such expenses or any of them have been paid before or shall be paid after the passing of this act; nor shall he be liable to or incur by reason thereof any penalty provided by section 23 of the "Constitution Act."

Nothing in the "Constitution Act" contained shall apply or extend, or be deemed to have at any time applied or extended, to render ineligible or disqualify as a member of the legislative assembly the said member thereof so appointed a commissioner under the said "Inquiries Act" by reason of his acting under such appointment, or by reason of his receiving remuneration therefor from the Dominion under the circumstances appearing in the preamble to this act, whether such remuneration or any portion thereof has been paid before or shall be paid after the passing of this act; nor shall he be liable to or incur by reason thereof any penalty provided by section 23 of the "Constitution Act."

HOUSE CANDLES WITH BEREAVED RELATIVES

Leaders on Both Sides Joined in Sympathetic Reference to Late Lord Strathcona

Two short but eminently sympathetic addresses were given to the house yesterday afternoon by Sir Richard McBride and Parker Williams in support of a resolution of condolence with the family of the late Lord Strathcona and of appreciation of the great efforts of the deceased high commissioner for his country and the empire.

The resolution, proposed by the premier and seconded by the member for Newcastle, which was passed unanimously by a full chamber, was as follows:

"That this house learns with deep regret of the death of the Right Honorable Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal, high commissioner for Canada, and desires to express its high appreciation of the great services he rendered, during a long and honored career, to the Dominion and the empire."

That on behalf of the people of British Columbia, this house desires to extend its sympathy to the Honorable Margaret Howard and the other members of the family.

"And that his honor the lieutenant-governor be requested to forward, through the proper channels, to his royal highness the governor-general of Canada, and to the Honorable Margaret Howard, copies of this resolution. Speaking very quietly and distinctly to a sympathetically hushed house, the premier referred to the deceased commissioner as one of the most striking figures in Canadian history. The story of his life read like a romance. To the high position he held when death called him he had worked his way from the humblest beginnings."

His Rise.

Sir Richard dealt at some length with his early struggles, which came in his path just as it did with those other great pioneers whose great faith, optimism and courage were responsible for the building of the Canadian Pacific railroad. He showed him first as a clerk in the Hudson's Bay company, working his way upward by steady and sober industry to a responsible office with the great corporation, and finally its chairman and president. Not even the march of advancing years had prevented his taking an active part in the affairs of the company.

As a great believer in, and worker for, Canada he had been always an endeavor in bringing capital into the country, and probably no man had done more to interest important financial concerns in Canadian schemes. His work for the Canadian west would ever be remembered, for to its building up he had contributed much. His efforts in the interests of education were also the object of eulogistic reference.

In dealing with his connection with the C. P. R. Sir Richard alluded to the many obstacles which had continually appeared in the path of the promoters, and spoke of the faith and courage which surmounted them before the road became an accomplished fact. Honorable members could find much that was of interest, much that was thrilling and food for earnest thought in the pages of Hansard at that period. The debates in which Sir John A. Macdonald and Sir Charles Tupper took part pronounced specifically upon the policy of forcing the Canadian Pacific railroad to the Pacific seaboard.

His Many Charities.

On the subject of the late Lord Strathcona's many charities, the premier said that it was true in later days he had amassed considerable wealth, but a good part of this had been distributed for the betterment of his fellowmen. His ears were ever open to the cry of the sick and needy, and there was never any deserving applicant for charity turned away from the never-failing fountain of his generosity. His splendid charities were known to all.

Lord Strathcona had fulfilled the duties of commissioner acceptably and efficiently for many years. He (Sir Richard) had had the honor of meeting the great man whose death Canada mourned to-day on several occasions, and had always found him anxious, so far as his office was concerned, to implement any business British Columbia might have in hand. He had been always willing, too, to give appointments to the agent-general on any matters affecting the concerns of the province in which he continually took a great pride. He had often gone out of his way to give special marks of favor to this portion of the Dominion of Canada.

His Trip West.

Sir Richard next dealt with the trip that his lordship made to the west in his 90th year. Sir Richard had been surprised at that time at the intimate knowledge which the distinguished visitor had of British Columbia, its resources, the magnitude of its public works, and its improvements. He knew them all, averred the premier, almost in detail. He had been in Victoria for a couple of days only, and not content with making the trip over the main line of the C. P. R. had travelled all over the Okanagan, and had taken every advantage of the occasion to get full particulars of what was transpiring in this part of the country.

As a slight tribute to Lord Strathcona's great and personal interest in the province, the great provincial park in the island had been named after him, honoring his name in perpetuity along the western coast of British Columbia. His lordship had been highly flattered at the compliment paid him, and had betrayed exceptional interest when a volume of views taken in the park was shown to him.

Personally, the premier said, he was under many obligations to the late Lord Strathcona for kindly attentions while in London town, on provincial business. There were many other Canadians, too, who could give personal evidence of Lord Strathcona's charm and kindness as a host.

The premier then proposed the resolution above, and intimated to the House that as soon as it was passed he would order a motion to adjourn as a tribute of respect to the late lord.

Parker Williams Seconds.

The member for Newcastle, as leader of the opposition, rose to second the resolution and spoke briefly as follows:

"As the seconder of this resolution I just want to say a word. An old man has passed away. Lord Strathcona, from the brief attention I have paid to his history, was born of the multitude and democracy, and perhaps that was the basis of his strength which carried him to the wonderful age of 94 years. He was a man of immense energy, of a sober cast of mind, and we must therefore draw the conclusion that he was a man of careful habits, because, after all character is merely the structure that is built upon habits and experience."

"To Lord Strathcona the fates were kind. Wealth and all that wealth can bring were his, together with abundance of honors. But in addition to these things he enjoyed what is perhaps the greatest prize that any man can have, and especially a man of his extreme age, in that to the last his faculties appear to have remained unimpaired. And again the fates were kind, for when the final end came sleep hid from his vision the reaper whom men so much dread."

"As I say wealth and position were his in the very highest degree, yet these things might be taken from him, but Lord Strathcona possessed much that was not attributable to these material sources, and for that reason, Mr. Speaker, we seize this opportunity of paying tribute to his memory."

The resolution was then passed in silence.

It is found that of every 100 babies born there is a probability of only some 75 surviving; the probability of these one-year-old children reaching the age of two is increased. At least seventy of them will see their second year.

SCORES GOVERNMENT IN TWO-HOUR SPEECH

Parker Williams Declares
Adulation of Premier Food
for Amusement

SUGGESTS SOME MEANS
OF CUTTING EXPENSES

Calls Labor Commission a
Farce; Refers to Joseph
Mears' Death

Parker Williams, the leader of the opposition in the provincial house, spoke for two hours and a quarter yesterday afternoon and touched on very many important phases of public life in the course of his remarks. It was an address marked by broad, human scope and enlivened by many touches of humor. No more virile attack on the maladministration of the government has been heard for many moons, and a large attendance thronged the galleries throughout the whole of the long address.

In his opening sentence Parker Williams said that while both the premier and himself had had occasion the day before to pay a tribute of respect to the late Lord Strathcona, a man who held the highest office in the gift of the people of this country, he had on this day to refer to an occurrence—the death of a young boy placed in the lowest position at his death it was possible for anyone to be in.

He alluded, he said, to the death of Joseph Mears, the son of a Ladysmith miner, who had just died in the provincial jail at Burnaby. It was fitting, he said, that the house pay some attention to this death also. The last thing that the mortal vision of this lad encountered was that of the cold, brutal walls which enclosed him. There was no voice of parent, or friend to cheer him in his passing, for he presumed that the boy's parents had not been notified of the illness which had held him for weeks before he died.

Mr. Williams said that he had once read about a sculptor who had been asked by a child what he was going to make out of a large rough block of

marble which stood in his studio. The artist had replied: "There are man, devil and child in that block of marble. I am going to let one of them out."

Similarly, said Mr. Williams, was it with a boy just converging on manhood. The boy contains all the possibilities of man, all that man is, all that he ever can be. Every trait, every feature, every good, every evil—all are bound up in a boy. This boy had been killed. He would ask the house for sympathy were it not for the fact that the government by its dominating yet ineffectual methods was responsible for the tragedy that had taken place.

"Under these circumstances," said Parker Williams, "I could not ask for the sympathy of this house for the bereaved parents. It would be too much like mocking their sorrow."

He could suggest the name of another lad—one of the cleanest type which Scotland ever gave to this province—who would soon be in a similar position if something were not done. The last time he had seen him the unfortunate lad was broken in jail, an absolute wreck. He suggested that the government get busy and see what it could do towards getting his condition ameliorated.

Parker Williams followed with a charge against Judge Howay, of New Westminster, who, he said, made the mistake of going down to Ladysmith and rubbing noses there with the section of the population vigorously opposed to the Nanaimo miners. The result, he declared, was that the judge had come back to Nanaimo and sentenced men to varying periods from three months to two years. Only the limitations imposed by the criminal code had prevented him, he averred, from making those sentences even longer. The member for Newcastle dubbed his action as the act of "the weakest and cheapest brand of men."

Disposition to Worship.

Leaving the troubles of the miners behind for the moment, Parker Williams launched into the mordant irony of the position which many of the members of the legislative assembly and Conservatives generally throughout the province adopted towards the premier—their "revered leader." In the "mental tangle" that the member for Dewdney had given to the house a few days before, there was the very quintessence of this worshipful and reverential attitude. He (the member for Newcastle) had the very highest admiration for the modest manner in which the premier received that adoration. He averred the attitude had grown up by degrees, and had become more extravagant with each passing year. Nor was it ever more noticeable than in the case of a good Conservative who, having wandered from the reservation, made his way back again into the fold.

"This spirit of worship," Mr. Williams commented ironically, "becomes

very amusing to those who take a little diversion out of the circus of life as it goes past."

This was the same spirit as called forth gibes and sneers in the government press against those who believed they had other duties to perform than the glorifying of Sir Richard McBride in the house. On the other hand, the view of the member for Nanaimo and himself was to remedy any wrongs they believed to exist, and not to tickle further the vanity of the premier, which heaven knew was sufficiently well developed already.

There were some feeble-minded folk in the province who seemed fully persuaded, he continued, that the premier could increase the price of copper or back a man's note without impairing his own credit in the slightest degree. He noticed, however, that they generally had their own axe to grind; and when he saw the morning government organ in Victoria devoting large space and many photographs to the premier, he placed the owner in the same category; he was doing it to keep possession of the pass-key to the treasury which he had somehow got hold of.

Election of Judges.

In saying that he would like to see the election of judges taken out of the realm of politics and placed in the hands of the people, Parker Williams referred to the position of the late member for the Islands. That gentleman had been one of the most blindly partisan men in the house. Yet when he was elevated to the supreme court judgeship, he was expected to cast off his partiality like a cloak, to be above all petty motives; a fit judge, for instance, to decide on an election petition. In future, Mr. Williams said, he would stand for the election and recall of judges by the people.

Taking up the statement made by the Dewdney member that the premier had found the province in unutterable chaos ten years ago, and had evolved law and order out of the welter, the member for Newcastle dubbed the whole idea as grossly absurd, and not in the slightest degree supported by facts. To hear the member for Dewdney one would conceive that before the premier made his advent there was darkness over the whole face of the deep. Then the Giant had moved, and everything was light. The mills got orders, the farmers got crops, the laborers got work, and "even the thugs that made night dangerous got jobs as special policemen."

Life Not Improved.

Yet for all this boasted marvellous work, in what manner had the life of the average man and woman become better? Was it any more comfortable? Was it any fuller in the things that count than it had been? Was it less precarious? Was it easier to meet the bill for food and clothing than it had been ten years ago before the premier's

light shone in the provincial firmament?

The one material sign they had was that the overdraft of \$1,000,000 in 1898 had increased to \$1,500,000 in 1912. For his part he did not think that fact suggested abnormal prosperity. Ten years ago also this province had all those wonderful natural resources that the government had pottatched to fill the capacious maw of the camp followers of the party. Millions of acres of good land had been sold to speculators, coal areas had been peddled off, timber holdings had been disposed of to meet the ever growing expenditure, which like a craving for drink, grows more and more with feeding.

When the alienation of natural resources had proved too small, then the government had thrown the surplus of which good old Captain Tallow had laid the foundation into the jackpot. This also had been all eaten up. Was it not a strange anomaly that the expenses of governing this province were exactly equal to those of Ontario, a province with six times the population?

To Cut Down Expenses.

Proceeding, Parker Williams went on to make some suggestions as to ways in which the province could cut down expenses.

First he had noticed in the accounts large amounts paid to special police. Law and order could prevail in two ways. The first was by clean, generous, impartial administration of the statutes; the second (the attorney-general's way) by employing one-half of the people to look after the other half.

Another way he would suggest to cut down expenses would be to get a new attorney-general who would not require to call in expensive outside help every time he wanted to draft a bill; an attorney-general moreover who would complete a bill while he was at it and not load up the order paper with innumerable amending clauses while the house was in session.

His third way would be to reduce travelling expenses, not only of members of the ministry, who usually travelled like eastern nabobs, but by sending out fewer provincial officers and making them travel in a common-sense way. He supposed that the bill for gasoline alone was greater in this year's accounts than the whole expenditure was in 1905. The premier, too, he would suggest, should pay his own expenses if he desired to make annual trips to the old country, which were only productive of generalities and bland remarks on the state of the agent-general's health. He had calculated that the premier's Fort George trip in 1910 had cost the province \$1.35 per mile.

Then there were experts' fees. The attorney-general, he believed, owned some mud flats for oysters (or was it lobsters?) Most likely, said Parker

Williams, under the circumstances it would be for "lobsters." A specialist had been called to discover the value of this, and had been paid, he believed, by the people of the province. Similarly also, the expert who had been called out to look at Robert Green's land in the Peace river supposed to contain coal.

Royal Commissions.

The member for Newcastle's comment on the labor and agricultural commissions was equally censorious. They were, he said, but a means of rewarding past or prospective politicians of the Conservative color.

"A cheaper farce," he added, "than the labor commission has never been staged in any city. The agricultural commission is not one whit better. Places on them were given to men who were in touch with the machine, who were in fact cogs of it. The whole business was an inexcusable burlesque."

The government could have got more solid information, he asserted, for the price of a two cent postage stamp than this costly commission had secured. He had noticed particularly that the member for Yale had paid not a word of the breaking up of large estates in Australia into small holdings. And yet that was one of the outstanding features in their land policy. Speaking of the enabling bill whereby the premier was getting three members back in their seats, he made a suggestion gratis to the premier that he include the member for Columbia in it. He understood that member was somewhere outside the party pale, and such a measure would no doubt bring him back into it.

Parker Williams concluded by making the direct charge that the various associations gathering and to be gathered in Victoria during the next week or so, were simply parts of the Conservative machine. He illustrated this by a diagram which he had specially drawn for the benefit of the house showing that the dates between the meeting of the associations in this city was filled in by meetings of the Conservative association.

The premier moved the adjournment of the debate.

ULTRA VIRES

We invite attention to section 55 of the Constitution Act, which despite the contempt in which it seems to be held by the Attorney-General and his newspaper apologist, is the rock upon which the government of this province is founded. The section reads as follows:

"If any member of the assembly shall, without the permission of the said assembly, fail during the whole session to give his attendance in the said assembly, or shall take any oath or make any declaration or acknowledgment of allegiance, obedience, or adherence to any foreign state or power, or shall do, concur in, or adopt any act whereby he may become the subject or citizen of any such state or power, or shall become a bankrupt or insolvent debtor, or a public defaulter, or be attainted of treason, or be convicted of felony or any infamous crime, or if any member of the said assembly by ACCEPTING OFFICE or becoming a party to any contract or agreement, becomes disqualified by law to continue to sit or vote in the house, his ELECTION SHALL THEREBY BECOME VOID, AND THE SEAT OF

SUCH MEMBER SHALL BE VACATED, AND A WRIT SHALL FORTHWITH ISSUE FOR A NEW ELECTION AS IF HE WERE NATURALLY DEAD."

That the three members of the House were disqualified by law to sit is admitted by the introduction of the bill to which His Honor has just given his assent. The circumstances disqualifying them occurred a year ago, and their election "thereby became void" under the section we have quoted. They were to be regarded as if "naturally dead." How, then, can the legislature restore them to life? Their seats having been forfeited, how can they be filled except by the issue "forthwith" of writs for new elections? If the legislature has power to dispense with an election in this instance, it has power to dispense with it altogether. If three gentlemen who forfeited their seats, being thereby considered as "naturally dead," can be restored to life as members of the House, the legislature can perpetuate itself indefinitely over the heads of the people.

Had the legislature amended the constitution to meet the case before the members were appointed, there would have been no irregularity. This, however, was not done, and we believe the courts

would decide that the recent bill was ultra vires and that the three commissioners are subject to the penalty clause, which is as follows:

"If any person so disqualified or declared incapable of sitting or voting in the assembly sits or votes therein, he shall thereby forfeit the sum of five hundred dollars for each and every day on which he so sits and votes; and such sum may be recovered from him by any person who will sue for the same in any court of competent civil jurisdiction in the province."

There is only one way in which vacant seats in the assembly can be filled, and that is by an election, notwithstanding the opinion of the Attorney-General. This is the spirit and letter of the British North America Act and Terms of Union upon which our constitution is based. We urge these points upon the consideration of the three gentlemen concerned, not because of any personal feeling. We have more than once favorably referred to the instructive and interesting report of Mr. Lucas on the conditions governing the progress of the agricultural industry in New Zealand and Australia. But there is a big principle at stake which can be disregarded only to the detriment of the public interest and loss to themselves personally. We advise

them not to place too much faith in the counsel of the Attorney-General, and need only to remind them of his repeated failures before the Privy Council on matters appertaining to the constitutional powers of the legislature. In almost every case in which he has differed with the justice department at Ottawa his law has been shown to be unsound. It would be unfortunate for them, indeed, if they found, too late, that they had been leaning upon a broken reed.

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Parker Williams may be somewhat in advance of the times in some of his views, but in the main his criticisms of the McBride government are justifiable and moderate. The member for Newcastle is the ablest man and by far the best and most interesting speaker in the present legislature. Time undoubtedly will modify his opinions as it will justify his criticisms of the government. His influence will yet be felt in the councils of British Columbia.

OFFERS AN ACCOUNT OF HIS STEWARDSHIP

Premier Made His Usual Review of Conditions in the House Yesterday

FINANCIAL POSITION AND LAND QUESTION

Spoke for Hour and Half on Great Variety of Subjects

It was the premier's field day yesterday. The one day in the legislative session when he has the floor for the whole afternoon, and the opportunity to make the most out of what the administration has done or left undone during the past year. The speech is officially his contribution to the debate on the address in reply to the speech of his honor, but it might be more aptly termed his annual apology.

Yesterday, he spoke, for almost an hour and a half on every subject under heaven, or at least under that part of it which shines over British Columbia. Much more animated than usual, he used the lid of his desk very hard, when he wanted to emphasize any point which was not sufficiently clear to be driven home by mere oratory. The glittering peroration at the close was Gladstonian in its careful symmetry.

And yet somehow the speech did not elicit the applause it coveted. In the first place the galleries were not nearly so full as they had been on the previous day; also at the beginning of the address very few members had taken their seats. These came hurrying in later, probably at the urgent call of whoever is acting as government whip, but the interruptions they caused served rather to depress than encourage. These facts may have had something to do with the lack of the applause with which a speech from the first minister of the province is usually interlarded in the provincial house. On a certain member for Vancouver, the atmosphere most obviously had a somewhat soporific effect.

The principal features of the speech were the references to the land question and the financial state of the province. The remainder was occupied in complimenting those young members of the party who had contributed so much to the enjoyment and profit of the house, etc., etc., by the excellence of their maiden speeches and replies to

the criticisms hurled at him by the leader of the opposition on the previous day.

Financial Aspect

Sir Richard was emphatic, that in spite of protests and criticisms, the province was in excellent financial shape. The fact that they had borrowed one and a half millions from London was no indication whatsoever of any tightness. It was just a necessary precaution so that in case of a landslide or a washout, they would not be found in desperate straits to meet their obligations. The fact that they were able to raise the money at short notice was surely indication enough that the credit of British Columbia had not suffered through any financial stringency. There had been no absolute necessity, he declared, that the money should be borrowed to keep fiscal affairs solid and intact. He added: "We have got in the bank to-day upwards of two millions of dollars, ample funds to meet any emergency."

He prognosticated, too, fresh negotiations between the province and the bankers with regard to the rate of interest.

"Governments are not expected to carry a huge surplus," was another statement of the premier's while on the financial situation. So he went on to recount how the province had spent the surplus which had been carried for three or four years. It had been spent well and wisely on roads, trails and bridges, he declared. It had not (as had been accused) been expended on any political machine.

Some Comparisons

Ten and a half years ago when the present government came into power, Sir Richard expounded (his right hand flung out threateningly) the provincial debt was somewhere between eleven and eleven and a half millions. The province's income at that time was about two millions of dollars. To-day the provincial debt was less than it had been then, while there was an income of over ten millions. Added to this went on Sir Richard, there were arrears due to the province on account of land sales. These were drawing 5 per cent, and in the event of non-payment the lands would revert to the crown. There was nothing, asserted Sir Richard grandiloquently, behind the criticisms of the Liberal leaders. He admitted, however, that various boards of trade and progress clubs had had recourse to similar criticism of the government's policy. This, the premier explained, was the natural function of such bodies.

The amount due on blocks of land sold by the government, Sir Richard pursued, was \$9,664,522.62. The amount owing on townships and suburban lands, was \$3,135,752.32, so that the total outstanding to the government on lands was \$12,799,274.94. This was all bearing interest at the rate of 5 per cent. So there could be no loss. The government (always noted for its altruism) never sought to get the better of a bargain, nor had they ever desisted from a wise policy to press people unduly for payments outstanding. They just desired to get what they thought was a fair price. He prognosticated a discussion in the present session of the legislature on the high cost of living, when the report of the agricultural commission had been presented.

The Lands Question

The premier admitted that the question of provincial land was one of the most important before the people to-day. Things as they were in the province to-day had resulted from a gradual growth dating away back in the early sixties. It was important and necessary that the movement on the land should be carried out in an efficient and up-to-date way. The government had always taken the position that it was wrong to people the out-of-way lands where there were no roads or railways or acceptable means of communication. But now that the time was drawing near when transportation services throughout the province was becoming very thorough, he thought the time ripe for progressive legislation along these lines; the time to plant a large and contented population. If the government had spent the money which had accrued from the sale of large blocks of crown lands on the development of railways and roads

and means of communications, what was there wrong in that? He wondered how a Brewster-Macdonald-Williams government would raise money for those public works if not by the sale of lands. He wondered where they would secure the currency for educational development. Would they add to the burden of taxation? he asked.

"I am anxious," said the premier thumping the desk before him with all his might, "to see a party arise in British Columbia with a real constructive policy, whose criticism of our methods would have some foundation. Our party is a live and active one, and can stand criticism."

He declared that the government had helped the homesteaders and pre-emptors. Wherever it had been competent for them to do so they had not delayed in giving them every assistance. But they had to help the large buyer as well as the homesteader, for from the buyer was obtained the money for those public works which were the pride of Canada. It was wholesome business to sell crown lands to graduate taxes and keep pace with the expansion of the country by the proper attention to public works of all kinds.

As to Criticisms

Earlier in his address Sir Richard McBride took considerable time referring to certain definite criticisms which had been levelled at him on the previous day by Parker Williams, the leader of the opposition. This criticism, he alleged, had been mercilessly frank, and came from only one source. The root of it all was that the Socialists had never and could never see any good in any of the actions of the Conservative party, whether those actions were deserving of admiration or not. With them the Conservative administration was fundamentally wrong; conceived in iniquity, and utterly incapable of bearing good results.

He referred in the first instance to the sad death of the boy Meurs in the provincial jail at Burnaby. He (Sir Richard) would like the house to understand that if any neglect by any of the officials could be traced, the government would take every step to find out who was culpable and mete out punishment where it was deserved. He said the thanks of both parliament and people were due to Mr. Williams for bringing the matter up on the floor of the house.

In Judge Howay, the trial judge in the Nanaimo mining cases, he declared he had absolute faith. He had known the judge from boyhood, and had always found him an upright and honest man; one moreover who had already earned the reputation of one of the ablest jurists in the country. Sir Richard could not conceive of an order of things in which Judge Howay could be prevailed upon to depart from those high traditions which he held. As for the criticism of his visit to Ladysmith, Sir Richard was of the opinion that the judge had every right to visit Ladysmith. He would devote no more attention to the matter other than to say that it would be a dangerous precedent to spend the time of parliament in discussing the work of the courts. He had invariably discouraged discussion of this nature.

Parker William Intervenes

When the premier went on to say that the attorney-general would be always willing to consider any reforms or requests for better treatment of prisoners, that the leader of the opposition would be likely to make, Parker Williams jumped to his feet and stated that on a previous occasion, when a deputation had visited Mr. Bowser on this same matter, the only result of their solicitations was that the treatment became even more rigorous.

This reply seemed to disconcert Sir Richard for a moment, but he went on to assure the house positively that his colleague had always done his utmost to make the prison system of British Columbia an ideal one in every respect. The premier believed that the work of prison reform was one which could be well carried on throughout the country, only it was always so hard to arouse public interest in such a matter. Prisons, he warned, however, were not asylums for unfortunate

To the personal attacks made on him by the member for Newcastle, he declared he would leave it to parliament and people to state whether he was deserving of what had been hurled at him across the floor of the house.

Other points of criticism with which the premier dealt were in connection with his travelling expenses, and the alleged partisanship of the late member for the islands.

Sir Richard followed with a defence of the labor commission and of the agricultural commission, stating that both had been most carefully named, and pointing to the fact that many labor organizations had come before

them, and had given valuable evidence.

H. E. Forster, the member for Columbia, moved the adjournment of the debate.

Immediately afterwards Sir Richard McBride arose and stated that owing to the fact that the funeral of the late commissioner took place in London on Monday next he would ask the house, as a tribute of respect, to adjourn at once until Tuesday afternoon. The motion was unanimously carried.

COMMITTEES ARE NOT SO BUSY THIS YEAR

Legislative Conclave on Private Bills Has Less Work Than Last Year

No oratorical thunder will reverberate in the legislative chamber on Monday next; the chairs of the law-makers will be vacant and the vaulted ceiling echoless. As a tribute of sympathy to the late high commissioner, the usual sitting of the house is adjourned until the following afternoon.

It is altogether unlikely also that the two committees billed to sit on Monday morning in the committee rooms of the house will foregather at the times appointed, and their deliberations will probably be postponed until the day following.

These two are respectively the municipal and private bills committee, which are the first of those named to commence operations. Last year the private bills committee under the chairmanship of Ernest Miller, member for Grand Forks, was the hardest worked of all, a large number of important private measures coming before them for a decision. This year, however, there is very little work for them to do, not more than half a dozen bills having been given notice of.

The municipal committee, however, promises to be kept somewhat busy. In the first place the Victoria board of trade special committee on municipal affairs has several very important suggestions to make, and widespread interest in the interior of the country has been manifested in all legislation affecting the control and conduct of civil and municipal affairs.

When the city private bill comes up in the private bills committee it is expected that on the first day the only progress will be to accept formal proof of advertisement. The actual hearing is not expected to come on for some time. When it does the city is to be represented by the mayor, and members of the legislative committee.

While all the powers which are asked for are important to the good government of the city, the city solicitor attaches particular weight to the clause enabling the city in future expropriations in street widenings to spread the cost over a term of years, and so save the tremendous drain which has occurred through owners of land affected having to be paid at once under the present system, or else to be given interest on their money if the city cannot meet the charges immediately.

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THE ENABLING ACT.

"Replying to the criticism that an act, passed by the provincial legislature, amending a provincial act, may be ultra vires, it is only necessary to say that the person who thinks so does not know the meaning of the words 'ultra vires.'—Colonist.

We expected from our contemporary more than a quibbling misrepresentation in support of an action in which an important principle is involved. We showed yesterday that it was beyond the power of the legislature to seat men whose election was voided through circumstances in connection with their appointment which arose a year ago. According to the constitution, they vacated their seats and writs for new elections should have issued "forthwith" as if they were "naturally dead." We say that the only way in which those seats could have been filled was by an election as provided by law, and we repeat that if the legislature by an enabling act can restore Messrs. Lucas, Hayward and Shaw to their places it can perpetuate itself indefinitely. Ultra vires means beyond the power of any person, state or corporation, and we contend that the house exceeded its power with regard to the three commissioners. The situation now is this: three private citizens are participating in the proceedings of the legislature and the constituencies of Cowichan, Yale and Kamloops are without legal representation in the assembly.

Our contemporary surely must recognize the important principle underlying the question. It simply amounts to whether seats in the legislature can be filled except by an election. Is the morning paper prepared to go so far as to say that this can be done? We are not concerned now with the importance of the positions to which the three commissioners were appointed, the value of their services, or their ability and personal qualities, which we have never questioned. All these must be subordinated to the principle involved in the matter. This is the all-important consideration. We would be glad to hear from our contemporary an expression of opinion touching the points we raised yesterday.

It is said the mills of the gods grind slowly, but they pulverize pretty mild friend met him in the foyer of the Hotel Empress and expressed surprise of the legislature of British Columbia that he was still in the city. Wood's alibi one has to go two or three days to explaination was that he had "received in succession to the gallery to discover orders to win the Alberni seat at all enough grain to make it worth while costs and he was waiting over to get to have started the wheels. The legislature is in no hurry about anything this year excepting to amend the constitution so as to give three forfeited seats back to members of the house who have violated its independence. In order to do this it was necessary for Bowser, attorney-general, and the greatest legal light in the house since Mr. Justice McPhillips has been elevated to the bench, to convince the house that "the legislature is supreme." As the rubber stamp brigade have to do what Bowser tells them, the attorney-general took an unusually modest and suspiciously disingenuous way of telling the country that "Bowser is supreme." Hayward, Lucas and Shaw will now reappear in their seats, and take the risk of any action which may arise in the courts to test whether or not Bowser is supreme. Putting himself above the courts is no new incident in the Bowser regime, but autocrats who do that sort of thing persistently are usually caught up at some unexpected and inconvenient point where the roads do not fork. We shall see what we shall see.

Excepting for an occasional illuminating rocket, one has to go to the gallery many times to learn anything fresh or interesting. A good many centuries before the Christian era somebody made the statement that "wisdom is justified of her children." He must have got his inspiration by looking over the railings of the gallery of the legislative assembly of one of the Assyrian back provinces, and even then he must have written more in sorrow than in anger.

J. G. Cory Wood, who made a short address in reply to the speech from the throne, evidently spoke with feeling when he declared that "the making of good roads is the most important work of a government." Calling these little eulogias "continuing the debate on the speech," etc., as the newspapers usually put it, is very funny. Outside the two Socialist members, there is no such thing as debate. All the other members understand that their whole duty is performed when they laud the "policy" and the acts of the autocracy. Cory Wood found out something new to him when he essayed a hint that he hoped some time before the close of the session some intimation might be made that the franchises would be extended to women. A frown from the premier shrivelled him into proper proportions in an instant, and he immediately retracted and "ventured to hope," if this could not be done, that the law might be so amended as to give married women equal custody with their husbands of the children common to both. As "the legislature is supreme," there does not appear to be any good reason why Cory Wood should not "venture to hope."

There is a good story told of Cory Wood in connection with some incidents of the last general election. Many people will remember that the legislature appropriated nearly \$200,000 for public works in the Alberni riding. As Cory Wood had been road boss it was supposed that he would know better than anyone else how to win the seat from the solitary Liberal then left in the house. So he was chosen to "run" in the government interests. A few days after the house prolegued Cory Wood dined with an eminent citizen of Victoria and took his leave late at night intending to take the train next morning for Alberni. The most affectionate good-byes were said and the friends did not expect to meet again until after the imminent election. But

One of the things inexplicable in the gallery was why Sir Richard should have felt so "testy" when Parker Williams asked for an amendment to the rules making it possible for two members to call for a record of the division. Sir Richard's manner—for he neglected for a moment his role as poseur—clearly betrayed the contempt he feels for the Socialist members of the legislature. For the first time in Sir Richard's career as first minister the gallery resented the brutal contumely with which he replied to Parker Williams's proposition.

The gallery remembered and so did Parker Williams, and so should Sir Richard have remembered, the time when Parker Williams was dear as the apple of his eye to the premier. Time was when the rabid rant and irresponsible braggadocio of the then Socialist leader in the house was tolerated good-naturedly by Hon. Richard McBride. Time was when the feeling of Richard McBride toward Comrade Hawthornthwaite and Parker Williams was best expressed in the words "I need thee every hour," and in those days the premier did not display his real feelings with so much disregard for their repugnant features as he does to-day. Yet Parker Williams is not changed, excepting for the better. And Hawthornthwaite has gone to his reward. Or at least a part of it, for it is believed Hawthornthwaite's reward is "cumulative" in its character. As there never was any bargain between McBride and Parker Williams there is no need now for the premier to deceive Williams as to the relations of the two. When Williams secures a record of the divisions it will not be because of any "right," but because "the house will grant the hon. member for Newcastle a record whenever he asks for it." Again "the legislature is supreme," and quite as supreme in the dispensation of its favors as it is in the jealous guarding of the privilege of the autocracy. There will be times when the premier will "view with calm indulgence" Parker Williams's request for a record of names and there will be other times when Sir Richard's biliary duct will be obstructed.

McLean, of Nelson, also "continued the debate." McLean is the man who got permission from the premier in caucus last year to criticize the government on the floor of the House so that there might be some show of independence in the legislature and the common reproach that all the members are "subservient" might be removed. The idea was brilliant and worthy the member for Nelson. The naive understanding arrived at in caucus was a master stroke of political genius.

Only, and there is the fly in the ointment; McLean should not have told about it afterward.

McLean is full of brilliant ideas and has some creditable ambition too. For instance, he attempted a refutation of the charge that there is a "political machine" under the ciceronage of the twin autocrats in this province. He began badly and illogically by declaring that he did not know what a political machine is, but he believed "it was understood" to be an arrangement by which a particular (government) candidate secured election in his riding. He then grew cheery and declared that there is no such machine in his constituency. Ah, and ahem. A cow is an animal with four legs, two or more horns and a tail, therefore this is not a cow.

McLean will have to revise his definition of a political machine. And when he declares there is no such institution dominating the Conservative party in Nelson, he will have to go farther and explain why in thunder the McBride government wants a political machine in a constituency that is not getting any money out of the public treasury. Does not McLean know that the McBride political machine exists for the purpose of seeing to it that the money spent on public works, contracts and other patronage, gets into the proper pockets, that it gets there through the proper channels and that it gets its "toll" extracted somewhere during the process. But what's the use trying to explain this to McLean? He is not a miller and doesn't know what "toll" is. He should be told. Toll is "that part of the flour, middlings and bran the miller keeps back for grinding the wheat." As McLean has had no wheat to grind, he may be excused for his affirmation. Unhappy innocence!

Strangely enough, McLean broke the ice and made the first declaration in the House this year for "a white British Columbia." He approached the question with great diffidence and apologized beforehand in case he, as an amateur, might make any breaks. He admitted that it was a somewhat "ticklish" question to be discussed in a provincial legislature and it was undoubtedly one belonging to "higher politics in the federal House." He set forth in categorical order the difficulties in the way of solving the Oriental problem and kept the gallery on pins and needles for fear he was going to spring another Natal act. But he didn't. He caught the look of warning in the premier's eye—Bowser was out at the time—and put his helm hard-a-starboard instantaneously.

Of course McLean is excusable. He was not in the legislature, not even in the gallery, at any time during all those long years when the McBride patriots shouted themselves hoarse for a white British Columbia. He, perhaps, did not even read the newspapers and learn that while the Liberal government was in power at Ottawa the "Oriental" question was the chief worry of Richard McBride and not a little worry to Bowser. In those days, however, it was not true that "the legislature is supreme" and the fact that the Oriental question belongs to the federal House was not thought to have made it a matter to be delicately discussed out here.

As for Sir Richard, he looked on in some trepidation, thinking all the while of his own Chinese servants and wondering whether they were, at that particular moment, earning their money and still further wondering what he personally would do if it were to be decreed by some parliament which really is supreme, that British Columbia must remain a white man's country.

And when McLean had finished his speech the legislature turned to its tasks and amended the constitution. It was a good time to do it.

Seen From the Gallery

Facetious Definition of Political Machine—Member for Nelson Ignorant of Purpose of Device of Autocracy—Gallery Grows Impatient With Premier—How Much and Why Legislature is Supreme.

Editorial Jan 26

A WARNING

Sir Richard McBride needs the money, although treasury notes against currency in order to raise a million dollars. He explains the was taken in order to p a possible emergency, suc out or a landslide. Sir R of speech are peculiar, v ments are not in harmo of his second in comm auditor-general of the p there can be no doubt t pates some kind of a n as he admits that befor ries the two million doll in the treasury may hav entirely. In the meantr permitted to call his at opinion of one who is t "leading banker," who a warning in the Monetar subject of this author is "The dangers of im bills or short term not "It has been demons method of finance whic and inexpensive for th ernment, the governm Dominion of Canada, an principal cities of the dom, may become do dangerous, when adop who, excellent as their doubtedly are, have ne to the front rank i credit."

TIMES FROM SPECIAL POLICE COAL ST

Attorney-General 191 There; Oth Asked by O

Though Parker Wil interesting questions land registry office thereof on the order Mr. Bowser was not them, and they we over until to-day, M queries, one of whic The question was: "How many special present employed at Ladysmith, (c) Cum tension, (a) South W The attorney-gener follows: (a), 81; (b), (c), 31. Total, 191. Mr. Hayward ask 1. Has an arrang for an official report of the house this se 2. If so, what are made?

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By W. Manson—Cornick and others duce a private bill Northern Telephone

By W. Manson—Methodist college, duce a private bill lumbian Methodist, Ernest Miller (ol sented the first re tes on private orders.

Editorial Jan 26th 1914

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A WARNING NOTE.

Sir Richard McBride says he did not need the money, although he issued treasury notes against current revenue in order to raise a million and a half dollars. He explains that this course was taken in order to provide against a possible emergency, such as a wash-out or a landslide. Sir Richard's figures of speech are peculiar, while his statements are not in harmony with those of his second in command and the auditor-general of the province. Still there can be no doubt that he anticipates some kind of a financial crisis, as he admits that before the house rises the two million dollars he says is in the treasury may have disappeared entirely. In the meantime may we be permitted to call his attention to the opinion of one who is described as a "leading banker," who issues a note of warning in the *Mosetary Times*? The subject of this authority's discourse is "The dangers of issuing treasury bills or short term notes." He says: "It has been demonstrated that a method of finance which is convenient and inexpensive for the British government, the government of India, the Dominion of Canada and a few of the principal cities of the United Kingdom, may become both costly and dangerous when adopted by others who, excellent as their securities undoubtedly are, have not yet attained to the front rank in international credit."

TUES. Jan 28th 14

SPECIAL POLICE IN COAL STRIKE ZONE

Attorney-General Says Still 191 There; Other Questions Asked by Opposition

Though Parker Williams had several interesting questions relating to the land registry office and the conduct thereof on the order paper yesterday, Mr. Bowser was not ready to answer them, and they were therefore left over until to-day. Mr. Place had two queries, one of which was replied to. The question was:

"How many special constables are at present employed at (a) Nanaimo, (b) Ladysmith, (c) Cumberland, (d) Extension, (e) South Wellington.

The attorney-general gave answer as follows: (a), 81; (b), 20; (c), 48; (d), 21; (e), 21. Total, 191.

Mr. Hayward asked the premier:

1. Has an arrangement been made for an official report of the proceedings of the house this session?
2. If so, what arrangement has been made?

The premier replied as follows: "Arrangements have been made with the Colonist Printing & Publishing company to have a verbatim report made of the speech of any member who may give notice beforehand to the chief government whip."

The following petitions were presented during the afternoon:

By Mr. Cawley—From J. L. Atkinson and others, commissioners of Sumas dyking district, for leave to introduce a private bill to amend the "Sumas Development Company Act, 1906."

By Mr. Carter-Cotton—From Francis W. Rounsefell and others, for leave to introduce a private bill to incorporate the corporation of the district of Shaughnessy.

By W. Manson—From J. E. McCormick and others, for leave to introduce a private bill to incorporate the Northern Telephone company.

By W. Manson—From the Columbian Methodist college, for leave to introduce a private bill to amend the "Columbian Methodist College Act, 1904."

Ernest Miller (chairman) also presented the first report of the committee on private bills and standing orders.

CRITICIZES SEVERAL ITEMS OF POLICY

Member for Columbia Leads Way With Some Honest Opposition

IS CLOSELY FOLLOWED BY CHILLIWACK MEMBER

Interesting Contribution to Debate in House; Land Act Bombshell

For the first time in the present session, active opposition against the administration by members of its own political color developed in the house yesterday, heralding, it is hoped, a new era in the chamber of freer discussion of subjects that lie closer to the heart of the people as a whole than merely to the government members.

Nor was the opposition, such as it was, confined to one isolated instance. While the speech of H. E. Forster, the Ishmael from the caucuses, bristled with independence and the determination to take a logical and not a blindly partisan stand on every subject with which the house has to deal, the address also of S. A. Cawley contained little hints and references that the acts of the British Columbia government are not altogether above the reproach which its members so obviously dread.

The third address of the afternoon as a contribution to the debate in reply to the speech of his honor, made by Mr. Mackenzie, member for Delta, was for the most part non-committal, and dealt largely with the developments and work of the people of the district he represented rather than with issues affecting the province as a whole.

Not Quite Clear.

After allusion to other contributors to the address and championing the cause of his own constituency for a few sentences, Mr. Forster first came to grips with his subject when he asked that the roads policy of the government be cleared up and a definite platform taken on the floor of the house. At that the members generally began to sit up and take notice. The premier's eyebrows drew together in a reproving frown, and altogether there were not wanting many signs that the attack was quite unexpected.

"What is the policy regarding the roads in the townships?" asked Mr. Forster. "Is the government going to make roads and streets through a township or are the owners to do it? At present there is no uniformity whatsoever," Mr. Forster said he would like some definite knowledge on this matter.

Then there was the case of land and irrigation companies. In some cases companies had laid lands in blocks for sale without making proper provision for roads through them. They had sold land to people who had in many cases cleared and cultivated it.

"Who," asked Mr. Forster, "is to reimburse purchasers in the event of the government finding it necessary to expropriate?"

Wildcaters and Boomers.

The member for Columbia brought forward another matter which he claimed to be of great importance and affecting the good name of the people of this province. He referred to the propensities of the boomers and wildcaters, and the need of some form of legislation to stop the gross misrepresentations which they so often practiced. He was not talking, he said, against legitimate development, but against unscrupulous schemers. The Americans had learned the necessity of such legislation and many states of the Union had passed good laws dealing with this evil.

The water act next came in for the marked disapproval of the member for Columbia:

"There is too much red tape about the water act," he pronounced, regardless of the not too lovable glances thrown at him by various members of the government party. "The water commission has been going round the country for two years endeavoring to gather statistics and adjust water rights. It is apparently hopeless to make the present act answer its purpose. I trust something will be done to make it comprehensible and useful to laymen who desire to take advantage of it."

The pioneer, to whom the opening up of the province was largely due, he averred, would be afraid of the winding red tape of the act as at present constituted, and would most likely take himself off to a place where the laws were more understandable and workable.

Complaints of Recession.

Mr. Forster then uttered a complaint against the recession of the poll tax last session.

Unfortunately for the province, he said, as the tax was the only means of making the man who only comes into the province for a few months and then takes all the money that he has earned away with him, help towards the administration of affairs. Its recession meant that this deserved source of revenue was lost. The man who was here for a few short months should pay his share towards the administration of justice and the like just the same as did the real dweller.

"While these people are exempt," said Mr. Forster amid a dead silence, "the poor old lumber industry is taxed up to the hilt."

This he described as killing the goose that laid the golden eggs.

Comparing the timber industry with others he found that in the land department there are \$12,000,000 of deferred payments which only bear interest at 6 per cent, and yet the owner of a timber license is fined \$25 for each license if he is a day late.

"The lumber industry," concluded Mr. Forster, "is getting a pretty hard deal."

F. J. A. Mackenzie, the member for Delta, was on his feet immediately the speaker put the question. He asked the house to bear with him as a representative of one of the farming districts which had been so abundantly referred to in the speech of the lieutenant-governor.

Under Two Heads.

He classed the municipalities of the province under two separate heads. The first comprised the suburban municipalities, or the non-producers; the second, the agricultural municipalities, or the producers. Needless to say, the three municipalities comprising Delta riding were of the producing class, holding a high position as such.

In a few eloquent sentences Mr. Mackenzie dealt with the early days when the Delta district had shipped all its produce to the Victoria market. All the difficulties and troubles which the early settlers there had met were encountered with that determination and courage which was still characteristic of the people of that quarter. The four things there were in the greatest abundance were salt water, sea grass, ducks and mosquitoes.

By co-operation and mutual effort, however, the settlers had dyked these lands, shut out the flood waters, and reclaimed them, and to-day they were as productive as any in British Columbia. The entire cost of the construction of these dykes had been shouldered by the people and not by the government.

Mr. Mackenzie then computed to the house the season's yield of these reclaimed lands comprising less than 30,000 acres. The grand total monetary yield of these crops for one season was no less than \$1,350,000.

A Suggestion.

"The municipality," said Mr. Mackenzie, "is a model farming section, and the Dominion government would be well advised should the provincial authorities induce them to spend some of the Dominion aid to agriculture in British Columbia by establishing an experimental truck garden farm, so that the wants of the adjacent cities could be met."

The blessings of the Isador and Woodward's Landing ferry were then enlarged upon and the traffic figures quoted by the member. Later he touched in turn on the room for greater population in the Delta district, the magnitude of the highway problem in that section of British Columbia, and the ruinous effect of the motor traffic on the country roads, and the aid which should be given to municipalities. Mr. Mackenzie concluded by thoroughly endorsing the government's land policy.

Criticizes Land Act.

S. A. Cawley, member for Chilliwack, threw another bombshell among the benches when he showed he was not so complacent with regard to the administration of lands by the present government as the member for Delta had been.

"There are many people," he remarked, "holding vast tracts of land for speculation purposes, and paying very little in the way of taxes. I think a wild land tax should be enforced." (At this point the opposition members in the house applauded heartily.)

Mr. Cawley dealt with a wide range of subjects during his address in addition to his caustic comment on the Land act, and went considerably out of his way to criticize the administration of the land registry offices of the province. He hoped the new act would provide some much needed relief. The fees charged, too, he said, were altogether too high, being two and sometimes three times as much as were charged in other provinces. He did not think the land registry offices should prove revenue producers, but merely self-sustaining.

The member for Chilliwack, though he could not see eye to eye with the government over the land question, found occasion to congratulate one and all on the financial showing in a time of depression, and made the statement that the credit of British Columbia at the present time was second to none in the world.

Municipal Act.

On the subject of the Municipal act, Mr. Cawley considered that an advisable amendment would be one giving to reeves and chairmen of school boards the right to vote as did the councillors and trustees. He expressed the opinion also in the case of money by-laws, that a model by-law should be incorporated in the act as a guide to all.

The present trend in education, commented Mr. Cawley later, was to educate people off the farm instead of on to it. If the back to the land cry was to mean anything, the only thing to do was to encourage the young men and women to go back. He was glad to hear from the minister of education that an agricultural grant was to be made in connection with the public schools, and that the asylum farm was to be turned over to the university.

The Loan act, he contended would meet with his hearty support, and he hoped that a very large part would be expended on those two staples of the provinces—mining and agriculture, which he urged were practically inseparable.

C. B. Tisdall, a Vancouver member, moved the adjournment of the debate.

EDITORIAL 28th Jan

LAND SETTLEMENT.

Everybody admits that the question of land settlement in British Columbia is pressing and that the existing conditions are far from satisfactory. The Minister of Agriculture is just as emphatic in his opinions as Mr. Brewster or any other critic of the government. Mr. Ellison says it is an unfortunate thing that a province such as British Columbia, with its great diversities of soil and climate, which are admittedly of the best, should be compelled to import annually twenty-five million dollars' worth of agricultural products. Naturally the thought will arise, therefore, that it is remarkable the government does not take immediate and drastic action to remedy such a state of affairs. Mr. Ellison says public opinion will be ripe to sanction something being done next year. Why wait till next year? The farmers have placed their views upon record as in

VANCOUVER MEMBER AS MARK TAPLEY

Can See No Dark Side In Affairs of Province of British Columbia

SUGGESTS GOVERNMENT
HANDLE ALL BORROWING

Member for Kamloops Also
Adds His Contribution to
Debate on Address

There are several members of the legislative chamber who would have made excellent prototypes for Dickensian characters, but the putting forward of his claim to the role of Mark Tapley, the eternal optimist, by C. E. Tisdall, the Vancouver member, yesterday, caused many smiles around the house during the progress of the debate.

Certainly Mr. Tisdall endeavored to live up to the part with which he voluntarily clothed himself, and for the best part of an hour treated the government and all its works to eulogy of the most complacent character. His optimism was gigantic, and in only one instance did he ever stray from the path of laudation which he had obviously set out to tread.

That came when the Vancouver member was discussing the financial situation throughout the world. Then he had to confess that money was harder to buy than it had ever been before; and also that it would be still harder in the future. He showed how 16 years ago the Dominion government had been able to borrow money in London for 2½ per cent. Last year they had had to pay 4 per cent. In the future he looked for the rate of interest to be even higher.

For the remainder of the time he was on his feet Mr. Tisdall dealt in the main with the development of the four greatest assets of British Columbia—agriculture, mining, fishing and lumber—and reviewed for the benefit of the house the growth and importance of Vancouver city, and the effect of the present stringency upon it. While on this subject he took occasion to resent a recent reported statement of Mr. Lemieux, saying that there were 17,000 unemployed in the city of Vancouver. He (Mr. Tisdall) greatly doubted if there were more than 2,000 regular residents of the Terminal City out of work. He ventured to remark that the present situation in Vancouver was quite as good as in many of the east-

ern cities, and considerably better than in many of the cities of the United States.

Finding Markets.

Mr. Tisdall prophesied that before very long the Okanagan valley would supply not only the coast cities and the Pacific northwest with fruit, but would also find new markets in Great Britain and Australia, where the extent of the trade would only be bounded by the amount the valley could produce.

The Panama canal would also help to enlarge and develop the marketing of British Columbia fish. He particularly referred to the sale of halibut in English markets and read a dispatch from the Daily Telegraph in which it described the arrival of the first consignment of B. C. halibut at Grimsby, and the great demand there had been for the fish.

"Why should we send to New Zealand for our butter?" asked the member for Vancouver, with unconscious irony, waving his hand in the direction of the minister of lands. The Fraser valley would, in time look after the wants of the province in this regard, when the present shortage of milk had passed away.

Mr. Tisdall made the suggestion that the government would be well advised to advertise the lumber of the province by showing specimens in eastern exhibitions, which formed as fine an advertisement as one could wish for. He also suggested that home-grown wood should be used as a lasting monument in the construction of the new British Columbia building in London.

In discussing the financial state of the country, the Vancouver member hinted that the government would do well to take charge of the borrowing powers of municipalities. He quoted the example of the Saskatchewan government, which employed a commissioner for the purpose. Similar action was taken by the government in the British Isles, who detailed the local government board to look after this work.

"Such a step," he stated, "would enormously enhance confidence of investors in the municipalities of this province. We cannot do enough to show the London markets that our bonds are worth all that we represent them to be."

But the Vancouver member brought his Mark Tapleyism most prominently into the limelight when he was discussing the merits of the Conservative party. The men under the revered leadership of Sir Richard McBride were not to be checked by the carping criticism of the Liberal leaders, nor the oburgations of the Liberal press. They "had put their hand to the plough and would not turn back."

Kamloops Member Speaks.

But Mr. Tisdall was outshone entirely in scriptural allusion by Mr. Shaw, of Kamloops, who followed him on the floor of the house and calmly corralled for the British Columbia government an allusion which has hitherto been preferred to a much higher source. He said: "There is a saying which is very often used that 'the British Columbia

government helps those who help themselves."

Mr. Shaw was commendably brief. He dealt for the most part with what he had observed while travelling at the expense of the two governments into the four corners of the province. He had heard commendations of the government he could say, but he also had to confess that he had encountered some dissatisfaction with the administration.

Some dislike of the policy of the Dominion government with regard to the forestry regulations, he stated, was coming to a head in his own district, where the settlers were somewhat annoyed at the sweeping nature of new regulations which had been imposed upon them. For they felt that if these regulations were strictly enforced the stock industry of that district would receive a very severe blow. As at present constituted they merely blanketed the settlers.

Mr. Shaw did not outline exactly what these regulations are, but it is well-known that one of them forbids settlers allowing their cattle to range without paying taxes; another is that forest rangers have power to make the settler count up cattle at any time the ranger so desires. It is also well known that Hon. W. R. Ross, the provincial minister of lands, is intending to bring down legislation along similar lines this session; so that Mr. Shaw's remark assumed the form of a warning as well as a complaint.

Mr. Shaw also dilated at some length on the importance of inserting something in the railway act which would prevent a certain railway company from interfering with the irrigation projects of the people of his district. At present there was a danger of this happening at Kamloops, and the people were very anxious that it should not take place.

A Wonderful District.

The achievements of the people in the wonderful little district of Rosehill, which recently had the high honor of a visit from the attorney-general, were made the subject for some very favorable comment by the member for Kamloops. There were 140 families in this district, he said, and in one year they had produced 250,000 bushels of grain, 1,000 tons of hay; had raised 1,000 head of cattle, 1,400 head of horses, and 1,100 pigs. Three fine dairies gave Kamloops its milk supply.

Mr. Shaw said that if he had not noted any great deal of prosperity throughout the province he had certainly seen many signs of progress and development, and these two things he had always thought, were parents of prosperity. He had been struck also with the magnificent programme of public work which the government was carrying out; none of these was deserving of higher praise than the additions to the parliament buildings in this city.

W. Manson, member for the Skeena district, moved the adjournment of the debate.

Editorial Jan 29th 14.

"WE ARE THE PEOPLE!"

The Honorable Price Ellison, Minister of Finance and Agriculture, is destined for the Senate. We have cast his horoscope several times, and his bright, particular planet has shot its beam consistently towards the East. Kismet!—so be it. In the sequestered vale of the Upper House he is fated to pursue the even tenor of his way. Will he resist his destiny; dislocate the charm worked by the magi in the temple across James Bay? Not much. When the time comes he will pack his grip, receive his vade in pace from Sir Richard and pass hence. How time has changed our Minister of Finance! Looking down from the legislative gallery upon his serene countenance as he complacently records the will of his political chiefs, no matter what it may dictate, who would believe that the member for the Okanagan had ever been a near-revolutionist; an irrepresible Ferrar; an Ajax defying the lightning? Who would imagine that there was a time when he played the role of the village Hampden, withstanding the petty tyrant of his fields?

It happened fourteen years ago. The Lieutenant-Governor had dismissed the Semlin ministry and invited Joseph Martin to form a ministry. The members were furious. When His Honor prorogued the House they stalked from the chamber into the lobby, making the place resound with their outcry. Then when the Lieutenant-Governor finished his task, they re-entered even more noisily than they left, and one of them, seized with the inspiration of that moving moment, leaped into the aisle, and, after a Cromwellian glare at the empty throne, waved a brand new bowler hat in the direction of the galleries and exclaimed, "We are the people!" Patrick Henry, addressing the delegates of Virginia; Danton arousing the enthusiasm of the Girondists; Garibaldi stirring the Sicilians to frenzy—these leaped into the minds of the beholders of that memorable scene. Those flaming words, "We are the people!" fell from the lips of the member for the Okanagan. Just what they meant nobody knew, but it was felt that they expressed the member's readiness to carry the staff of Washington or wear the Jacobin cap in defence of popular liberty.

And now, no longer do we behold the dauntless Hampden. Not only does he not passionately declaim, "We are the people!" but he will not even murmur "cheap money for the farmers; free powder for settlers," a much less dramatic but more useful battlecry. Time and subjection to the will of Sir Richard and the Attorney-General have dimmed the revolutionary ardor which o'er-leaped the barrier of reserve fourteen years ago, and it will be a dignified, highly respectable but subdued ex-minister who, in about a year's time, will begin political life anew in the placid atmosphere of the Canadian Senate.

DEBATE
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DEBATE ON ADDRESS NEARS ITS CLOSE

Four Members Contributed to
Discussion Yesterday; Is
Pleased With Condition

MEMBER FOR ROSSLAND
AIRS SOME GRIEVANCES

Says He is Always Bumping
Into Officials; Makes Two
Suggestions

The end of the debate on the address in reply to the speech from the throne is in sight. To-day will see its close, and Hon. Dr. Young, provincial secretary and minister of education, will administer the "coup de grace." In the last day or two the debate has relaxed into discreet boasts of certain districts by the members elected for those districts. Four such were supplied to the house yesterday, when Messrs. W. Manson, Lorne Campbell, William Hunter and H. H. Pooley contributed to the debate in the order named. Each did his level best to convince the house that Paradise was a howling wilderness in comparison with the particular district he had the honor to represent, and phrases like "Silver Slokan," the "mighty Skeena" and "fortunate Esquimalt" were heard as frequently as at a boosters' banquet.

The house was not in a particularly attentive mood throughout the whole sitting, while the attorney-general did not put in an appearance at all. For the rest, the members sprawled about their seats, talked together in audible whispers, sagged off to the reading rooms, and generally paid little or no attention to the progress of the debate.

Two of the speakers were representatives of mining districts, and treated the house to a discussion of the mining situation, averring that in their districts at least there was no sign of the stringency which was being so much talked about on the coast. To prove their points they quoted figures showing that the output at the mines was in every case as good if not better than in previous years.

W. Manson, of Skeena, was the first to have the floor after the customary preliminaries of the house had been gone through. Mr. Manson offered the usual sugar plum of compliment to the government on its land programme, which he felt had been a sane and safe policy.

It was in dealing with this question that Mr. Manson astonished the house by attempting to cast reflections on the truthfulness of the reports published by the Liberal newspapers on the coast as to the very successful meetings which are being conducted by the Liberal leaders touring this province.

The member for Skeena turned his artillery on Parker Williams, who, he said, believed in saying nothing good of a man until he was dead. That was why he had not had a word of praise for the McBride government. But, asserted the member for Skeena, Mr. Williams would have to wait a long time to deliver his posthumous eulogia. In this instance, as the government did not intend to die just yet a while.

Reiterated Statement.

Mr. Manson continued the argument of practically every Conservative member who has up to the present caught the speaker's eye. He justified the selling of huge blocks of crown lands by saying that the money was necessary to supply the province with education, and those works which are necessary to her welfare. He contended that in the land policy the government had treated Conservative, Liberal and Socialist alike. The whole regime of the present minister of that department had been conducted on business lines, without fear or favor. (There was some subdued, ironical laughter in the gallery at this point).

Mr. Manson managed at the close of his speech to inject just a little criticism. He thought that the moneys due to the government on lands should be collected as soon as possible, so that they would be available for the making of trails, roads, railways and bridges, etc. He did not think it wise to have so much outstanding.

Sir Richard McBride came in for a bouquet over the better terms arrangements, the speaker averring that his "farsightedness redounded to his everlasting credit," and also that the province would reap great benefits from the formation of the commission, and as a result of their findings. He was glad also that the agricultural commission had been formed, and looked also for splendid results from their wanderings. He touched briefly also on the mining progress and fisheries of British Columbia.

The residue of Mr. Manson's address dealt more particularly with the progress of Prince Rupert and the mighty future which that city could look forward to. The completion of the G. T. P. next June would mean a tremendous lot to the northern city, he averred, which was already anticipating the dignity of a great fishing centre, and he alluded to the added lustre and importance which would accrue when the dry-dock now in course of construction was an accomplished fact.

Wants Mounted Police.

Lorne Campbell, member for Rossland, had something like an ovation when he followed Mr. Manson. Last year, it will be remembered, the Rossland member broke away from the tacit rule of his brother Conservatives, and piled unexpected criticism on the administration. Yesterday there were not lacking signs that Mr. Campbell's spirit is not yet broken, as he dealt in his blunt way with several things that he thought might be bettered in British Columbia.

The first of these had regard to the policing of the province.

"I feel," he remarked, "in knocking about British Columbia that it is a rather difficult matter to go anywhere without bumping into either a fire ranger or a game warden. Would it not be a better plan to have mounted police, who in addition to policing the province, could also act as fire rangers and game wardens? Something I think could be worked out on the lines I have given. I recommend the suggestion to the consideration of the house."

Mr. Campbell made another suggestion which he hoped would meet with the favor of the house. This was in relation to the Doukhobors, of whom they had had some experience in his own constituency. These people could not be handled by a few policemen, was his plea. Why not have an agent who could live among the people and compel them to obey the laws of the lands? He thought that in a short time these defaulters could soon be brought into line, and taught to register their births and deaths, and send their children to school. His candid opinion was that any legislation that the government brought down with regard to these people would be extremely difficult to enact.

In pleading for wagon roads for his constituency, the member pointed out that at the present time they had practically no outlet on these highways of transportation except through the state of Washington. Rossland camp had contributed something like \$45,000 of taxes last year, and he thought they were entitled to some consideration. He trusted better transportation facilities would be provided for when the time came to draw up the estimates.

Spoke of Conditions.

William Hunter, who followed Lorne Campbell, is one of the veterans of the Conservative party, and spoke very briefly on present conditions in "Silver Slokan." These were better, he averred, than at any time in the history of the district. He referred his auditors to the wonderful success of the Standard mine during the past year.

H. H. Pooley, speaking of development of his own constituency, referred particularly to the forthcoming erection there of one of the largest dry-docks in the world, and also to the location of the shipyard of Messrs. Yarrow, who, he said, had travelled right up and down the Pacific coast

before they had finally decided upon Esquimalt as the most suitable spot. The future that he had prognosticated on the floor of the house for Esquimalt was going a long way towards being fulfilled. The two undertakings he had referred to would demand the employment of a very large number of men, and would mean great things both for Esquimalt and Victoria herself. In this connection he did not forget to lay his offering at the feet of Messrs. Bob Rogers, Barnard and Green.

Denunciation of the "weak-kneed gentry," who always grumbled when things were not going too smoothly, followed. Last year everything had gone sailing along smoothly under clear skies. People were basking in the sunshine of prosperity. Yet as soon as equally weather came many of them held up their hands, and said the country was going to the dogs. The depression, said Mr. Pooley, was not local, but existed pretty nearly all over the world.

Mr. Pooley went on to quote a little ancient history, as he called it, or some of the despatches of Sir James Douglas to the colonial secretary after the former had toured this province. One sentence was pregnant with importance:

"Without the farmers' aid British Columbia must ever remain far beneath what she ought to be."

He thought those words had now been proved to be true, and that the policy of the present government was well in line with that the old governor had suggested.

Nell Mackay, member for Kaslo, moved the adjournment of the debate, which closed to-day.

EDITORIAL Jan 30/14

FINANCES AND FINANCIERS.

The Attorney-General says he is going to place the financial management of the municipalities of the province under control of his department. We will not go so far as to say that there is not a good deal of room for improvement in the conduct of the financial affairs of municipalities, even for reforms in all departments, but has Mr. Bowser made such a brilliant success of his special provincial department or of the financial department that he should throw himself into the affairs of municipalities? If there is one thing more transparent than any other in connection with the administration of this province it is the imperative and immediate necessity for the appointment of a strong, capable man as Minister of Finance. There is one man in the legislature qualified for the post—and he will not get it even if he were willing to take it, which we gravely doubt. Mr. Carter-Cotton is that man. But he would not suit the purposes of the McBride government. He is too much after the stamp of the late R. G. Tatlow to possess the confidence of the administration.

Sir Richard McBride frequently boasts of his talents as an administrator, and cites the celerity with which the credit of the province was rehabilitated after he attained power as proof of his financial genius. As a matter of fact it was the late R. G. Tatlow who reduced the finances to order. He resigned as a protest against a proposal which he foresaw would ultimately play havoc with the credit of the province, which he had laboriously built up. He predicted the conditions that prevail to-day, although we have yet to gather the ripe fruit of the schemes to which he took objection.

Mr. Cotton would be the man for the post of Finance Minister if he could be induced to take it. He is safe, sure, cautious, capable and conservative. As a newspaper man and as a public man he always has preached the doctrine of conservatism in the true sense of the term; but only men of the "hot air" variety are admitted to the councils of the McBride government.

SPOKE OF EDUCATION IN ENDING DEBATE

Hon. Dr. Young in a Long
Speech Dealt Also With
Mental Hospital

Having spent a fortnight debating the address in reply to the speech from the throne the house yesterday afternoon ended what has largely degenerated into a continuous course of adjournment of the government by its supporters. The debate has lasted somewhat longer this session than it usually does. With the house constituted as it now is the only chances members get to air their views and their abilities as speakers are on the address and the budget.

The debate closed with a lengthy speech by the minister of education. There was in Dr. Young's remarks yesterday a little of defence of the administration of which he is a member, but not very much. He spent most of the time in detailing the operations of the hospital for mental diseases and the farm colony at Essondale, of the success of which he is very proud, and in foreshadowing the technical education scheme which he intends to submit to his colleagues. This he purpose to place under the care of Inspector George H. Deane, as a separate branch of the education department, and the headquarters of the system is to be in the Victoria Normal school, now in course of erection on Lansdowne road.

Hon. Dr. Young deemed it well to deal with the speech from the throne and the debate, inasmuch as his own department had been mentioned more than once. First taking up some of the references in the speeches he eulogized the old and new members for the islands. The former president of the council he spoke of as a man who had endeared himself to the house and the people by his upright, honest conduct, and his attention to detail and public business. Answering the criticisms from the other side in regard to expenditure Dr. Young, as minister in charge of a large spending department without revenue, defended the large appropriations he had asked. Beginning with the civil service he claimed that the changes made were bringing about better service at a lower cost generally. The printing bureau, the museum and the archives were all valuable assets of the province. At Kamloops the home for men who had grown old in the province, chiefly as prospectors and miners, was an institution which called for a large outlay but a commendable one. Hospitals, charities and asylums had required the expenditure of three-quarters of a million dollars last year in aid to hospitals, salaries of district physicians and upkeep of asylums.

Speaking of insanity, Dr. Young said the percentage of the world's population which was afflicted with mental disorders was largely increasing. In this province the proportion had grown from 1 in 500 of the population in 1897 to 1 in 300 in 1912. At the end of last year there were 212 patients in the provincial hospital for mental diseases, an increase of one hundred per cent in five years. As a result of his management of this department, Dr. Young said, the per capita cost of patients in 1913 was \$7.30, while at the same time the accommodation and food compared more than favorably with any similar institution on this continent.

When he came to the department in 1907, the provincial secretary said, he found conditions at New Westminster deplorable, with antiquated methods of treatment, and his first order was that all this should be changed. To-day, in the mental hospital at Essondale, there were no dark or padded cells, no strait jackets, none of the cruel and harmful methods of an older time, and he was able to say with pride that the system in use in this province was being adopted elsewhere. It is recognized now that all cases of functional insanity can be cured, and the record of 83.3 per cent, of the number of admissions, Dr. Young considered, was a

justification of all the expenditure made. At the same time he maintained that apart from this there had been an avoidance of reckless extravagance on the one side and extreme cheapness, amounting to meanness, on the other hand which should meet the commendation of the province. In this connection Dr. Young described what is being done on the Retreat farm, and promised that within two or three years the institution will be self-supporting.

The educational system of British Columbia, the minister declared, showed greater advance and progress than any other department of government activity. There had been an increase in the number of school children attending school in the year ending June 30 last of 7,000, and this number would be more than double in the current year. Touching on the amount spent on school buildings by the government, the minister sounded a warning to municipalities—as might be expected in view of the urgent need to borrow money to carry on the ordinary operations of the province—that they must not expect the government to give the same generous aid to building as during the past couple of years. It was time to go a little slow in further erection, especially in the line of modern fads and the carrying out of additions to the curriculum that might not prove to be worth while.

In respect to technical education, Dr. Young told of his appointment of Inspector Deane to investigate, of the inspector's valuable report and of his own preparedness to submit a scheme for the carrying out of technical work in British Columbia, it being practically certain that the federal government would not fall in with the recommendations of the royal commission on technical education. While not perhaps immediately, the provincial government was decided on carrying out its own inspector's report.

Inspector Deane had reported that the elementary education system in British Columbia was good, but there was needed an extension of manual training and domestic science to districts which could not get these advantages now, and the revision of nature courses so as to give rural schools an opportunity to specialize in agriculture. The secondary schools he found to have too decided a bias towards the professional, forgetting actual work and workmen.

Dr. Young explained briefly what his proposals in regard to technical education will be. For the boy or girl who is financially able to take a four-year course in the high school there will be selective courses. If going to the university, they will get a university matriculation course; if choosing teaching, a teachers' non-professional course; if going into business, a special commercial training; technical courses for those who purpose to enter an applied science college or higher educational institution, taking up agriculture or entering an agriculture college; and, lastly, training for home life.

For boys who can only spend two years in high school there will be special technical training to fit them for their chosen calling, with a good general education. Boys leaving the common school at fourteen or thereabout will have an opportunity to attend classes at convenient hours, which will be in the nature of continuation courses, with the same teachers and subjects. For artisans there will be technical evening classes.

Dr. Young expects to see one thousand students in the freshman class when the University of British Columbia opens in the fall of 1915, and he bases this optimistic estimate on the number of students from this province who are now taking university courses. Replying to critics of a recent address of President Westbrook, the minister said that the head of the institution was going to be entirely utilitarian, but that he had meant to point out that it would proceed along the best lines for the advancement of the students. In proof of this he quoted from an address of the president at the inauguration of the president of the University of Manitoba, when he described the function of the university as the meeting of "all the needs of all the people."

The formal motion for the adoption of a loyal address was then passed without division and the address was ordered to be presented to his honor the members of the executive council.

The minister of finance made the equally formal motion that the address be taken into consideration on Friday next, but this does not mean that the budget will be ready then, nor will it be for some considerable time after that date.

The attorney-general introduced two bills; one to amend the Creditors' Trust Deed act as to registration of assignments, and the other to validate an agreement between Burnaby and New Westminster for the building of a trunk sewer.

SAYS DOUKHOBORS ARE MENACE TO COMMUNITY

Hot Shot From Member for
Grand Forks; Neil Mackay
Also Speaks

There are, happily, one or two Conservatives in the legislative chamber who are not afraid of speaking their own minds, even should their opinions clash with the views of the administration.

Of these is Ernest Miller, the energetic member for Grand Forks, who again detailed to the house yesterday the intense dissatisfaction which the people of his district feel as a result of the failure of the government to compel the Doukhobor colony there, as at Brilliant, to observe the laws of the land. Whatever his constituents may do, Mr. Miller did not blame the government for this failure, but expressed confidence that the promised legislation from the attorney-general will act like a charm.

In continuing the debate, he excused his temerity in rising so late in the debate by the importance of matters which he had to discuss in the interests of his constituents. He did not reach the pith of his speech directly, however, but when he did he said:

"We have in the neighborhood of Grand Forks a colony of people who do not obey our laws, who openly state that they will subordinate these to their own ideas. If we are to have a happy and contented people, the whole community must obey the laws of the land and subordinate their own laws to ours. Honorable gentlemen may think that I have the Doukhobor question on the brain. I have, and so has everybody in the district which I have the honor to represent. These people brag about this disregard of law. They are not content with quiet refusal to obey the law, but come into town and tell our people that they are not compelled to do so. I realized the difficulties in the way when the premier spoke last year, and I am satisfied the government has done everything possible to enforce the laws of the province in so far as the Doukhobors are concerned, but the difficulty is that the law does not meet the situation. Measures will have to be introduced to that end."

Is a Myth.

"Had I the time I could tell you that not only do they disregard the statutes which control morals, but that the boasted morality they proclaim to the world as the basis of their belief is a myth. They absolutely refuse to consider the marriage laws and the divorce laws, and it has been proved beyond doubt that divorces have taken place within their community, the parties remarrying. Can you find fault with us when we complain bitterly and hotly that we are not satisfied with conditions in connection with that colony? It is futile for Doukhobor leaders to say that it is against their religious belief to send their children to school, since it was proved before the commissioner that Peter Verigin advised them to send their children to school. But while Verigin did do this the truth of the matter is that they are to-day held practically as slaves, afraid to disagree with the will of Verigin. They say their actions are due to their religious belief, but when you consider how their property is held—that Peter Verigin has title to all the land, that no member of the community has any tangible evidence of any interest in the property of the com-

munity, that whenever any Doukhobor has broken away from the colony he has been turned out with little consideration or recompense—you will see some reason why these individuals are willing to submit to the rule of this man Verigin.

"They have threatened to bring in hordes of their people from Russia, and Peter Verigin approached a newspaper editor with an advertisement stating that six thousand were coming in and that any person desiring to sell land should apply to him. They have openly made the threat in the Kettle valley that they would buy land at their own price. The commissioner in his report says that the price of land has not been affected by the presence of these people. I know differently; I know that people object to having the Doukhobors purchase land next them; I have one case in mind where a farm was sold at two-thirds its value to escape them."

Mr. Miller had a bone to pick with Commissioner Blakemore on this point, and explained how he had come to pen a certain remark which the commissioner had quoted, unfairly he claimed. Concluding his references to this subject the member for Grand Forks tried to place the blame for the trouble with the Doukhobors on the Liberal government during the regime of which they first entered Canada, but said nothing about the failure of the Conservative government of British Columbia to enforce the laws of the province among those who came here. He closed with a quotation from the evidence where a Doukhobor stated that if one of them murdered another they would not report the matter nor punish the murderer, whose only punishment would be in his own conscience!

Advocates Changes.

Before reaching the main portion of his speech Mr. Miller spoke of the great output of copper in the Boundary country, hoped the labor commission would recommend some changes in the workmen's compensation act, which would prevent its being the most expensive means of securing damages—he had known solicitors' costs being twice the amount of the award—and declared that something should be done to insist on the Kettle Valley railway carrying out its agreement and constructing into Franklin camp.

Spoke Briefly.

Neil F. Mackay (Kaslo), experienced parliamentarian as he is, assured the house at the outset that he would not detain them with any lengthy address at this stage of the debate, and he kept his word. Following the optimistic tone of previous speakers in regard to their respective districts he reported

"all well with us" in Kaslo, with prospects bright for mining and progress and development in agriculture. Communities were springing up and settlers were coming in, who confined themselves largely to fruit-growing. Mr. Mackay lauded the minister of lands for support to dry farming, and declared that hundreds of thousands of acres of land would be brought under cultivation by this means, but he failed to point out where this large area of land would be found.

Mr. Mackay mentioned the interesting fact that to-day there would be launched at Fort Coquitlam what is the largest sailing vessel built in British Columbia and the first to enter the foreign trade. This is the Coquitlam City, a vessel of nine hundred tons burthen, which will carry one million feet of lumber.

ATTORNEY-GENERAL ADDS TO

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1914

VICTORIA HOUSE TO OPEN TODAY

Several Important Measures Will
Come Before Legislature,
But Session Is Not Likely to
Be Protracted One.

ALL DEPARTMENTAL PROGRAMMES AUTHORIZED

Question of Construction of
New University for British
Columbia Will Probably Be
Up for Early Discussion.

Special to the News-Advertiser.
Victoria, Jan. 15. — The session of the thirteenth Parliament of British Columbia will be opened today by His Honor Lieutenant-Governor Paterson. Out-of-town members have been arriving for several days and Mr. Speaker Eberts and Mr. Thornton Fell, K.C., Clerk of the House, have been in their offices for several days attending to the details attendant on the opening of the legislature.

While there are several important measures to come before the House it is generally agreed that the session will not be a protracted one. The ceremony this afternoon will consist of the address from the Throne, which will be made by His Honor Lieutenant-Governor Paterson and after the formal introduction of several new bills the House will adjourn until Friday when the reply to the address will be moved by Mr. W. J. Manson, member for Dewdney, and seconded by Mr. W. W. Foster, the newly-elected member for The Islands district.

Programmes Authorized.
All the departmental programmes authorized at the last session of the legislature have been closely adhered to, if not exceeded, and the coming year already gives promise of a similar activity on the part of the government. It is not expected that the appropriation for public works will be as large as it was last year as every community centre of any importance within the province now has a substantial government building, but as has already been announced by the Minister of Public Works it is the intention of the government to continue to prosecute an aggressive road policy, especially in the more newly settled districts of the province.

The question of the construction of the new University of B. C. will no doubt come up for discussion early in the session and following the receipt of reports from the experts from all parts of this continent who have been called upon to advise the Minister of Education, necessary appropriations for the extension of the work will doubtless be made.

Exceed Records for Output.
"With a record in the fishery industry of the province and a revival of the mining industry, which, in spite of the low prices in the metal market, gives promise of exceeding next year all previous records for output; with a flourishing lumber industry that, in spite of a lack of activity in the market, will probably exceed all expectations, with the anticipated benefits which it is generally agreed the opening of the Panama Canal must entail, the people of British Columbia are naturally optimistic of the future and are not backward in expressing their faith in the province," said Sir Richard McBride in discussing the opening of Parliament yesterday.

"Agriculture in all its branches, and more especially in the matter of fruit growing, is taking an upward turn, and with the introduction of a sound irrigation bill which it is the intention of the Government to introduce during the session, the farmers have good cause for joining their congratulations with those engaged in the other natural industries of the province.

Faithfully Adhered to.
The policy of railroad construction which was mapped out two years ago has been faithfully adhered to, and the splendid progress made by the Pacific Great Eastern, the Canadian Northern Pacific, the Kettle Valley and the Kaslo and Shocan will no doubt be laid before the House early in the session and in pursuance of the policy of development which has been followed hitherto it is likely that announcements will be made respecting the extension of these systems.

It has been announced that a bill to consolidate and amend the municipal laws based on the report of the royal commission which was laid before the House at the last session will be introduced to legislature. The sections of the bill have been carefully discussed by many of the municipalities of the province, and as the bill will go into committee those who are interested will have an opportunity of being heard in reference to any amendments or additions to the act which they consider advisable.

The prosecutions arising out of the affairs of the Bankers' Trust Company have, it is understood, been a factor in the preparation of a bill by the Attorney-General for the regulation of trust companies and for the curtailment of the powers of such companies in the investment of clients' monies.

To Amend Game Laws.
Attorney-General Bowser has also announced that following his plans for the codification of the statutes of British Columbia, he will bring down at the coming session an act to amend the game laws. Mr. Bowser has also announced that he will introduce legislation to deal with the Doukhobors. The Government for some years past have found it difficult to exact penalties for infringements of the criminal and civil codes, owing to the fact that the property held by this colony is communistic, and he has announced that an act will be introduced making it possible to levy on this property in payment of fines adjudged by the laws of British Columbia.

The provincial secretary announced some time ago that he would introduce a model public health bill on the details of which the public health department have been engaged for several weeks.

This will not be a mandatory bill, but will serve as a model for those municipalities and districts which desire to introduce legislation along the most modern lines.

The irrigation bill will be introduced at an early date during the session, and considerable interest attaches to the act as it is the first attempt at co-operative legislation proposed in British Columbia.

Several Amendments.
Several amendments have been prepared for the Land Act, Forest Act, Education Act and the Agricultural Act, but it is announced that no drastic changes will be made in the workings of these acts.

Considerable interest centres on the reports of the royal commissions on agriculture and labor which will be brought down during the session. It is probable that no new legislation arising out of their findings will be brought down during the coming session, but as both inquiries were particularly exhaustive it is probable that important amendments will be recommended by the commissioners. It is understood that some measures of state aid to farming immigrants and loans to farmers based on the value of land improvement will be suggested by the commission on agriculture, while the questions of a minimum wage bill and the improvement of labor conditions in city stores will be among the findings of the commission of labor.

THE PROVINCIAL SESSION.

A considerable body of legislation is proposed for the session of the legislature beginning today. Much of it is rather useful and needful than spectacular. Some grows out of the report of commissions on municipal organization, on labor and agriculture. The Attorney-General is meeting some of the requests of women, who have asked for amendments in laws relating to women and children. No doubt the estimates will be generous, but it can hardly be expected that the amounts voted for roads and other public works can be so large as last year. Sir Richard McBride finds himself with no Liberal opposition in the Assembly. The two Socialist members may be expected to criticise from their own point of view, and we have no doubt that the premier will welcome a free expression of individual opinion from members who are elected as supporters of the ministry.

GOVERNOR OPENS VICTORIA HOUSE

Provincial Legislature Is Opened by Lieutenant-Governor With All Usual Pomp and Ceremonial.

MR. W. W. FOSTER TAKES HIS SEAT AMID CHEERS

On Motion of Attorney-General Bill to Amend the Milk Act Is Given First Reading—Notices of Motion Given.

Special to the News-Advertiser.

Victoria, Jan. 15.—The second session of the thirteenth parliament of the province of British Columbia was opened today by His Honor Lieutenant-Governor Paterson with the quiet dignity that has marked the opening ceremony in former years.

Sharp at the stroke of 3 o'clock His Honor, who was accompanied from Government House to the Legislative Chamber by his private secretary, Mr. H. J. S. Muskett, and attended by Captain E. H. Tyrwhitt Drake, A. D. C., arrived at the parliament buildings, in front of which stood a guard of honor from the 58th Fusiliers and under the command of Captain C. A. Moorhead.

On the arrival at the buildings the band of the regiment struck up the National Anthem and the entrance of the Lieutenant-Governor into the House of Parliament was watched by a large crowd of sightseers who had assembled several hours previously.

Met by Escort.

On his arrival at the portals of the Legislative Chamber, His Honor was met by an escort of soldiers, composed of the officers of the Algonquin and the Rainbow, the staff of the permanent corps of the district and the officers of the several regiments of militia in the city. The party preceded His Honor into the chamber and formed a double line through which Lieutenant-Governor Paterson passed to the Speaker's chair.

There was a large attendance of invited guests who were seated on the floor of the house and in the north and west galleries. The general public, who were admitted to the east and south galleries, had taken their seats early in the afternoon, and the gay dresses of the ladies and the sombre frock coats of the men, enlivened by the brilliant uniforms of the officers, made an attractive pageant.

Before the arrival of His Honor, Mr. Speaker Eberts, preceded by the sergeant-at-arms, carrying the mace, had for a short time taken his place on the throne but on the heralded approach of the Lieutenant-Governor, Mr. Speaker left the chair.

Lieutenant-Governor Paterson, speaking from the chair beneath the throne, read the following address:

"Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly:

"In welcoming you to the second session of the thirteenth parliament of British Columbia, it affords me pleasure to state that the province has enjoyed a large share of advancement and prosperity during the past year.

"Prevailing conditions in the money market have delayed the payment to the Government of large sums outstanding on account of the sale of townsite and district lands; but these amounts are bearing a profitable rate of interest. Treasury notes have been issued for the sum of \$1,500,000, and legislation affecting the 'Revenue Act' and providing for a Provincial loan will be submitted to you. The high standing of British Columbia's credit, I am pleased to observe, still continues.

"Under authority of the legislation enacted last year, the Auditor-General's office has been instituted.

Public Works.

"The liberal appropriations made by you at the last session for public works have enabled further extensions to be made to the highways of the province, and, as well, have aided in opening up the central and northern parts of British Columbia. Suitable public buildings have been constructed, where necessary, in order to increase the efficiency of the public service.

"Negotiations for the site of the Provincial building in London have been concluded, and work is in progress preparatory to the erection of the structure. The new Mental Hospital at Esquimalt has been completed and is occupied. Satisfactory progress has been made on the additions to the Parliament buildings; a portion of these will be available for use in a short time.

"While there have been unfortunate troubles in the coal-mining districts of Vancouver Island, the output of our mines during the year has been most satisfactory. Based on reliable information, reports indicate that the outlook for increased development in this industry is most assuring.

"Vigorous work has been carried on by the Department of Lands. Under the supervision of the Surveyor-General surveys of large sections of the public domain have been carried out and new maps compiled. The water and forest branches, now regularly organized, have already given most valuable results. Measures will be submitted for your approval dealing with the water and timber resources.

"For the more effective working of the laws with regard to the registration of land, it is proposed to amend the present Act.

Proposed Measures.

"Following the report of the Municipal Commission, you will be asked to consider a bill to amend and consolidate the laws relating to municipalities, including provision for the establishment of a Municipal Department under the Government.

"Among other important measures to be laid before you will be one dealing with trust companies; also an amendment to the 'Schools Act'; and the consolidation of the game laws.

"The Royal Commission on Agriculture has been steadily prosecuting its inquiries and is now engaged in preparing a report. Much good has attended the endeavors of the Agricultural Department to bring about co-operation among the growers in respect to shipping and marketing farm products; on the whole, the progress of this important industry throughout the province has been most substantial.

Commissioners' Reports.

"The inquiry into the conditions of labor has been completed by the Royal Commission charged with that duty; the evidence collected and findings arrived at will be placed before you during the present session.

"It is expected that the report of the Commissioner appointed under the 'Public Inquiries Act' to investigate matters affecting the price of coal in the province will be duly laid before the House.

"The organization of the new Provincial University at Point Grey has been proceeded with, the governing body formed, and the president appointed. You will be asked to sanction an appropriation toward the erection of university buildings.

"The output of the fisheries of British Columbia now ranks first in the Dominion. Various questions affecting this industry, submitted jointly by the province and the Dominion, relative to certain constitutional rights have been settled by the Privy Council. The effect of this judgment does not impair nor limit the usefulness of the Provincial Department.

"The 'Civil Service Act,' having been in force for a sufficient time to test its utility, is found to be working beneficially.

"The First Minister with the Minister of Lands attended, as representatives of British Columbia, the Conference of the Provinces held in Ottawa in October last, and a report of the proceedings will be presented in the House.

Railway Building.

"The construction of railways in the province has progressed most satisfactorily. You will be asked to consider measures aimed at facilitating the object of the legislation already approved.

"By virtue of an Order-in-Council approved of by His Royal Highness the Governor-General, Mr. Z. A. Lash, K.C., of Toronto, and Mr. E. V. Bodwell, K.C., of Victoria, have been selected to represent respectively the Federal and Provincial interests on the commission presently to assemble for the purpose of investigating the claims of the province for better terms. A request has been formally made to the Colonial Secretary for the appointment of the third member. So soon as this is complied with it is expected that the inquiry will be undertaken. Meanwhile the case for the province has been prepared and filed with the Secretary of the Commission.

"The Public Accounts for the past fiscal year will be laid before you, and the Estimates of Expenditure will also be submitted for your consideration.

"These and all other matters which may be brought before you will, I feel assured, receive your careful and earnest attention."

WOMEN ASK FOR MINERS' RELEASE

One Hundred and Fifty Women Journey From Nanaimo to Victoria and Interview Premier in Executive Chamber.

SIR RICHARD WHILE SYMPATHETIC IS FIRM

Says Only Means of Effecting the Release of Strikers Is Through Minister of Justice of Federal House.

Special to the News-Advertiser.

Victoria, Jan. 15.—A strange scene was witnessed today in the executive chamber of the Parliament Buildings that was not without a touch of pathos, when the wives and mothers of the imprisoned miners of the coal mining district of the Island waited on Premier McBride to plead with him for clemency.

There were about sixty women present in the room, and as they laid their pleas before Sir Richard, many of their eyes were filled with tears, while one or two completely broke down in making their appeals for their dear ones.

The delegation arrived from the north on a special train, which reached the capital about 10.30 a.m. and quickly made their way to the Parliament Buildings. They attracted considerable attention on the street with their red badges, while a number of children, sons and daughters of those who are now suffering imprisonment for participating in the late disturbances, were driven through the city.

Mr. H. J. McEwen, secretary-treasurer of the Miners' Liberation League of Vancouver Island; and Vice-President A. Watchman of the B. C. Federation of Labor got into communication with the Premier and a conference was immediately arranged.

Relief Is Asked.

Mr. McEwen, who accompanied the women into the chamber, said that the delegation numbered more than 150 people. He presented a petition to the Premier, asking for the release of the miners, which he said was signed by every woman in the strike district who had a male relative in gaol. He candidly laid blame for the whole of the disturbances on the Premier, and complained that the imprisoned men had not received justice during their trials.

"We have appealed to the Minister of Justice at Ottawa," said Mr. McEwen, "and he is not investigating our case. Cables have been sent to the Home Secretary in the Imperial Parliament and to His Majesty, praying him to extend the Royal clemency. The Minister of Justice ignores the demands of thousands of people in Canada who have urged him by petition to liberate those who are now incarcerated. We take our appeal on the grounds of British justice, on which we have been taught to rely."

Several of the women next made a personal appeal to the Premier for the liberation of relatives, many of whom are the breadwinners of the family.

Terms of Appreciation.

In his answer to the deputation the Premier spoke in terms of appreciation of the sacrifice of time and money which the delegation had undergone and said that he believed that only an appeal which so closely touched their home life could have drawn them to confer with him.

"I know what it must mean to many of you to have had your loved ones removed from your homes, and while at this time I do not wish to be argumentative I would reply with the same candor that the speakers today have expressed that there must be some cause for the troubles that have fallen on you. Those for whom you have pleaded have been tried, some have been found guilty after trial and some pleaded guilty in the constitutional courts of law. We must deal with the situation as it is. Courts of the land have imposed certain punishments on those whom they have found guilty and you protest that these men should be no longer kept in prison.

Royal Clemency.

"There is a royal clemency which has been generally extended in recent years in meritorious cases, but the only agency through which this clemency can be applied is through the national government at Ottawa, where the Governor-General is in close touch with the Minister of Justice.

"If peace and order do not obtain, then it is the function of the civil powers to enforce the Criminal Code. I am confident that many of your dear ones may have committed excesses in the heat of the moment that they would not have done under normal conditions. The proposal to cause a general strike which might involve industrial ruin on the province is calamitous, but no threat of this kind will deter us, neither will it deter the Minister of Justice in executing the laws of the land.

"If the power of pardon is to be influenced by threats of industrial strikes, a precedent would be established that could only mean disaster to the civil liberties of the people of the province."

Sunday

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Special to the News-Ad

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from the Throne.

Sunday Jan 18th 1914.

BRITISH COLUMBIA, TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 1914.

NEW COMMITTEES ARE ARRANGED

Chief Government Whip Has
Conference With Premier
McBride With Regard to the
Personnel of Committees.

Special to the News-Advertiser.

Victoria, Jan. 18.—Although there was no session of the Legislature yesterday and some members took the opportunity of returning home for the week-end, there was no small activity around the legislative chamber, the morning being devoted to the holding of informal committees, and to consultation with the chief whip with regard to the procedure of business.

Mr. H. B. Thompson, chief government whip, was in conference for some time with the Premier and members of the government, arranging the personnel of various committees for the coming session.

The names of those who will serve on committees will be announced tomorrow and it is expected that those appointed will hold their first sessions on Tuesday morning. Standing committees that served on the several divisions of activity last year will again be appointed, being railways, mining, private bills, printing, agriculture, municipal and public accounts.

The Socialist party, composed of Mr. Parker Williams and Mr. Place, occupied their room in the new wing for the first time yesterday and were busy all day attending to details of the legislation which they will introduce at the coming session.

The House will resume its session tomorrow at 2 o'clock, when Mr. Place will speak on the reply to the Address from the Throne.

MINERS MUST BE ORGANIZED

Mr. Place Says That No Matter
What Outcome of Present
Struggle May Be Result
Will Not Be Final.

SOCIALIST FIELD DAY IN VICTORIA HOUSE

Bill to Authorize Payment of
Certain Expenses in Connection
With Commissions Receives
Second Reading.

Special to the News-Advertiser.

Victoria, Jan. 19.—The member for Nanaimo opened the debate on the reply to the address at today's session of the House. Before proceeding to the subject matter he called attention to two incidents which he said reflected upon the administration of justice in the province. Mr. Speaker asked him whether the points related to the issue and eventually Mr. Place was allowed to proceed.

He said that information had come to him to the effect that some little time ago a number of boys had got into trouble with a Chinaman at Nanaimo. Two special constables were sent to the scene and the boys naturally made an attempt to get away whereupon one of the constables whipped out his gun and fired, hitting one of the lads, so that he was now laid up in the hospital. Mr. Place stated that he had argued against the use of weapons by the police in the past and he contended that there was no possible justification for the use of the gun on the occasion in question.

Sixteen Months in Gaol.

The other incident related to a boy who had been in gaol for sixteen months without being brought to trial. That, he said, was a new brand of British justice to him. He claimed that under any circumstances the lad should have been brought to trial instead of being held in gaol for so long. The people who had made the charge against him had left the province and there was no evidence, yet he might still have been incarcerated but for the action of the member in taking the matter up with the authorities.

Going on to speak in reply to the address Mr. Place said that as a Socialist he did not profit him anything to criticize the administration of the government in regard to natural resources. He was there as the representative of labor and idle criticism of matters like that did his cause no good. In regard to the claims that had been made in behalf of the mining department of the province, namely, that it had produced a record output he said it might as well also be claimed that it had created the highest death rate in the world of mining.

Commenting upon the fishing industry, he stated that it was carried on almost exclusively by Japanese and he went on to explain the economic condition that made it impossible for white men to compete against them. He said that 97 per cent. of the fishing off Nanaimo was done by Japanese, and he added that the deep sea fishing industry was in a similar condition.

Reverting to the mining industry, Mr. Place said:

Will Not Be Final.

"There will be no peace in the mining districts until the men are organized. No matter what the outcome of the present struggle may be it will not be final. Take the history of any country and you will observe that there is no

industrial peace until the workers are in a position to fight their case without actually going to war. In the mining districts of this province the men are satisfied that individually they have no chance whatever and that collectively, while they may not succeed, they will at all events stand a better chance of having their demands listened to.

He characterized the coal commission as one of the cheapest subterfuges that anyone calling himself a statesman would stoop to at a critical time, and he went on to say that even he might have hesitated about the undertaking.

Mr. J. C. Wood, member for Alberni, moved the adjournment of the debate.

The discussion on the second reading of the bill to authorize the payment of certain expenses in connection with commissions issued under the Great Seal was introduced by the Premier.

Great Work Undertaken.

Speaking with reference to the members for Cowichan and Yale Sir Richard said that on his own personal solicitation they consented to take positions on the agricultural commission. He spoke briefly of the great work the commission had undertaken, not only in the provincial field, but in the other lands as well.

"Very lately," he proceeded, "the question was raised by them as to their right, under a strict interpretation of the constitution, to receive these advances. The same question was raised with regard to the member for Kamloops who serves on the federal commission on Indian affairs. The expenses of the Indian commission, I may say, are to be borne equally by the federal and provincial administrations when the final settlement is made but pending the event the federal exchequer has to defray the cost.

There is sufficient precedent, both in Great Britain and Canada, to justify the action of the members in question and consequently I have no hesitation in asking you to give the bill a second reading. There is nothing in it to infringe in the slightest measure upon the high standing of the Parliaments of the country or to affect in any way the usefulness and dignity of the provincial legislature."

Second Reading Opposed.

Mr. Williams immediately rose to oppose the second reading. He remarked that the wonderful spirit of competition which the commissionerships evoke among active Conservatives in and out of the House inclined him to think that there was more in it than the disinterested desire to promote agricultural development. He sympathized with the members heartily but maintained that they had no case.

"The fight put up for the chairmanship of the commission by two leading Conservatives does not incline me to appreciate their plea of self-sacrifice. In fact, I have it on excellent authority that in order to avoid being importuned to death on this topic the Premier had to leave a room by the window." (Laughter.)

Mr. Williams stated that section 28 of the constitution was most emphatic on the subject of commissioners. He quoted it to the House and maintained that it rendered the members in question ineligible to sit in the House.

"If their position demands a remedy at all it is proof that they are beyond the remedy of the constitution," he said.

The bill then passed its second reading and will be brought up for its third and final reading today.

The House stood adjourned till this afternoon on the motion of the Premier.

BILL IS GIVEN THIRD READING

Provincial Legislature Gives Final Reading to Bill Authorizing Expenditures in Regard to Commission.

INTERESTING SPEECHES IN DEBATE ON ADDRESS

Mr. Bowser Produces Statements Asked for by Opposition in Regard to Members of Agriculture Commission.

Special to the News-Advertiser.

Victoria, Jan. 20.—At the Provincial Legislature today, the bill authorizing the payment of expenses and travelling incidentals to members of the House engaged upon royal commissions, passed its third reading. At the close of the debate Mr. Parker Williams, member for Newcastle, demonstrated the half-hearted spirit of the Opposition's attack by saying "Pass" when the Speaker put the motion to the House.

The debate in reply to the address was productive of two interesting speeches, the first by Mr. J. C. G. Wood, member for Alberni, and the other by Mr. W. R. McLean, member for Nelson. Both speakers dealt with the advancement that had been made in their respective territories during the past year and expressed their confidences in the future.

Hon. W. J. Bowser took the fire out of the attack of Mr. Williams in regard to the monies paid as expenses to the members for Cowichan and Yale in their capacity as members of the commission on agriculture, by frankly submitting a statement of the same with the various dates fixed opposite the payments.

Return Wanted.

Mr. Williams asked that an order of the House be granted for a return showing the total sums overdue the treasury department from the following sources:

The sale of townsite lots; sale of agricultural lands; timber licenses; timber royalties; purchase, lease and rental of coal and petroleum lands.

The Premier replied that there was no objection to the questions. Most of the answers had been sent already, and statements regarding the others would be ready in a day or two.

Mr. Williams asked the Acting Minister of Finance what sum, if any, had been paid the members for Cowichan and Yale as expenses or travelling incidentals while engaged in the work of the Royal Commission on Agriculture.

Statement Submitted.

Hon. W. J. Bowser replied by submitting a statement showing that the member for Cowichan had received \$1,552.95 and the member for Yale \$1,068.75. He also quoted the dates on which the payments were made.

The House then went into committee upon the third reading of the bill "To Authorize the Payment of Certain Expenses in connection with Commissions issued under the Great Seal," with Mr. A. H. B. Macgowan, fourth member from Vancouver, in the chair.

Before the final section passed Mr. Williams rose. "If the members have lost their seats, where do we get the power by any retroactive measure to re-seat them?" He also reiterated his statement that if the members were in need of remedy they were beyond the remedy of the House.

The Attorney-General replied that there was no question of the members having forfeited their seats. He went on

to state that the Legislature was all-powerful and could reseat them if necessary. If there is any question of penalties, the Legislature can relieve them of the penalties.

Not All-Powerful.

Mr. Williams contended that the Legislature was not all-powerful, and rather than store up future trouble he suggested that the bill should be held up for some time in order that a complete investigation of the public accounts could be made.

The Premier rose and took issue with the leader of the Opposition. "There can be no question," he said, "that it is competent for members of this House to be interested in limited liability corporations who may have business engagements with the government. If members are to be disqualified because they hold stock in such companies, it is carrying things to the extreme."

He proceeded to say that there was nothing very unusual in the bill before the House, in proof of which he recalled the fact that some fifteen years ago a measure was submitted that went the length of taking out of the hands of the court certain election trials, at all events during the period of the Legislature, and giving seats in the House to the members whose election was being contested. That was done on the ground of public policy, and he maintained that the argument held in regard to the bill before the House.

"As a matter of fact," he said, "the question of disqualification was not raised by the Opposition. It was raised by the members themselves who desired that some such expression of the House, as was outlined in the bill, should be passed. The members for Newcastle and Nanaimo have had a long time to think about the matter, but they have never said a word until now, although they must have known, and in fact, did know, what had been done. I am convinced that it will be in the general public interest to have this bill pass. We make no excuse for the bill. We simply ask its adoption by the House to remove any doubts expressed by the chairman of the commission."

The committee then rose and reported progress on the motion of the Premier. The Premier then moved the third reading of the bill, and on the motion being put by the Speaker, Mr. Williams audibly remarked:

"Pass."

Mr. H. H. Watson, member for Vancouver for leave to introduce a private bill to validate certain bylaws.

Mr. A. H. B. Macgowan, member for Vancouver, asked leave to introduce a private bill to amend the "Chartered Accountants Act, 1905." The petition is from the Institute of Chartered Accountants of British Columbia.

Mr. Foster gave notice of motion that he would introduce a bill entitled "An Act Respecting the British Columbia Association of Architects."

PREMIER REPLIES TO LAND CRITICS

Sir Richard Declares That No Lands Have Been Given Away and None Alienated to Colonization Companies.

SALES HAVE RESULTED IN USEFUL SETTLERS

Further Railway Legislation During Present Session Is Foreshadowed — Finances Are in Good Shape.

Special to the News-Advertiser.

Victoria, Jan. 21.—Premier McBride made his contribution to the debate on the address in the Legislature today and took the opportunity to answer in full the Socialist and Liberal criticism of the manner in which the affairs of the province are being conducted. Replying to the charges dealing with the land policy now being made by Mr. H. C. Brewster and Mr. M. A. Macdonald in their political tour, the Premier said that no lands had been given away and none had been alienated to colonization companies.

All the crown lands that had been disposed of had been sold and the government had got for them their market value. The sales had resulted in useful and profitable settlers being added to the population of British Columbia. The revenue out of which trunk and lateral roads had been constructed was mainly derived from the proceeds of land sales.

Direct Taxation.

Where, he asked, would this money be forthcoming if the province had not this source of revenue? If the Liberals were elected to office did they propose to put an end to land sales and derive their revenue from direct taxation? They would either have to do this or abandon the programme of public works which was being carried out from year to year and which was instrumental in increasing the property of the province. The whole economic policy of the government was based upon the idea of so pruning and paring down the present taxation that the time would come when all the revenue was derived directly from the natural resources.

In replying to those who have cast aspersions on the financial stability of British Columbia, the Premier said that ten and a half years ago, when the present government came into power, the net debt of the province was over eleven millions and the revenue scarcely two millions. Today the revenue was over ten millions while the provincial debt was little over eight millions. Criticism had been directed at the fact that it was deemed advisable some weeks ago to secure \$1,500,000 by the issue of treasury bills on the London market.

Precautionary Measure.

This was purely a precautionary measure and was by no means necessary to maintain the financial balance. As a matter of fact, the province now had a credit balance in the bank of upwards of two millions. But the policy of the administration was to be prepared lest a sudden call, brought about by disaster, or some such occurrence, should eventuate.

One result of the treasury note issue upon which all could congratulate themselves was that it had proved that at a time of world-wide stringency, the financial stability of British Columbia was on a firm and solid basis. In the amount of money outstanding on land sales the government possessed an immense asset. The arrears due the province from this source were now \$9,664,582.62, and in townsite and suburban sales \$3,132,753.92. All this money was bearing interest at six per cent., so that the revenue derived was of a very substantial character.

The government did not consider that at a time like the present it would be advisable to call in this money. Such a procedure would inflict hardships which were unwarranted by the circumstances. One of the most interesting announcements made in the course of his speech was to the effect that the provincial administration was prepared to discuss ways and means whereby it might be possible for the Legislature to do something that would lead to a reduction in the cost of living.

Fully Discussed.

The Premier said that while at present this matter was under consideration by the Dominion authorities, it was possible that some remedy might lie in the hands of the Legislature and he hoped before the present session was over that the matter would be fully discussed.

Dealing with the outlook in the mining industry, he said that in his thirteen years' experience as minister of mines he had never known better promise of development than was in sight at present. The development work which had been going on quietly and conservatively for some years past was now beginning to bear its fruits and the results would ensure to the benefits of the whole province.

The greatest care must be exercised to guard against anything in the nature of a mining boom. The mining industry in the past had been largely handicapped through lack of transportation. The facilities which were now so rapidly being brought into existence would mean a great impetus to mineral production.

Before concluding he foreshadowed some further railway legislation during the present session and took occasion to remark that the programme now being carried out here exceeded in its pretensions anything hitherto attempted in any other province of Canada. It was well to know that the work was progressing speedily and successfully. He concluded an address of an hour and a half with an eloquent peroration in which he prophesied that the present year would exceed in the fullness of its accomplishments any previous twelve months in the history of British Columbia.

STRONG PLEA LESS TAX

Mr. W. W. Foster Debate in Provincial Legislature and Says Lumber Carry Big Burden.

CONGRATULATIONS GOVERNMENT

Mr. Cawley Accused for Nanaimo of Representing One Section of Colony Only.

Special to the News-Advertiser. Victoria, Jan. 21.—Today's sixth day of the present session has been devoted to the reply to the Address from and the end is apparently yet.

Mr. Foster resumed the made a strong plea for a taxation in the lumber industry. He said, was already bearing a burden. He was told McKenna, of Delta, who was showing the wonderful progress of Fraser Valley during the year, and broke a lance for Mr. Cawley, of Chilliwack, the third speaker, congratulating the government on the splendid year, and broke a lance for Mr. Cawley, whom representing only one constituency, according to own confession, made in a week.

Considerable Tax

Dealing with the lumber provinces, Mr. Foster questioned of taxation. He the poll tax had been r was the only means they the transient pay his upkeep of the country, were exempt the lumber bearing a considerable burden. The boast was made the paid the largest proportion any industry in the province contended that there tion for the burdens imposed to say that the his even way in which the had been taxed was respect great proportion of the to the government last people concerned could no taxation during a period. session.

"When you realize the Mr. Foster, you will see her industry is being particularly in the interior. At the Coast, many square miles of easy of access and of quality that it is famous perhaps the lumbermen log the present taxes on lumbermen have to be cut that generally contain a proportion of merchandise.

Food Product

Mr. F. J. A. MacKenzie, Delta, then took up the opened with a reference the address relating to and the agricultural industry. He pointed out that the palates comprising the of the food-producing high position as such referred briefly to the faced the early settlers and stated that by a system the lands had been claimed and were now.

Continued on Page

STRONG PLEA FOR LESS TAXATION

Mr. W. W. Foster Continues Debate in Provincial Legislature and Says Lumbermen Carry Big Burden.

CONGRATULATIONS FOR GOVERNMENT ON YEAR

Mr. Cawley Accuses Member for Nanaimo of Representing One Section of Constituency Only.

Special to the News-Advertiser. Victoria, Jan. 27.—Today was the sixth day of the present session which has been devoted to the debate on the reply to the Address from the Throne, and the end is apparently not in sight yet.

Mr. Foster resumed the debate and made a strong plea for a lessening of taxation in the lumber industry, which, he said, was already bearing too heavy a burden. He was followed by Mr. MacKenzie, of Delta, who quoted figures showing the wonderful prosperity of the Fraser Valley during the last ten years.

Mr. Cawley, of Chilliwack, who was the third speaker, congratulated the government on the splendid record of last year, and broke a lance with the member for Nanaimo, whom he accused of representing only one section of his constituency, according to Mr. Place's own confession, made in the House last week.

Considerable Burden.

Dealing with the lumber industry in the province, Mr. Foster took up the question of taxation. He regretted that the poll tax had been rescinded as it was the only means they had of making the transient pay his share in the upkeep of the country. While these were exempt, the lumber industry was bearing a considerable burden, he said. The boast was made that the industry paid the largest proportion of taxes of any industry in the province, and yet he contended that there was justification for the burdens imposed. He ventured to say that the high rate and uneven way in which the lumber industry had been taxed was responsible for the great proportion of the loss of revenue to the government last year, as the people concerned could not stand such taxation during a period of financial depression.

"When you realize these facts," said Mr. Foster, "you will see that the lumber industry is being rather hard hit, particularly in the interior of the province. At the Coast, where there are many square miles of dense timber, easy of access and of such splendid quality that it is famous the world over, perhaps the lumbermen can stand paying the present taxes but the mountain lumbermen have to be content with limits that generally contain a much smaller proportion of merchantable timber."

Food Producers.

Mr. F. J. A. MacKenzie, member for Delta, then took up the discussion. He opened with a reference to that part of the address relating to municipalities and the agricultural interests therein. He pointed out that the three municipalities comprising the Delta riding were of the food-producing class, and held a high position as such in the province. He referred briefly to the difficulties that faced the early settlers in his district and stated that by a system of co-operation the lands had been dyked and reclaimed and were now as productive, if

Continued on Page 2, Col. 5.

not more so, than any in the province. He claimed that in a single season the 30,000 acres comprising the riding had yielded as much in produce as represented a valuation of \$1,350,000.

"This municipality is a model farming section, and the Dominion Government would be well advised should the Provincial Agricultural Department induce them to spend some of the Dominion aid to agriculture in British Columbia by establishing an experimental truck garden farm so that the wants of the adjacent cities could be met," said Mr. MacKenzie.

Would Loom Large.

Mr. MacKenzie proceeded to say that if the government's policy of expending was based along the lines of helping those who help themselves the Delta riding would loom large in the provincial estimates.

Referring to the question of land settlement Mr. MacKenzie said he was heartily in accord with the policy of the government and congratulated the Minister of Lands upon the economic manner of carrying out the duties of his office.

The member for Chilliwack congratulated the government on its recent importations of dairy stock and suggested that in future the cattle should be sold on time payments in order to give the small farmer the same opportunity as his richer neighbor.

In dealing with the proposed loan act, Mr. Cawley said that he hoped that appropriations for agriculture and mining would be made from this sum as he considered them the two great industries of British Columbia. He urged the enforcement of the wild lands tax on those who held large sections of land and before concluding outlined a suggestion for throwing open model tracts of land by the government with roads cut through and built, the whole area after subdivision being thrown open to the public for auction.

Moved Adjournment.

Mr. Tisdall, member for Vancouver, moved the adjournment of the debate. The following petitions were presented:

By Mr. Cawley—From J. L. Atkinson and others, commissioners of Eumias dyking district, for leave to introduce a private bill to amend the "Sims Development Company Act, 1905."

By Mr. Carter-Cotton—From Francis W. Rounsefell and others, for leave to introduce a private bill to incorporate the corporation of the district of Shaughnessy.

By Mr. W. Manson—From J. H. McCormick and others, for leave to introduce a private bill to incorporate the Northern Telephone Company.

By Mr. W. Manson—From the Columbian Methodist College for leave to introduce a private bill to amend the Columbian Methodist College Act, 1893.

In reply to a question from Mr. Place, the member for Nanaimo, the Attorney-General gave the number of special constables employed in the recent coal strike area. The figures were Nanaimo 51; Ladysmith 20; Cumberland 48; Extension 31 and South Wellington 21, making a total of 151.

MR. LEMIEUX IS TAKEN TO TASK

Mr. C. E. Tisdall Condemns the Issue of Statement That There Are 17,000 Unemployed in Vancouver.

DECLARES 2,000 IS MUCH NEARER MARK

Mr. Shaw, Kamloops, Gives Interesting Statistics on Progress of Dry Farming During the Past Year.

Special to the News-Advertiser.

Victoria, Jan. 28.—The debate on the reply to the address to the throne was continued at today's session of the legislature.

Mr. C. E. Tisdall, who was the first speaker, condemned the issue of statements emanating from Hon. Mr. Lemieux as to the amount of unemployment existing in Vancouver and said that although there had been some depression in the building trade, the returns of the mercantile houses showed very little diminution of business during the past year.

In dealing with the prosperity of the Fraser Valley and the general improvement in the agricultural industry, Mr. Tisdall quoted figures to show the great increase in the fruit industry of recent years and predicted that with the opening of the railroad lines now under construction this advance would be even more marked.

Progress in Dry Farming.

Mr. Shaw of Kamloops, who followed the member for Vancouver, gave some interesting statistics of the progress made in dry farming during the past year, telling the House that within the last twelve months more than 250,000 bushels of grain and 1,000 tons of hay that had been grown in this arid belt had been shipped to Western markets.

Mr. C. E. Tisdall, member for Vancouver, continued the debate. He prefaced his remarks by saying that when the province was experiencing a period of remarkable prosperity, he refrained from expressing too much optimism, and he thought that now, when the period of depression existed in the province, it was only right and proper that he should discountenance the unwarranted pessimism that appeared to be the principal stock-in-trade of a number of people.

He criticized the statements made on the floor of the House of Commons at Ottawa by the Hon. Mr. Lemieux to the effect that there were 17,000 unemployed in the City of Vancouver, and pointed out that as there were only 28,000 names on the voters' list, it was scarcely likely that 17,000 male adults were unemployed. As a matter of fact, he was satisfied from his personal observation and investigation that 2,000 unemployed was much nearer the mark.

Unwarranted Statements.

Mr. Tisdall explained that a city like Vancouver, possessing a mild climate, was always subject to an influx of people from outlying districts, especially during the winter months. He did not think there was much to the credit of Mr. Lemieux to make such unwarranted statements, and he felt that it was time reports of the kind were vigorously contradicted.

"In the first place, it is a pity that a gentleman occupying the position of Mr. Lemieux in the Dominion House should lay himself open to criticism by making an attack on a city like Vancouver in

the manner he had adopted," said Mr. Tisdall, "and in the second place it was doubly a pity that he should lend himself to the issuing of such statements so obviously false to any one who cared to give the matter a moment's consideration."

The question of deep sea fishing engaged the attention of the member for Vancouver, who stated that the industry had been expanding rapidly, although little notice had been taken of it officially. He believed that there were great possibilities in the deep sea fishing on the West Coast, and as it was well-known that there was an almost limitless market for such produce, he considered that it would be a wise policy for the government to give special attention to the question of developing this wonderful asset of the province.

Practically Unexploited.

The herring fishing also was well worth looking after, he said. In every inlet of the Coast there is a plentiful supply of this fish for all, and as yet the business has been practically unexploited.

He expressed his appreciation of the government's policy in regard to the maintaining the fishing industry for the white people of the country. In regard to other markets for British Columbia fish he quoted from "The Daily Telegraph," London, to the effect that a consignment of British Columbia fish had met with a ready demand and there was the certainty of a good trade in the Mother Land immediately the industry here was in a position to handle it and supply the demand.

He looked to the opening of the Panama Canal to accomplish a great deal in establishing the necessary cheap connection between the fishing grounds of British Columbia and the European markets.

Mr. Tisdall welcomed the announcement that the government intended to bring down a comprehensive Municipal Clauses Act, and in this connection he suggested that provision should be made for the government to have some authority to supervise the borrowing powers of the municipalities not only in the general interest of the province but in the interest of the municipalities themselves. Saskatchewan, he said, had legislation of that sort, and Alberta had adopted a similar policy.

Three bills were read a first time and ordered to be read a second time at today's session; the first introduced by Mr. Williams amending the Masters and Servants Act, the second by Mr. W. W. Foster, respecting the British Columbia Association of Architects, and the third by Mr. MacKenzie amending the Dentistry Act.

MEMBER SCORES LIBERAL LEADERS

Mr. Brewster and Company Are
Attacked for Misrepresenta-
tions Reported in Press of
Meetings in Present Tour.

ENCOURAGING REPORT FROM SLOCAN DISTRICT

Mr. W. Manson Taunts Liberal
Party With Lack of Con-
structive Policy—Number of
Pre-emptors Increases.

Special to the News-Advertiser.

Victoria, B. C., Jan. 29.—A pungent attack on the Liberal party in British Columbia for the misrepresentations reported in the Liberal press of the meetings of the present tour of Mr. Brewster and his party throughout the province, and an encouraging report of the development and prosperity of the Slocan and Rossland districts were the features of today's session of the Legislature.

Mr. W. Manson, member for Skeena, who opened the debate taunted the Liberal party with their lack of a constructive policy, and gave figures showing that the number of pre-emptors who had settled on crown lands during the past year was in excess of those who had entered in 1912. He was followed by Mr. Lorne Campbell of Rossland, who dealt minutely with the amount of ore handled and the net profits made in the Rossland district and also gave a brief review of the agricultural development of that district.

Capacity Only 200.

In dealing with the published reports of what the Liberal papers termed the triumphal march of their leaders, he said that it had been stated that in some places 100 people were present in the halls to listen to their addresses. Whilst anyone who was acquainted with the district knew that the maximum capacity of these halls did not exceed 200.

"If the Liberals are so ready to criticize the politics of the present administration, it is unfortunate that they cannot enunciate some constructive policy instead of the policy of general destruction which they so freely dictate," said Mr. Manson. "Had such a course been taken some years ago it is my belief that we should today see some of the Liberal members in the House instead of the entire party being wiped out from this Legislature."

In dealing with the matter of the amounts outstanding to the province from the sale of land, he said that he realized the difficulty of collecting many of these sums without disturbing the balance of trade, but he hoped that some definite arrangement would be made by which the outstanding debts could be realized within a stated period.

New British Columbia.

Turning to the progress in the Skeena district, which he called the New British Columbia, he said that owing to the widely scattered nature of settlement in that area there was an enormous demand for a system of roads which would require a large amount of money in their construction. In dealing with this settlement, he said that the number of pre-emptors who were located in Prince George during the past year was 442; in Hazelton 167; in Fort George 531; and in Fort Fraser 450.

"The total number of pre-emptors in British Columbia during the last year was 2,355," said the member for Skeena, "covering an approximate area of 510,000 acres, as compared with 2,465

settlers during the previous year covering an approximate area of 500,000 acres."

That Rossland looks forward also to an increased prosperity with the opening of the Kettle Valley Line, which will give the people of that district direct communication with the coast, was the statement made by Mr. Lorne Campbell, member for Rossland, who continued the debate.

Have Felt Isolated.

"In the past we have felt isolated from our neighbors on the coast," said Mr. Campbell, "and our only outlet has been through our neighboring state in the south, but with the opening of the new line we shall be able to take a night train and be in Vancouver or Victoria early on the following day."

In continuing, he said, that mining had played a prominent part in the prosperity of their district, and that in the past year there had been a net profit of \$1,500,000 in an area of 300 acres. He said that not so long ago it used to be the current belief, and the statement was backed up by the administration, that there was no payable ore lower than six hundred feet below the surface of this province, while today in Rossland they were taking ore from the 2300-foot level, and they had five years' supply of ore in sight at the present rate of shipment. He made a strong plea for the mining prospector, who, he said, had been driven out of the country, and urged the government to devise some measures for his relief.

Not Sanguine of Results.

In dealing with the question of the Doukhobor colony, he congratulated the government on its intention to bring down legislation during the present session, but was not very sanguine as to the results.

"It is not a difficult matter to bring down legislation," said the member for Rossland, "but knowing these men as I do, I think it will be exceedingly difficult to enforce any act after it has been placed on the statute books."

"It seems to me that the proper way to handle the situation would be by the appointment of a resident agent, and if this was done I believe that the complex problem would very quickly be solved."

Before resuming his seat he made a strong plea for the extension of the road system in Rossland. He said that \$57,000,000 has been taken out of Rossland mines, and that for this reason he thought it only just that the wagon roads of this section should be extended on a large scale.

MEMBER SAYS ALL IS WELL IN MINING WORLD

Mr. Neil Mackay, Member for
Kaslo, States That Residents
Are Looking Forward to Per-
iod of Prosperity.

Special to the News-Advertiser.

Victoria, Jan. 30.—Dr. H. E. Young, closing the debate on the Speech from the Throne in the Provincial Legislature, pointed out that his department was essentially a spending and not a revenue-producing part of the government. He showed that the expenditures had been carefully conceived and efficiently carried out.

Dealing first of all with the record of the civil service he passed to the work of the board of health during the year. Following this he gave a review of the work of the archives department, and thereafter spoke at considerable length on the splendid record made of the colony farm and the mental hospital at Coquitlam. Following this he launched into an analysis of the report of the expert on technical education, passing to a review of the progress made in the University of British Columbia.

Attacks Contradicted.

The attacks recently made on Dr. Westbrook for his alleged advocacy of a utilitarian course of study were warmly contradicted by the minister, and in his closing words he pleaded for a broader spirit of optimism throughout the province, condemning the cry of "blue ruin" which of late had been so freely circulated by the leaders of the Liberal party and their press.

Victoria, Jan. 30.—Making an able and spirited defence of Dr. Westbrook the chosen head of the new university of British Columbia, Dr. Young took issue with his opponents on the subject of the newspaper criticism, which he said, had been recently circulated to the effect that Dr. Westbrook intended to subordinate the humanities and purely utilitarian subjects.

Leaving the question of the university he outlined the reports submitted by Mr. G. H. Dean who was sent to Europe to inquire into the latest methods of technical education, and he intimated that proposals would be brought down involving a radical change in this branch of the work which would enable every boy and girl in the province to obtain the advantages of technical instruction.

The debate in reply to the Speech from the Throne was continued by Mr. Neil Mackay, member for Kaslo. He referred to the optimistic speeches that had been delivered the previous day by the members for Rossland and Slocan and added:

"I am glad to be able to say to the members of this House that all is well with us in the mining world. We have had a series of dispiriting years. With the ore first discovered it was necessary to drive long tunnels and that required a heavy expenditure of money, but today the industry is working on a firm basis and prospects for the future are excellent."

Great Prosperity.

Mr. Mackay referred to the work which the C. P. R. is doing at Kaslo and stated that the residents were looking forward to a period of great prosperity with the final railroad connection to the larger centres of the province. Plans have been completed, he said, for the erection of extensive terminals at Kaslo and it was generally expected that these developments would materialize in benefits to the entire district. Since the mining industry had come into its own, he said, it had been found possible to develop the old mines which had been discarded for a time, and now production was being carried on in practically all the properties.

"But mining is not our only asset," the member for Kaslo said, "during the past year we had a considerable development in agriculture. New communities have sprung up and new territory has been brought under cultivation. I do not pretend that we are as productive in this regard as some of the more favored districts of the province, but in point of quality we can easily hold our own with the best land in British Columbia."

NEW MEASURES BEING INTRODUCED

Attorney-General
Bill Foreman
to Deal With
Issues Will Be

SEVERAL CO- OPERATIVE HAVE T

Charitable A
Passed by
ature Wit
Other Bills

Special to the News-Advertiser.

Victoria, Feb. 1.—The legislature today considered a number of bills, including one for the consideration of statutes devised by private corporations which do not of the Companies Act. That the new trust companies Bowser's speech weeks ago, will indicated by in dealing with amendment to Act.

"The trust will shortly be comprehensive and Attorney-General that several trating will be o when the new

In introducing provisions of a workings of Attorney-General object was to formity for al the province.

several compa charters grant operating in order to give as the investor in touch with tions of these these amendments forward.

In several had been slight been done for rather than w their operation.

The Charities passed without upon this, Mr. same lines of vident Societies its second re up was the L was one of tration fee h to \$10.

The Benov ed a provision trar refusing company und be taken to-1 Council. The ed that up t which the a was in the S the fact that had been su Court on tw by involving been despo of review in in-Council.

Acts and munities Ac ance Compa ment and L introduced a

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THIRTEENTH PARLIAMENT NOW IN SECOND SESSION

Lieutenant-Governor Paterson Opens British Columbia House This Afternoon—Land, Municipal, Trust Companies and Educational Legislation Mentioned

With the customary formalities the second session of the thirteenth parliament of the province of British Columbia was opened at 3 o'clock this afternoon by his honor Lieutenant-Governor Paterson. His honor was accompanied from Government house to the legislative chamber by his private secretary, H. J. Muskett, and by Captain B. H. Tyrwhitt Drake, A.D.C.

In front of the buildings there was drawn up a guard of honor from the Eighty-eighth Fusiliers, in charge of Captain C. A. Moorhead and Lieutenant Collinson and Major. The band was also in attendance and played the National Anthem as his honor arrived. There was a considerable attendance of the general public on parliament square to watch the outdoor part of the ceremony, which was favored by good weather.

The staff of the permanent corps stationed in this district, the officers of the ships of war at present in port and the officers of the several regiments of militia in the city were waiting in the lobby for the party, and they preceded his honor into the chamber, forming a double line up the corridor, between which his honor and his attendants walked to the speaker's chair. Mr. Speaker Eberts stood to the right while the speech from the throne was being read and attended his honor, in company with the ministers, as he was leaving the chamber.

In the assembly chamber the legislators were in their seats waiting the arrival of the Lieutenant-Governor. With them on the floor of the House were about 250 invited guests, others present on invitation being seated in the north and west galleries. The general public was admitted to the galleries on the east side and the south end behind the throne.

As soon as the Lieutenant-Governor entered the chamber the company arose, remaining standing until he mounted the throne. Prior to the arrival of his honor, Mr. Speaker Eberts, preceded by the mace and attended by the sergeant-at-arms, entered the hall and took his chair. The inaugural step of the session was the introduction to the Speaker of W. W. Foster, member-elect for the Islands. He was brought forward by the premier and the minister of public works.

Lieutenant-Governor Paterson then proceeded with the reading of the address, which was as follows:

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly:

In welcoming you to the second session of the Thirteenth Parliament of British Columbia, it affords me pleasure to state that the province has enjoyed a large share of advancement and prosperity during the past year. Prevailing conditions in the money market have delayed the payment to the government of large sums, outstanding on account of the sale of townsite and district lands; but these amounts are bearing a profitable rate of interest. Treasury notes have been issued for the sum of \$1,500,000, and legislation affecting the "Revenue Act" and providing for a provisional loan will be submitted to you. The high standing of British Columbia's credit, I am pleased to see, continues.

Under authority of the legislation enacted last year, the Auditor-General's office has been instituted.

The liberal appropriations made by you at the last session for public works have enabled further extensions to be made to the highways of the province, and, as well, have aided in opening up the central and northern parts of British Columbia. Suitable public buildings have been constructed, where necessary, in order to increase the efficiency of the public service.

Negotiations for the site of the provincial building in London have been concluded, and work is in progress preparatory to the erection of the structure. The new mental hospital at Esquimalt has been completed and is occupied. Satisfactory progress has been made on the additions to the parliament buildings; a portion of these will be available for use in a short time.

While there have been unfortunate troubles in the coal-mining districts of Vancouver Island, the output of our mines during the year has been most satisfactory. Based on reliable information, reports indicate that the outlook for increased development in this industry is most assuring.

Vigorous work has been carried on by the department of lands. Under the supervision of the surveyor-general surveys of large sections of the public domain have been carried out and new maps compiled. The water and forest branches, now regularly organized, have already given most valuable results. Measures will be submitted for your approval dealing with the water and timber resources.

For the more effective working of the laws with regard to registration of

land, it is proposed to amend the present act.

Following the report of the municipal commission, you will be asked to consider a bill to amend and consolidate the laws relating to municipalities, including provision for the establishment of a municipal department under the government.

Among other important measures to be laid before you will be one dealing with trust companies; also an amendment to the schools act; and the consolidation of the game laws.

The royal commission on agriculture has been steadily prosecuting its inquiries and is now engaged in preparing a report. Much good has attended the endeavors of the agricultural department to bring about co-operation among the growers in respect to shipping and marketing farm products; on the whole, the progress of this important industry throughout the province has been most substantial.

The inquiry into the conditions of labor has been completed by the royal commission charged with that duty; the evidence collected and findings arrived at will be placed before you during the present session.

It is expected that the report of the commissioner appointed under the public inquiries act to investigate matters affecting the price of coal in the province will be duly laid before the House.

The organization of the new Provincial university at Point Grey has been proceeded with, the governing body formed, and the president appointed. You will be asked to sanction an appropriation towards the erection of university buildings.

The output of the fisheries of British Columbia now ranks first in the Dominion. Various questions affecting this industry, submitted jointly by the province and the Dominion, relative to certain constitutional rights have been settled by the privy council. The effect of this judgment does not impair nor limit the usefulness of the provincial department.

The "Civil Service Act," having been in force for a sufficient time to test its utility, is found to be working beneficially.

The first minister with the minister of lands attended, as representatives of British Columbia, the conference of the provinces held in Ottawa in October last, and a report of the proceedings will be presented to the house.

The construction of railways in the province has progressed most satisfactorily. You will be asked to consider measures aimed at facilitating the object of the legislation already approved.

By virtue of an order-in-council approved by his royal highness the governor-general, Mr. Z. A. Lash, K. C., of Toronto, and Mr. E. V. Bodwell, K. C., of Victoria, have been selected to represent respectively the federal and provincial interests on the commission presently to assemble for the purpose of investigating the claims of the province for better terms. A request has been formally made to the colonial secretary for the appointment of the third member. So soon as this is complied with it is expected that the inquiry will be undertaken. Meanwhile the case for the province has been presented.

(Concluded on page 11.)

PREMIER IS CENTRE OF AFFECTING SCENE

Wives and Children of Imprisoned Miners Petition Executive Aid

The executive chamber in the provincial government buildings has probably never witnessed a more affecting scene than that which took place at noon today when upwards of sixty women, wives and mothers of the imprisoned miners from Ladysmith, Wellington and Nanaimo appeared before Premier McBride and appealed for clemency for their loved ones. Wives asked for the liberation of their husbands, upon whom they depended for support, mothers with tears in their eyes besought Sir Richard to use his influence in freeing their sons, whom they said had really intended no wrong—women with little children pushed them forward as living evidences of their necessity in desiring the return of their husbands and fathers.

The delegation of wives and mothers came down from the north to the capital on a special train at 10.30 this morning, and wasted no time in reaching the government buildings. All of them wore red badges, and many carried cigar boxes in which they collected stray dimes from passers-by on the streets in return for tags bearing the legend, "In aid of the wives and children of the imprisoned miners." An arrangement was soon made through Secretary-Treasurer H. J. McEwen, of the Miners' Liberation league, and Vice-President A. Watchman, of the B. C. Federation of Labor for a hearing by Premier McBride.

At noon the red badged delegation streamed into the executive chamber, filling every chair that could be found, and overflowing into the hall. In addition to the women—of all nationalities apparently—there were many children, nearly all of whom, their mothers declared, had been without their fathers for as much as six or eight months.

Mr. McEwen, the first speaker for the delegation said that the deputation coming to Victoria numbered 150 persons. A petition which he presented to the premier asking for the release from prison of the miners was signed by every single woman in the strike district, who had a male relative in jail, he declared. Briefly the petition read: "We, the wives and mothers, petition you for the release of our husbands and fathers from jail, as they and we have suffered enough."

In his remarks regarding the strike and the serious trouble which followed Mr. McEwen laid much of the blame upon the shoulders of the premier. He further declared that the minister of justice at Ottawa had failed in carrying out the idea of justice as believed in by many thousands of people in the Dominion.

Then followed the women, each with short plea for help from the premier, many of them could not keep the tears from their eyes, and here and there one would break down almost completely. Mrs. Morgan asked for the release of a son of 19 sentenced to the penitentiary for two years.

"He is only a boy, Mr. McBride," she said, "and meant no harm. He has been a good son and I need him at home."

That the court had been prejudiced against the miners was declared by Vice-President Watchman. He told the premier that a call had been issued for the workers in the province to go on strike on January 29 and 30 as a province-wide protest against the action of the court and the non-interference of the governmental authorities. He suggested that if the imprisoned workers were released trouble would be avoided, as the workers certainly did not wish to cause any more fuss and had no further desire for agitation. He complained that the chief of police of Victoria had refused to allow them to carry banners in the streets for their tag day, as had been permitted in Vancouver.

Premier McBride gave \$20 to the tag day fund of the women, but he would make no promise with regard to clemency, pointing out that such a matter as this lay with the Dominion authorities at Ottawa. He said, however: "But were I situated as the minister of justice is, and if there were good reasons for a recommendation for the exercise of pardoning power, it would be recommended."

He announced that an account of the meeting to-day would be forwarded to the minister of justice, and at the same time the minister would be informed of the statements relative to the possibility of a provincial strike at the end of the month.

THE LEGISLATURE

The proceedings of the legislature which begin to-day will be followed more closely by the public than has been the case in the last few years. The slackening in the economic conditions of the country will cause the people to exhibit an unusually vigilant interest in the course of their representatives, whom they expect to do more than draw their indemnities and vote for everything set before them with mechanical precision of automata. There are forty government members in the House, comprising six ministers, the speaker and thirty-three private members. The country demands from these thirty-three the exercise of more independence of thought and action than they have shown. They are men of intelligence, capable of criticizing the weaknesses of measures the ministry has placed on the order paper. These measures are supposed to be in the interest of the province. When members detect flaws they should expose them fearlessly. If they or their constituencies are penalized for doing so, they have at hand the same weapon with which Mr. Roosevelt used to subjugate an insubordinate Congress. They can appeal from Caesar to the people, and they may be sure this will be effective.

The private members of the legislature, Conservative and Socialist, should see that the farce of last session is not repeated this year. The proceedings then were without a parallel in any legislature within our knowledge. Scores of bills affecting the interests of the public were passed, "deformed, unfinished, sent before their time into this breathing world; scarce half made up," at the rate of a dozen or more a day. Some of them were not even read, and still the free and unfettered tribunes of the people seemed quite content to vote them upon the statute books. This was not legislating. It was an exhibition of callisthenics such as school children are taught during recess.

We trust the committee on public accounts will be called together early in the session. There is plenty of work ahead. We must know more about the expenditure which, according to the attorney-general, has laid upon the province the burden of a deficit of more than \$13,000,000. We must know the precise financial condition of the country. How much do we owe the bank? Why was it necessary to issue short term treasury notes? Has any of our balance been diverted to the account of the Canadian Northern Pacific Railway Company? Is the interest due the province on the \$13,000,000 owed to it on land sales being

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Opening Yesterday
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monies, With
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MEASURES IN GOVERN

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Milk Supply
Islands In In

The second session of the legislature of the province of British Columbia was opened this afternoon by his honor Lieutenant-Governor Paterson, who was accompanied by his private secretary, H. J. Muskett, and by Captain B. H. Tyrwhitt Drake, A.D.C. The ceremony took place in the legislative chamber, which stood a guard of honor from the Eighty-eighth Fusiliers, in charge of Captain C. A. Moorhead and Lieutenant Collinson and Major. The band was also in attendance and played the National Anthem as his honor arrived. There was a considerable attendance of the general public on parliament square to watch the outdoor part of the ceremony, which was favored by good weather. The staff of the permanent corps stationed in this district, the officers of the ships of war at present in port and the officers of the several regiments of militia in the city were waiting in the lobby for the party, and they preceded his honor into the chamber, forming a double line up the corridor, between which his honor and his attendants walked to the speaker's chair. Mr. Speaker Eberts stood to the right while the speech from the throne was being read and attended his honor, in company with the ministers, as he was leaving the chamber. In the assembly chamber the legislators were in their seats waiting the arrival of the Lieutenant-Governor. With them on the floor of the House were about 250 invited guests, others present on invitation being seated in the north and west galleries. The general public was admitted to the galleries on the east side and the south end behind the throne. As soon as the Lieutenant-Governor entered the chamber the company arose, remaining standing until he mounted the throne. Prior to the arrival of his honor, Mr. Speaker Eberts, preceded by the mace and attended by the sergeant-at-arms, entered the hall and took his chair. The inaugural step of the session was the introduction to the Speaker of W. W. Foster, member-elect for the Islands. He was brought forward by the premier and the minister of public works. Lieutenant-Governor Paterson then proceeded with the reading of the address, which was as follows: Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly: In welcoming you to the second session of the Thirteenth Parliament of British Columbia, it affords me pleasure to state that the province has enjoyed a large share of advancement and prosperity during the past year. Prevailing conditions in the money market have delayed the payment to the government of large sums, outstanding on account of the sale of townsite and district lands; but these amounts are bearing a profitable rate of interest. Treasury notes have been issued for the sum of \$1,500,000, and legislation affecting the "Revenue Act" and providing for a provisional loan will be submitted to you. The high standing of British Columbia's credit, I am pleased to see, continues. Under authority of the legislation enacted last year, the Auditor-General's office has been instituted. The liberal appropriations made by you at the last session for public works have enabled further extensions to be made to the highways of the province, and, as well, have aided in opening up the central and northern parts of British Columbia. Suitable public buildings have been constructed, where necessary, in order to increase the efficiency of the public service. Negotiations for the site of the provincial building in London have been concluded, and work is in progress preparatory to the erection of the structure. The new mental hospital at Esquimalt has been completed and is occupied. Satisfactory progress has been made on the additions to the parliament buildings; a portion of these will be available for use in a short time. While there have been unfortunate troubles in the coal-mining districts of Vancouver Island, the output of our mines during the year has been most satisfactory. Based on reliable information, reports indicate that the outlook for increased development in this industry is most assuring. Vigorous work has been carried on by the department of lands. Under the supervision of the surveyor-general surveys of large sections of the public domain have been carried out and new maps compiled. The water and forest branches, now regularly organized, have already given most valuable results. Measures will be submitted for your approval dealing with the water and timber resources. For the more effective working of the laws with regard to registration of

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SECOND SESSION OF LEGISLATURE

Opening Yesterday Accompanied by Usual Ceremonies, With Large and Brilliant Assemblage.

MEASURES INDICATED GOVERNOR'S SPEECH

First Government Bill of Session Relates to Quality of Milk Supply—Member for Islands Is Introduced.

The second session of the Thirteenth Legislature of the Province of British Columbia was opened yesterday, by His Honor Lieutenant-Governor Paterson, with the quiet dignity that has marked the opening ceremony in former years.

Sharp on the stroke of 3 o'clock, His Honor, who was accompanied from Government House to the Legislative Chamber by his private secretary, Mr. H. J. S. Muskett, and attended by Captain B. H. Tyrwhitt Drake, A. D. C., arrived at the Legislative Buildings, in front of which stood a guard of honor from the 85th Fusiliers, under the command of Captain C. A. Moorhead, who had with him Lieutenants Collisson and Major. The band of the regiment struck up the national anthem, and the entrance of the Lieutenant-Governor into the House of Parliament was watched by a large crowd of sightseers, who had assembled several hours previously.

On his arrival at the portals of the Legislative Chamber, His Honor was met by an escort of officers, composed of the officers of the Algonquin and the Rainbow, the staff of the permanent corps of the district and the officers of the several regiments of militia in the city. The party preceded His Honor into the chamber and formed a double line, through which Lieutenant-Governor Paterson passed to the Speaker's chair.

There was a large attendance of invited guests, who were seated on the floor of the House and in the north and west galleries. The general public, who were admitted to the east and south galleries, had taken their seats early in the afternoon, and the gay dresses of the ladies with the sombre frock coats of the men, enlivened by the brilliant uniforms of the officers, made an attractive pageant.

Before the arrival of His Honor, Mr. Speaker Eberts, preceded by the sergeant-at-arms carrying the mace, had, for a short time, taken his usual place, but on the heralded approach of the Lieutenant-Governor, Mr. Speaker Eberts left the chair.

The Speech

Lieutenant-Governor Paterson, speaking from the chair beneath the throne, said:

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly:

In welcoming you to the second session of the Thirteenth Parliament of British Columbia, it affords me pleasure to state that the Province has enjoyed a large share of advancement and prosperity during the past year.

Prevailing conditions in the money market have delayed the payment to the Government of large sums outstanding on account of the sale of townsite and district lands; but these amounts are bearing a profitable rate of interest. Treasury notes have been issued for the sum of \$1,500,000, and legislation affecting the Revenue Act and providing for a provisional loan will be submitted to you. The high standing of British Columbia's credit, I am pleased to observe, still continues. Under authority of the legislation enacted last year, the Auditor-General's office has been instituted.

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sions to be made to the highways of the Province, and, as well, have aided in opening up the Central and Northern parts of British Columbia. Suitable public buildings have been constructed, where necessary, in order to increase the efficiency of the public service.

London Building

Negotiations for the site of the provincial building in London have been concluded, and work is in progress preparatory to the erection of the structure. The new mental hospital at Essondale has been completed and is occupied. Satisfactory progress has been made on the additions to the Parliament Buildings; a portion of these will be available for use in a short time.

While there have been unfortunate troubles in the coal-mining districts of Vancouver Island, the output of our mines during the year has been most satisfactory. Based on reliable information, reports indicate that the outlook for increased development in this industry is most assuring.

Vigorous work has been carried on by the Department of Lands. Under the supervision of the Surveyor-General surveys of large sections of the public domain have been carried out and new maps compiled. The water and forest branches, now regularly organized, have already given most valuable results. Measures will be submitted for your approval dealing with the water and timber resources.

For the more effective working of the laws with regard to the registration of land, it is proposed to amend the present Act.

Following the report of the Municipal Commission, you will be asked to consider a bill to amend and consolidate the laws relating to municipalities, including provision for the establishment of a municipal department under the Government.

Trust Companies

Among other important measures to be laid before you will be one dealing with trust companies; also an amendment to the Schools Act, and the consolidation of the game laws.

The Royal Commission on Agriculture has been steadily prosecuting its inquiries and is now engaged in preparing a report. Much good has attended the endeavors of the Agricultural Department to bring about co-operation among the growers in respect to shipping and marketing farm products; on the whole, the progress of this important industry throughout the Province has been most substantial.

The inquiry into the conditions of labor has been completed by the Royal Commission charged with that duty; the evidence collected and findings arrived at will be placed before you during the present session.

It is expected that the report of the commissioner appointed under the Public Inquiries Act to investigate matters affecting the price of coal in the Province will be duly laid before the House.

The organization of the new Provincial University at Point Grey has been proceeded with the governing body formed, and the president appointed. You will be asked to sanction an appropriation towards the erection of the University buildings.

The output of the fisheries of British Columbia now ranks first in the Dominion. Various questions affecting this industry, submitted jointly by the Province and the Dominion, relative to certain constitutional rights, have been settled by the Privy Council. The effect of this judgment does not impair nor limit the usefulness of the provincial department.

Civil Service Act

The Civil Service Act, having been in force for a sufficient time to test its utility, is found to be working beneficially.

The First Minister, with the Minister of Lands, attended, as representatives of British Columbia, the conference of the Provinces held in Ottawa in October last, and a report of the proceedings will be presented to the House.

The construction of railways in the Province has progressed most satisfactorily. You will be asked to consider measures aimed at facilitating the object of the legislation already approved.

By virtue of an Order-in-Council approved by His Royal Highness the Governor-General, Mr. Z. A. Lash, K. C.,

of Toronto, and Mr. E. V. Bodwell, K. C. of Victoria, have been selected to represent respectively the Federal and Provincial interests on the commission presently to assemble for the purpose of investigating the claims of the Province for better terms. A request has been formally made to the Colonial Secretary for the appointment of the third member. As soon as this is completed with it is expected that the inquiry will be undertaken. Meanwhile the case for the Province has been prepared and filed with the secretary of the commission.

The public accounts for the past fiscal year will be laid before you, and the estimates of expenditure will also be submitted for your consideration.

These and all other matters which may be brought before you will, I feel assured, receive your careful and earnest attention.

Formal Proceedings

At the conclusion of the reading of the address, His Honor proceeded through the chamber, the double line of officers enflading as he passed out.

The mace, the signal of the Speaker's authority, again approached, and Mr.

Speaker Eberts too his seat in his accustomed place. A reading desk was brought in, and, standing in front of the Speaker, robed in his academical garb and with pectoral cross and his Episcopal ring as the symbols of his high office, the Bishop of Columbia read the well-known prayer from the Liturgy of the Church of England.

On his retirement, Mr. Thornton Fell, K. C., clerk of the House, read the certificate of election announcing that Mr. W. W. Foster had been regularly elected as member for the Islands constituency to fill the vacancy caused by the elevation of Mr. Justice McPhillips during the recess of Parliament.

Premier McBride and Mr. H. R. Thomson, chief whip, then left the House and returned through the north door with their arms enlaid with those of the new member, who was greeted with the only applause that was heard in the chamber during the session as he approached Mr. Speaker Eberts to shake hands on his admission as a member of the Assembly. Mr. Foster took the last seat furthest from the Speaker on the east side, and immediately afterwards Sir Richard McBride rose to make the formal motions attendant on the opening of the session.

After the usual order with regard to the printing of the votes and proceedings of the House, it was agreed that the select standing committees of the House be appointed for the following purposes: On standing orders and private bills; on private accounts; on printing; on railways; on mining; on agriculture and on municipal matters.

First Bill

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. Bowser the first bill of the session, entitled an Act to amend the Milk Act, was ordered read for the first time, and will be read for the second time at today's sitting. The amendment provides that every municipality shall be authorized to enact by-laws, fixing the standard of butter fat and total solids of milk sold in such municipalities, although no milk may be sold for human consumption which contains less than 3 1/4 per cent of milk fat or less than 8 1/2 per cent of milk solids other than fat.

The Minister of Finance presented the public accounts of the Province for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1913. The Provincial Secretary presented the annual report of the public schools of the Province and also a copy of the minutes of the proceedings of the representatives of the Provinces, who held a conference last October. The House adjourned till 2 o'clock today.

Among the notices of motion is one by Mr. Williams, who, on Monday next, will ask the Minister of Finance what sum was paid for expenses of the Premier's visit to the Fort George locality during the last fiscal year. On the same day Mr. Hayward has given notice that he will ask the Premier if an arrangement had been made for an official report of the proceedings of the House this session, and, if so, what is the arrangement.

Mr. Place gave notice that, on Monday next, he would ask leave to introduce a bill entitled an Act to amend the Workmen's Compensation Act, and on the same day Mr. Williams will ask leave to introduce a bill entitled an Act respecting the payment of wages.

Those in Attendance

The following officers escorted Lieutenant-Governor Paterson to his place on the Throne: Captain R. Corbett, R. N.; Lieut. H. M. Garrett, R. N.; Lieut. W. S. Chalmers, R. N.; and Lieut. Silthwick, Col. Roy, D. O. C. Mil. Dis. No. 11; Capt. Moore, D. S. A.; Capt. J. F. Fobikes; Capt. Almon, R. C. A.; Capt. Bray, C. O. C.; Capt. Martin, C. O. C.; Capt. Sherman, C.O.C.; Lieut.-Col. Flick, 81st B.C. Horse; Capt. Longstaff; Capt. R. V. Harvey, and Lieut. Bromley, of the 88th Regiment, and the following officers of the 5th, R. C. G. A.: Major W. Ridgeway-Wilson, Capt. H. H. Woolson, Capt. R. P. Clark, Lieut. F. A. Robertson, Lieut. Gordon Smith, Lieut. T. B. Monk, Lieut. C. B. Birch, Lieut. W. B. Shaw, Lieut. A. E. Sargison and Lieut. A. E. Craddock.

Among those who were present at the opening ceremony were: Lady McBride, Miss McBride and Miss Peggy McBride, Mrs. Bowser, Miss Eunice Bowser, Miss Irving (from New Brunswick), Miss Bowser (from Vancouver), Miss New-some, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Young, Dr. and Mrs. C. P. Higgins, Miss McAllister, Mrs. Thos. Taylor, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Turner, Mr. J. W. Taylor and Miss Eleanor Taylor, Miss Taylor, Mrs. Henry Eason Young, Mrs. Eberts, Mrs. Charles, Mrs. Thomas, Mrs. Watkin-Boulthoe, Miss Allen, Mrs. W. W. Foster, Mrs. Thornton Fell, Rev. J. Inkster and Mrs. Inkster, Mr. A. F. Yarrow, Mr. Norman Yarrow, Mr. Keay, Mr. Stratton, Miss Beach, Rev. C. D. Scott and Mrs. Scott, Mr. A. W. Vowell, Senator Riley and Mrs. Riley, Mrs. MacDonald, Mrs. Paterson, Mrs. Richards, Colonel Jones, the American Consul and Mrs. Smith, Mr. Karl Lowenberg, Mrs. Tisdall, Rev. J. B. Warnicker and Mrs. Warnicker, Mrs. Newell, the Hon. Robert Beaven, Mr. J. A. Mara and Miss Mara, Mrs. Holmes, Mrs. Duncan Ross, Col. Peters and Mrs. Peters, the Rev. T. W. Gladstone and Mrs. Gladstone, Mr. J. G. and Mrs. Bergeron, Col. C. H. Payne, Mrs. Rose, Mrs. Pilcher, Mrs. E. O. Schofield, Mrs. Curry and Miss Curry, Mr. Justice Gregory and Mrs. Gregory, Mr. Justice McPhillips, Mr. Justice Gallagher and Mrs. Gallagher, Chief Justice Macdonald, Bishop Roper and Mrs. Roper, Dean Doull, Bishop Macdonald, Mrs. Irving and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Rattenbury, Mr. J. J. Shal-cross, Mr. G. A. Fraser and Miss Fraser, Senator Macdonald and Miss Macdonald, Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Wolfenden, Mr. and Mrs. J. Miller, Mrs. Blankenback, Mrs. Ponton and Miss Ponton, the Rev. E. Carson, the Rev. W. Reese, Mrs. Dunsmuir and Miss Dunsmuir, Mrs. H. M. Fullerton, Mrs. Rismuller, Mrs. Richard Hall, Mr. John Jardine and Mrs. Jardine, Mrs. J. W. Troup and Miss Troup, Mrs. Tolmie and the Misses Tolmie, Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Drury.

FORMAL OPENING OF PARLIAMENT

His Royal Highness Reads
Speech From Throne and
Both Houses Adjourn After
Routine Business.

OTTAWA, Jan. 15.—Owing to the inclement weather, the crowd which awaited the arrival of His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught and his escort at 3 o'clock was not as large as usual. It dispersed soon after His Royal Highness had reached the Senate Chamber.

The scene in the chamber was quite as brilliant as usual, and the attendance of society people was quite as numerous. The galleries were crowded. There was the usual array of brilliant uniforms on the right and left of the throne, the Premier, in his Windsor uniform, occupying the position of honor.

His Royal Highness was attended by Lieut.-Col. Farguhar and Capt. Hon. C. E. Bosevch, aides-de-camp in waiting.

Her Royal Highness, the Princess Patricia was accompanied by Hon. Catherine Villiers and Lord Spencer Compton. They entered the Senate Chamber at the back of the throne, and the Princess took her place on a chair placed at the left of the dais. His Royal Highness then proceeded, in English and well-modulated French, to read the speech from the throne, which was as follows: "Honorable Gentlemen of the Senate, Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

"I take this public opportunity of expressing to you all my deep sense of gratitude for the comfort and support that were afforded us at the time of the serious illness of the Duchess of Connaught by the numerous messages of sympathy that were received from Canada, and by the knowledge that the hearts of so many Canadians were with us during those dark days. I can only regret that my enforced absence made it impossible for me to fully exercise the duties of my high office during a considerable portion of last year.

"It gives me great pleasure to be able to congratulate you upon the remarkable expansion of Canada's trade with other countries in the past fiscal year, during which our total trade far exceeded that of any preceding year. The bountiful crops with which the Dominion has fortunately been blessed during the past season have been harvested under unusually favorable conditions, which have enabled the transportation companies to make full use of all the facilities at their disposal. Thus the difficulties which sometimes arose in former years have not been manifested, and an unusually large proportion of the crops have been conveyed to the seaboard before the close of the season of inland navigation.

Boundless Resources

"Canada has been favored by a long series of prosperous years, and although at the present moment business is slightly restricted by the financial stringency which prevails throughout the world, I feel convinced that this condition will be merely temporary, and that the boundless resources of this Dominion, which are so fully and universally known and recognized, gives us the fullest assurance of continued material prosperity and progress.

"As a result of the recent decennial census the representation for the different Provinces must be readjusted as required by the British North America Act, and a bill will be introduced for

that purpose. A bill consolidating the Railway Act and its various amendments, as well as bills relating to the civil service and to trust and loan companies, will be submitted for your consideration. Several other bills will be submitted, including measures providing for increased representation of the Provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia in the Senate.

"The volume of immigration during the present fiscal year promises to be greater than that of any preceding year. It has come in greatest measure from the British Isles and from the United States, but a large stream of desirable immigrants has also reached our shores from other countries.

Agricultural Instruction

"You will be pleased to learn that satisfactory arrangements have been made with the various Provinces under the Agricultural Instruction Act, passed at the last session. My advisors are convinced that the co-operation between the Dominion and the Provinces which is thus afforded will accomplish excellent results in assuring better agricultural instructions and needful improvement of existing methods of agriculture.

"The work on the National Transcontinental Railway has been rapidly advanced during the past year, and notwithstanding the difficulties attending the construction of the Hudson Bay Railway and the provision of terminals every possible progress has been made in bringing that important project nearer to completion.

"In connection with the highly important subject of transportation of our products, the provision of adequate terminal facilities at our great national ports has received, and is receiving the attention of my advisors. You have doubtless learned with satisfaction that the new Government terminal elevator at Port Arthur is completed, and that it has been in operation since October last. In conjunction with this a sys-

LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR'S SPEECH

The speech with which the Lieutenant-Governor opened the Legislature yesterday afternoon mentioned a few matters not included in our review of the probable business of the session. His Honor spoke of the conclusion of the arrangements for the site of the British Columbia building in London and the erection of the mental hospital at Essonville. The London building is one that will reflect credit upon the Province and will prove a valuable asset, both directly and indirectly. It is evident that such a country as British Columbia ought to have its representative properly housed in the capital of the Empire, and that, with the great extent and variety of resources, it ought to occupy a place by itself and not lose its identity by being associated with others parts of the British Dominions. In making arrangements for Provincial offices in London, regard must be paid to the fact that the great mass of people outside of Canada are not readily able to differentiate between the various Provinces, and many of them find it difficult to do so between different parts of the Empire. By having a building of its own, British Columbia is not likely to be confounded with other places.

The new Mental Hospital, which is the happily chosen term employed in the Speech, is an institution of which the Province may well be proud. No effort has been spared to make it what it ought to be, and we are confident that the work of the Government in this behalf will command universal approval as well outside the Province as within it.

It is gratifying to know that the prospects of increased mining development are so good that reference has been made to them in the Speech. Our own advisors fully warrant this. We do not suggest that the Province is on the eve of a mining boom, but, undoubtedly, unless all signs fail, a period of accelerated activity is at hand.

Promise is made in the Speech of

tration; some amendments to the School Act are foreshadowed, and in the new Municipal Act there will be a provision for the establishment of a municipal department. The latter step is one very generally admitted to be necessary, although there may arise differences of opinion on matters of detail.

OPENING OF PARLIAMENT

The session at Ottawa, which opened yesterday, will undoubtedly prove an important one in the development of the country. The Speech from the Throne, while not foreshadowing any unexpected legislation, is notable for the optimistic tone with which it deals with matters affecting our progress. The great expansion of trade and the bountiful crops of the past year, are two features for national congratulation, and both fittingly found a place in the Speech. It was generally anticipated that a Redistribution Bill would be forthcoming during the present session.

We have already dealt with this matter on a number of occasions, and until the details of the readjustment of representation are published we will withhold any further comment. Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia are to have increased representation in the Senate, and the necessary legislation to provide for this will be brought down this session. In the matter of transportation, the allusion in the Speech to the progress of work on the Transcontinental will be gratifying as well as that to the advance of work on the new Hudson's Bay Railway. Only yesterday we spoke of the programme of providing terminal facilities at the different ports and that this great work continues to enlist the hearty sympathy of the Government will be a matter of very profound satisfaction to the whole country.

Although perhaps not as strenuous as the session which concluded last Summer, that which has just opened promises to be fraught with much interesting legislation that will have an important bearing on our future. The prospects of still further trade development are excellent. Whatever way we look at the future it appears rich with promise, and in making that promise more certain the people can rely with the utmost confidence on the wisdom of the administration now in power.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS LAID UPON TABLE

Annual Statement of Provincial Affairs for Past Year
Is Published—Information
Regarding Conditions.

Perhaps the balance sheet for the yesterday be regarded as the most important item in the volume, inasmuch as it presents in brief tabulated form the exact position of the Province, from a financial standpoint, at the present time. Among the notable items appearing among the assets of the Government are: Cash balances in hands of district agents, \$1,754,744; cash in bank and on special deposit, \$3,066,792; and cash balance on hand at the treasury, \$8,308.

The revenue of the Province for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1913, amounted to \$12,510,215.08, according to the Public Accounts which were yesterday laid on the table of the Legislative Assembly by Hon. Price Ellison, Minister of Finance.

Of this amount \$1,723,990.60 was obtained under the Chinese restriction act, \$2,344,596.52 was for land sales throughout the Province, and \$1,939,457.18 for timber licenses. The amount of the Dominion subsidy for the year amounted to \$732,489.46, while \$155,163.36 was for mineral tax. Timber royalties for the year brought \$517,672.19 to the Provincial treasury, while registry fees aggregated \$712,258.43. Land revenue amounted to \$301,184.95, and an additional sum of \$22,053.48, was obtained for survey fees. The revenue tax for the year was \$360,663.00, the real property tax was \$459,570.40, and the personal property tax amounted to \$197,790.44.

The land taxes including the taxes on wild lands, coal and timber lands, aggregated \$546,987.20, and the royalty and tax on coal brought \$302,225.35.

Under the heading of miscellaneous receipts which amount to \$290,457.71, a sum of \$100,136.60 was obtained from fees under the Motor Regulation Act, while a sum of \$135,809.67 was received from the G. T. P. for improvements in Prince Rupert townsite.

The expenditure for the year amounted to \$15,650,014.40, which was made up of the following items: Public debt, \$553,329.16; civil Government for salaries, \$857,092.24; administration of justice for salaries, \$43,489.89; legislation, \$132,008.89; public institutions, \$495,842.63; hospitals and charities, \$393,369.21; administration of justice, other than salaries, \$451,295.69; education, \$944,037.71; transport, \$84,428.50; revenue service, \$94,566.55; public works, \$7,664,468.64, which is made up of the following items: Works and buildings, \$2,815,648.50, roads, bridges and wharves, \$4,790,461.24, and subsidies to steamboats and ferries, \$58,355.90. In the expenditure there is also included a miscellaneous item aggregating \$3,912,366.85.

Colonia

MINERS WAIT SIR RICHARD

Large Deputation
Coal Mining Co.
Plea for Libera
Now in Prison.

A strange scene was yesterday in the Executive Parliament Buildings without a touch of p wives and mothers of miners of the coal in the Island waited on to plead with him for were about sixty women room, and as they laid fore Sir Richard McEwen their eyes were filled one or two completely making their appeals ones.

The delegation at North on a special train the Capital about 10:30 and quickly made the Parliament Buildings, considerable attention with their red badges of children, sons and who are now suffer for participating in dances, were driven to Mr. H. J. McEwen, of the Miners' Liberal Watchman, and the Federation of Labor communication with the conference was immediate.

Mr. McEwen, who women into the Char delegation numbered people. He presented Premier asking for miners, which, he said every woman in the had a male relative didly laid blame for late disturbances or complained that the had not received justice.

Appeal to

"We have appealed Justice at Ottawa," and he is not in cables have been Secretary in the I and to His Majesty extend the Royal Inter of Justice Ign thousands of people urged him by pett who are now in our appeal on the justice, on which to rely."

Several of the personal appeal to liberation of relatives are the breadwinners.

Mrs. Morgan, speaker, said that years old, who is years in the pen of which, she said Mrs. Axelson plea who, she said, was who had spent five the mines. Mrs. her three children for the release of are serving their who also spoke of William Bauld, pleaded for her Mrs. Mayers and President Watchman case, said that prejudiced against warned the President strikers were released of this month this a general strike force.

Colonist Jan 16th 1914.

MINERS WAIT ON

SIR RICHARD M'BRIDE

Large Deputation From Island Coal Mining Centres Make Plea for Liberation of Men Now in Prison.

A strange scene was witnessed yesterday in the Executive Chamber of the Parliament Buildings that was not without a touch of pathos, when the wives and mothers of the imprisoned miners of the coal mining district of the Island waited on Premier McBride to plead with him for clemency. There were about sixty women present in the room, and as they laid their pleas before Sir Richard McBride, many of their eyes were filled with tears, while one or two completely broke down in making their appeals for their dear ones.

The delegation arrived from the North on a special train, which reached the Capital about 10:30 in the morning, and quickly made their way to the Parliament Buildings. They attracted considerable attention on the street, with their red badges, while a number of children, sons and daughters of those who are now suffering imprisonment for participating in the late disturbances, were driven through the city. Mr. H. J. McEwen, secretary-treasurer of the Miners' Liberation League, of Vancouver, and Vice-President A. Watchman, of the British Columbia Federation of Labor, got into communication with the Premier, and a conference was immediately arranged.

Mr. McEwen, who accompanied the women into the Chamber, said that the delegation numbered more than 150 people. He presented a petition to the Premier asking for the release of the miners, which, he said, was signed by every woman in the strike district who had a male relative in jail. He candidly laid blame for the whole of the late disturbances on the Premier, and complained that the imprisoned miners had not received justice during their trials.

Appeal to Ottawa

"We have appealed to the Minister of Justice at Ottawa," said Mr. McEwen, "and he is not investigating our case. Cables have been sent to the Home Secretary in the Imperial Parliament and to His Majesty, praying him to extend the Royal clemency. The Minister of Justice ignores the demands of thousands of people in Canada who have urged him by petition to liberate those who are now incarcerated. We take our appeal on the grounds of British justice, on which we have been taught to rely."

Several of the women next made a personal appeal to the Premier for the liberation of relatives, many of whom are the breadwinners of the family.

Mrs. Morgan, who was the first speaker, said that she had a son 19 years old, who is now serving two years in the penitentiary for a crime of which, she said, he was innocent. Mrs. Axelson pleaded for her husband, who, she said, was 60 years of age, and who had spent fifty years of his life in the mines. Mrs. Armstrong pleaded for her three children. Mrs. Dawson asked for the release of her three sons, who are serving their first sentences. Others who also spoke were Mrs. Caddy, Mrs. William Bauld, Miss Blimberri, who pleaded for her father, Mrs. Brighton, Mrs. Mayers and Mrs. Portrey. Vice-President Watchman, in supporting the case, said that the courts were prejudiced against the strikers, and he warned the Premier that unless the strikers were released by the 29th day of this month there would be a call for a general strike throughout the Province.

"Employees who are now working under agreement for their employers will break those agreements if our just claims are not met, and, bad as industrial conditions have been during the past year, the working men of British Columbia will no longer stand the unfair treatment that the miners have received in the courts," said Mr. Watchman.

Premier's Reply

In his answer to the deputation, the Premier spoke in terms of appreciation of the sacrifice of time and money which the delegates had undergone, and said that he believed that only an appeal which so closely touched their home life could have drawn them to confer with him.

"I know what it must mean to many of you to have had your loved ones removed from your homes, and, while at this time I do not wish to be argumentative, I would reply with the same candor that the speakers today have expressed that there must be some cause for the troubles that have fallen on you. Those for whom you have pleaded have been tried; some have been found guilty after trial, and some pleaded guilty in the constitutional courts of law. We must deal with the situation as it is. Courts of the land have imposed certain punishments on those whom they have found guilty, and you protest that these men should be no longer kept in prison."

"There is a Royal clemency which has been generally extended in recent years in meritorious cases, but the only agency through which this clemency can be applied is through the national Government at Ottawa, where the Governor-General is in close touch with the Minister of Justice."

"A deputation from the trades unions of Victoria waited on me several days ago to urge the case of the liberation of imprisoned miners. They said that memorials had been sent to Ottawa, and I shall be glad to send to the Minister of Justice an account of this meeting. The responsibility for advising the Governor-General rests with the Minister of Justice and not with this Province."

Law and Order Always

"It has been repeated all over the Province and circulated in certain newspapers that I, in my capacity of Minister of Mines, am responsible for all this stress and law-breaking that has occurred in the affected district and all the ruin and hardship arising out of the disturbances has been laid at my door. It is an easy matter to blame the Government, and I have no wish to shirk any blame that properly belongs to me. I believe, personally, that the working men of this Province have the right to strike, and the Government of British Columbia has never interfered with this right of industrial labor, but, while I acknowledge that right to strike, the law compels me to keep order, and, if that law is not effective, there will be chaos."

"If peace and order do not obtain, then it is the function of the civil powers to enforce the Criminal Code. I am confident that many of your dear ones may have committed excesses in

the heat of the moment that they would not have done under normal conditions. The proposal to cause a general strike, which might involve industrial ruin in the Province, is calamitous, but no threat of this kind will deter us, neither will it deter the Minister of Justice in executing the laws of the land."

"If the power of pardon is to be influenced by threats of industrial strikes, a precedent would be established that could only mean disaster to the civil liberties of the people of the Province."

LEGISLATURE IN SESSION'S WORK

Pomp and Ceremony Which Marked Inaugural Function Replaced Yesterday by the Routine of Business.

BRILLIANT SPEECH

BY MR. W. W. FOSTER

Able Review of Conditions in Province by Member for Islands—Promising Outlook for Mining Industry.

The pomp and ceremony which marked the inauguration of the session on Thursday, was yesterday replaced by the routine of business which will characterize the legislative chamber during the next two months. As far as the House is concerned, the scarlet uniforms and gold lace, the brilliant assemblage of guests and the Sunday clothes of the legislators, are banished for another twelve months. Business garb has replaced frock coats and the familiar scenes of former sessions will again be re-enacted. Legislators are already beginning to collect reference volumes at the sides of their desks and Pages hurry to and fro bearing mystic notes or carrying portfolios to the Ministers.

The feature of yesterday's session was undoubtedly the brilliant speech made by Mr. W. W. Foster, member for the Islands division. Mr. Foster surprised many of the older members of the House by his rhetorical efforts, and at the close of his speech he was the recipient of many warm congratulations from personal friends in the House. Speaking somewhat rapidly but without a trace of nervousness, Mr. Foster, after a few preliminaries, launched into the subject of which he has made a life study and with which he has been intimately connected during his three years' tenure of the office of Deputy Minister of Public Works.

Good roads as an economical asset to the Province, in the transportation of produce to the market, and as the prime inducement to settlers, coupled with its advantage in the development of the traffic in visitors, which the sister States below the line have been so quick to realize, was the theme of his address which lasted for little under thirty minutes.

Mr. Manson

He was preceded by Mr. W. M. Manson, of Dewdney, who was obviously suffering from extreme nervousness. The member for Dewdney, in a closely reasoned speech, which lasted for one hour and a quarter, dealt step by step with the development of the natural resources and industries of the Province since 1903, when Premier McBride first assumed the reins of Government.

After Mr. Speaker had taken the chair, Dean Doull, in his academic robes, and wearing the scarlet hood of his old university, read the prayers from the liturgy of the Church of England. When he had retired, Mr. Manson rose to propose the reply to the address from the throne, which was delivered at Thursday's session by Lieutenant-Governor Paterson.

Before entering on his subject he made a graceful acknowledgment of the honor done to himself and to his constituents in being privileged to move the reply. He spoke feelingly of the loss which the Legislature had sustained through the elevation of Mr. Justice McPhillips.

"We have lost one of the best and most generous men who ever sat in this House," said Mr. Manson, "but our loss has been the judiciary's gain. He has been succeeded by Mr. W. W. Foster, a man of proven talents and exceptional executive ability. And with all humility I would add my voice of congratulation to the constituents of the Islands division in the wisdom of their choice."

Mr. Manson referred briefly to the election in the Islands division and spoke in strong terms of the attempt made by certain men in the Province who went into the district to seek to influence the electors as to the action they should take with reference to their selection of a representative in the House.

Review of Conditions

The member for Dewdney reviewed the history of the Province since 1903. He said that previous to that time there had been a general depression in Canada and in the United States, and that while conditions had already considerably improved before 1903, industrial enterprise in British Columbia had gone from bad to worse and was at a very low ebb.

"Sir Richard McBride put his hand to the plough, determined to give a stable government to this Province, and resolved to resuscitate the financial standing of British Columbia," said Mr. Manson. "Few men in public life have taken a greater task upon their shoulders. Few men have had a greater breadth of vision or displayed a higher courage than our Premier did when he took steps to bring order out of chaos. And the high position in which British Columbia stands today is due to the splendid services of the Premier and those men who have so ably supported him in his task."

Dealing first with the mining industry, Mr. Manson pointed out that the revenue obtained from the mines in 1903 was \$17,000,000 while last year it amounted approximately to \$22,000,000. The cost of education, he said, had risen in the same period from \$415,000 to \$944,000; and the splendid results brought about by the Department of Education was, he said, directly attributable to Hon. Dr. Young and his staff.

Department of Lands

In speaking of the Department of Lands the member upbraided those slanderers of the Government who, he said, had circulated the rumor among new settlers of the Province that the reason why they could not get crown lands near the congested centres of population was due to the Government. He pointed to the splendid agricultural land in the lower Fraser Valley, through the railway belt, which he declared were alienated by other powers long before the present Government took office.

"The acreage of land surveyed today is enough to give every British subject who is a bona fide settler a homestead twice over," said Mr. Manson.

In referring to the amount of land recently surveyed he said that in 1903, 214,247 acres of lands and timber were surveyed as compared with 2,854,857 acres surveyed during last year. Out of this amount surveyed in 1903, 128,000 acres was timber land and practically only about 1,000 acres of settlers' land was surveyed during that year. In comparison with these figures he said that during last year no less than 1,015,000 acres of land, apart from timber land, were surveyed by the Lands Department.

"The Minister of Lands has been active in the development of a policy which in spite of criticism, who do not see eye to eye with us, must tend for the eventual welfare for the people of this Province."

In conclusion he dealt briefly with the increase in the fisheries and the enormous amount expended last year on public works in addition to the efforts to aid the farmer, the fruit growers, and general settlers.

Seen From the Gallery

Vantage Point of View Occupied by "Hoi Polloi" in
Legislative Chamber—Doing and Undoings on
Floor of the House—Uncouth Metamorphoses
in Passing Years—Manson and Foster
in Reply to Address

(Written for the Times.)

The public gallery of the legislative chamber, from which one may view the doings—and undings—on the floor below, undoubtedly affords the most interesting and fascinating entertainment to the patron of free exhibitions that is offered by any of the play-houses of the capital city during the legislative season. To one gifted with a measure of imagination the scenes enacted there transform themselves, like dissolving views, into drama, melodrama, comedy and tragedy, with that degree of regularity that has given the chief characterization to history in the proverb which says it "repeats itself." Year after year the play is staged in the same old way, maintaining, as it should, the few historic features which preserve the dignity of the assembly, and, after the fitting opening ceremonies, the "pom and splendor" that do not, even in the twentieth century, seem much out of place, the assembly relaxes and takes up the burdens of the session.

The first free linguistic fling of the session occurs when the chosen members move and second the resolution that a respectful address be presented to his honor the lieutenant-governor in reply to the speech from the throne. Members "chosen" is a good word, for it is a mark of singular approval and confidence to be permitted to move the address. The seconding goes, when there is a new member, to the latest accession to the ministerial side. In less autocratic assemblies than the legislature of British Columbia these speeches usually set the pace for subsequent debate by outlining, to some extent, the policy of the government and in some partial explanation of the measures to be brought before the house. The mover of the address is supposed to be one of the seasoned (not pickled) members of the assembly high up in the confidence and good graces of the government, and the second, when there is a junior member, makes his maiden speech.

These things were to have happened on Friday last, and that is why hoi polloi congregated in the gallery. That they did not happen according to rule was only another illustration of the oft misused adage "the best laid schemes of men and mice gang aft a-gley."

Manson (the hon. member for Dewdney) was to have moved the address. In fact Billy did move the address, and in doing so put himself in the first rank as one of the defenders of the record and policy of the government. To those who know Billy Manson his denunciation of "those who dare to go up and down the country misleading the people" was one of the best exhibitions of histrionic talent the gallery has witnessed for many years, and when he rose to the height of his dignity and broke into stentorian tones with the declarations, "Mr. Speaker, Mr. Speaker, I will, I will not permit it," striking his desk with a sledge-hammer blow, it is no wonder the gallery suppressed its applause with difficulty. But it is a wonder the "house" was so silent.

All the way through Billy's speech he seemed overcome with a sense of overpowering gratitude for the honor conferred upon him, "and his constituents," by the government in choosing him to move the address. It might have been something else, of course, and a man from William's constituency who sat beside me remarked that it might have been the effort it cost Billy to attempt the task of justifying the government record in a speech that would be printed in the government organs and go everywhere and be read by nobody. Another man who knew Billy in his younger days and who had often talked with him in the rosy morning of budding manhood of the high ideals

that should beckon statesmen forward and onward in their thankless work, the unselfishness that should actuate them and the unsullied reputations they should ever bear, their heroic and unswerving loyalty to the people rather than to party or to themselves; this man said it was Billy's "conscience" that was troubling him. There were people in the gallery who had shared Billy's early confidences and high ideals respecting the duties and responsibilities of members of parliament, but Billy did not know they were there, so it could not have been that.

There are three Mansons in the house, and Billy is the youngest, so there is hope yet. He came in handy for the premier in the days when Sir Richard was known as "Our Dick" and when he needed somebody to hold the seat in his pocket borough in case things should not go well with the new premier in the house. Manson has faithfully kept the seat warm and done other things for the premier ever since he was set on the pedestal of legislative membership, and, on Friday, he got his reward. Sir Richard had no other honor for him, and so William, though rather more eloquent as a listener than as a speaker, essayed the address in reply.

Singularly enough, William had a new set of figures when he dealt with the land and timber policy of the government, as also when he attempted a review of the financial history of the province. But why should he not have his own figures? Mr. Bowser has one set, Hon. W. R. Ross has another, and Sir Richard McBride has still another. When these three sets do not, and cannot be made to agree, why should not William spread himself and show a little originality and independence? His figures were quite as authoritative and quite as reliable as those of any of the ministers of the crown. Many people who heard William, avow that it was courageous of him to seize the one opportunity he had to display initiative and get away from the beaten path of frozen subservience.

W. W. Foster, the new-laid member for the "Islands" constituency, who seconded the address, showed, from his first rotund sentence, that he does not lack confidence in himself, told the house that he regarded his own recent election as indisputable evidence that the people of British Columbia endorse "to the fullest extent" the policy and record of the government. Now, there's a politician for you. Foster knows that his intrusion into a constituency where he had no political nor moral claim to the suffrages of the electorate could not have won him his seat. He knows that nothing in his winning personality or in his record as a public servant entitles him to election to a seat in which he was a comparative stranger and with which he could have no active or personal sympathy. He knows all that and on the floor of the house, in his maiden speech, admits it frankly. Nothing but the overweening anxiety of the Islands electorate to tumble over each other in their eagerness to "endorse the government" could ever have secured his majority. Now that he is safe in his seat until the next general election he does not hesitate to admit it.

Wise, sly Foster. His prescience was, in that declaration, on a level with his subsequent explanation that the government was about to float a loan because the credit of the province was never so high and it is therefore a good time to float a loan.

It is only in the gallery that one hears some mysteries explained. I heard one explained yesterday, for I, in common with many other people, have frequently wondered why Foster was taken out of the semi-portfolio of deputy ministerialship and "reduced to the ranks" of the Rubber Stamp.

Various explanations had obtruded themselves, one of them being that the government needed somebody on the floor of the house who could answer "off-hand" the thousand and one questions about public works that may be asked by the remnant of opposition during this session. Everyone knows that Foster can tell more in a minute about the cost of this, that or the other, than the actual minister could tell in a year. Also, when, where and why, some things which nobody but Foster can answer and which Foster will not.

Another explanation was that Foster had put himself too much in the limelight to the eclipse of the actual minister of public works. That is, of course, a prejudiced and unworthy view to take of the strange metamorphosis of a deputy minister into a private member. A far more probable one—and yet not the real one, as it appears—was that the government found out, during the construction of the traffic bridge over the Columbia river at Revelstoke, what a master manager of political machinery Foster is and decided, there and then, that his talents are too protuberant to be covered in a napkin. Foster is the only man who can explain in detail how it happened that a bridge which was contracted to be built for \$43,700 cost the province \$97,400 before it was finished.

And a man like Foster, who knows as much as that, has to be taken care of. When the portfolio of public works gets too narrow for two such men as Hon. Tom. Taylor and W. W. Foster, something has to be done with one or the other, and perhaps with both.

Foster did not give the impression on Friday that he is a Frankenstein product and will be a difficult creature for his creator to manage. Nor did he look it in the twenty minutes in which he announced himself body and soul the servant of the dear public. He undoubtedly created a favorable impression when he rounded out a period with the statement that "whatever differences of opinion we may have on political matters, the people of the province are a unit in their desire to see the government carried on wisely and properly." No, he didn't look like a Frankenstein production. Still, he must have said something, some time, somewhere, waking or sleeping, which gave that impression, for just as I left the gallery—which was as soon as Foster finished his speech—a man tugged at my coat-sleeve and whispered, "That man will be the next premier of British Columbia." Nobody but Foster would ever have thought of that.

But what will Bowser say?

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BUSY SESSION OF LEGISLATURE

Bill Authorizing Payments to
Members of Royal Commis-
sions Passes Third Reading
—Two Interesting Speeches

At the Provincial Legislature yesterday the bill authorizing the payment of expenses and traveling incidentals to Members of the House engaged upon Royal Commissions passed its third reading. At the close of the debate, Mr. Parker Williams, Member for Newcastle, demonstrated the half-hearted spirit of the Opposition's attack, by saying "pass" when the Speaker put the motion to the House.

The debate in reply to the address was productive of two interesting speeches, the first by Mr. J. G. C. Wood, Member for Alberni, and the other by Mr. W. H. McLean, Member for Nelson. Both speakers dealt with the advancement that had been made in their respective territories during the past year and expressed their confidence in the future.

Hon. W. J. Bowser took the fire out of the attack of Mr. Williams in regard to the money paid as expenses to the Members for Cowichan and Yale in their capacity as members of the commission on agriculture, by frankly submitting a statement of the same with the various dates fixed opposite the payments.

Mr. J. G. C. Wood, Member for Alberni, continued the debate on the reply to the address. He prefaced his remarks by expressing his regret at the extremely low condition of Lord Strathcona, who, he said, had done so much for the advancement of Canada throughout the world, and particularly in Great Britain. He also referred in appreciative terms to the speeches made by the Members for Dewdney and the Islands. In regard to the latter, he emphasized the necessity for good roads in this Province, asserting that they were essential to settlement. British Columbia had held the proud position of leadership in respect of road building, he said, and now its policy was being emulated by other States to the South.

Going on to speak of the work of the year, Mr. Wood took up the education department, and said that so far as his district was concerned, and he believed that it applied generally throughout the Province, the Government had kept faith. Seven new schools had been erected in the district during the past year. From education Mr. Wood turned to the fishing industry of the Province.

"The fisheries of British Columbia again head the list of fishing products of the Dominion," said the Member for Alberni, "and in this regard I want to state that this result has been largely brought about by the estuary and river fishing. Deep sea fishing on the West Coast is an unknown quality, and I would suggest, if it is possible, that the Provincial authorities should co-operate with the Dominion Government in having an expert survey made of the value of the deep sea food fishes on the West Coast. I think if this work was taken up at Nanaimo, instead of the scientific work now being done, much better commercial value would be forthcoming than from the work carried on there at present. It may be very interesting to read that a piece of seaweed that looks just like seaweed, is not really seaweed, but a mass of animalcules, but it has little commercial use."

Progress in Mining

In discussing the progress that has been made in mining, Mr. Wood stated that in his district the prospects had never been brighter, and he hoped that before the end of next year, they would be shipping copper from at least two prominent properties. He criticized the statement made by the Member for Nanaimo, to the effect that the Government must take credit for the highest death-rate in the world of mining, as well as the highest production, and demonstrated that this was not the case. He deprecated the making of such statements, and did not believe that the Member in question would care to have them sent broadcast.

"I have here some returns in this regard affecting the States to the South of us," he said. "I find that the death-rate in British Columbia during the years under review, 1903 to 1912, was 4.87. In the State of Washington, during the same period, the death-rate from mining was 4.33, in West Virginia 5.54, in Colorado 10.46, in Alabama 6.70, in Oklahoma 5.21, and in New Mexico 6.16. I think these figures will go some way toward disproving the statements of the Member for Nanaimo that British Columbia has the highest death-rate in the mining districts in the world."

Taking up the question of agriculture, Mr. Wood expressed his gratification at the action of the department in bringing to this Province thoroughbred and grade dairy stock. He hoped that this policy would be continued during the year, as it gave a splendid stimulus to the agricultural industry in the Province. He was sure that every Member of the House was looking forward with interest to the report of the Royal Commission on Agriculture, and he was sorry that circumstances made it impossible for them to have legislation based on this report, introduced during the present session of the Legislature.

In conclusion he referred to the enfranchisement of women, saying he had been hopeful that some measure with that end in view would be introduced at this session. Failing that, he thought it might be possible to make some amendment in the existing laws that would give married women a better legal standing than they have today.

Prosperity in the Interior

Mr. W. H. McLean, Member for Nelson, was the next speaker, and after referring to the seriousness which impressed him in addressing the House, he said that as far as Nelson and the Interior districts generally were concerned, he heartily endorsed the tenor of the speech of the Lieutenant-Governor, saying that the prosperity in the Interior had been very marked. In referring to the speech delivered the previous day by the Member for Nanaimo, Mr. McLean said that he was glad that the combined force of the Opposition directed undoubtedly by the leader, had found nothing serious to criticize about the British Columbia Government.

"It would be idle to say," said the Member for Nelson, "that the worldwide financial depression has not been felt in British Columbia, but at the same time it has not been sufficiently severe in this Province to interfere in any way with the real development of this section of the Dominion."

He said that one of the strongest factors towards this satisfactory condition of affairs was the immense amount of railway building which had been carried on throughout the year, and that the prosecution of the work had been made possible through the railway policy of the McBride Government.

After referring to the progress made in railroad construction, and especially on the Kettle Valley road, he declared that the opening of this new line would shorten the route between Winnipeg and Vancouver by 296 miles, and at the same time would afford easy and cheap communication between the Kootenay and Boundary countries, and the Coast. He referred briefly to the comprehensive scheme of development undertaken by the Dominion Government in the natural harbors of Victoria, New Westminster and Vancouver, and said that the advent of the powerful shipbuilding firm of Yarrow, to Esquimalt, was an indication of the importance of the Pacific Coast of Canada.

The Mineral Output

"In the matter of production the past year has been an important one to British Columbia. In minerals alone the output has been not less than \$30,000,000," said Mr. McLean. "It is true this is smaller than the output of last year, but this falling off was due to decreased coal production on this Island, and the output would have been much smaller had it not been for the increased production of Kootenay and the Boundary."

"The total output of these two districts," he said, "was over \$20,000,000, of which \$14,000,000 represented the output of the metalliferous mines." In referring to the lower prices which prevailed for copper, silver, and zinc, he said there had been an increase of \$210,903 in the actual sale value of the metal production of the Kootenay and Boundary districts. Referring to the coal production of the district, he said that it showed an increase over the previous year of nearly fifty per cent, which constituted a record in the history of the district.

"As an evidence that mining in the Kootenay and Boundary was on a substantial basis I would point out that last year the total distribution in dividends by the metalliferous mines totaled \$2,273,950.90, of which the Granby Consolidated had paid \$899,901.50, and the Standard mine \$750,000."

He said that dividends for last year were more than \$1,000,000 greater than those of 1912, and he predicted that the dividends of the Granby Company would be twice as large in 1914, as the company had been put on an eight per cent. basis.

After referring to the prosperity of the fruit industry in the Kootenay district he dealt with lumbering, and said that owing to a slackness of the building trade, the market for lumber in that district had been greatly curtailed, a condition which had been aggravated through the lumbermen having to face unfair competition in the markets of Alberta and Saskatchewan from the lumbermen South of the line, who, he said, for the past two years had been making the Canadian prairies a dumping ground for their cheaper grades of lumber.

In reference to the Doukhobor question, he said that community was still refusing to obey the laws of the land so far as the registration of births and deaths are concerned. They would not allow their children to be educated, nor would they pay any attention to the provisions of the Health Act. After referring to the mission of the commissioner to that district during the past summer, he said he was glad to learn that the Attorney-General intended to bring down legislation, during the session, with the object of taking effective steps to secure an unconditional compliance with the laws of the land in that community.

On the motion of Mr. Parker Williams the debate was adjourned.

Questions Answered

Mr. Williams then asked that an order of the House be granted for a return showing the total sums overdue the treasury department from the following sources: The sale of townsite lots, sale of agricultural land, timber licences, timber royalties, purchase, lease, and rental of coal and petroleum lands.

The Premier replied that there was no objection to the question. Most of the answers had been sent already and statements regarding the others would be ready in a day or two.

Mr. Williams asked the acting Minister of Finance, what sum, if any, had been paid the Members for Cowichan and Yale as expenses or traveling incidentals while engaged in the work of the Royal Commission on Agriculture.

Hon. W. J. Bowser replied by submitting a statement showing that the Member for Cowichan had received \$1,352.35, and the Member for Yale, \$1,668.75. He also quoted the dates on which the payments were made.

The House then went into committee upon the third reading of the bill "to authorize the payment of certain expenses in connection with commissions issued under the great seal," with Mr. A. H. B. McGowan, fourth Member for Vancouver, in the chair.

Before the final section passed Mr. Williams rose.

"If the Members have lost their seats, where do we get the power by any retroactive measure to reseat them?" He also reiterated his statement that if the Members were in need of remedy they were beyond the remedy of the House.

The Attorney-General replied that there was no question of the Members having forfeited their seats. He went on to state that the Legislature was all powerful and could reseat them, if necessary. If there is any question of penalties the Legislature can relieve them of the penalties.

Mr. Williams contended that the Legislature was not all powerful, and rather than store up future trouble he suggested that the bill should be held up for some time in order that a complete investigation of the public accounts could be made.

Premier Replies

The Premier rose and took issue with the leader of the Opposition. "There can be no question," he said, "that it is competent for Members of this House to be interested in limited liability corporations who may have business engagements with the Government. If Members are to be disqualified because they hold stock in such companies it is carrying things to the extreme."

He proceeded to say that there was nothing very unusual in the bill before the House, in proof of which he recalled the fact that some fifteen years ago a measure was submitted that went the length of taking out of the hands of the court, certain election trials, at all events during the period of the Legislature, and giving seats in the House to the Members whose election was being contested. That was done on the ground of public policy, and he maintained that the argument held in regard to the bill before the House.

"As a matter of fact," he said, "the question of disqualification was not raised by the Opposition. It was raised by the Members themselves, who desired that some such expression of the House, as was contained in the bill, should be passed. The Members for Newcastle and Nanaimo have had a long time to think about the matter, but they have never said a word until now, although they must have known, and in fact did know, what had been done. I am convinced that it will be in the general public interest to have this bill pass. We make no excuse for the bill. We simply ask its adoption by the House, to remove any doubts expressed by the chairman of the commission."

The committee then rose and reported progress, on the motion of the Premier. The Premier then moved the third reading of the bill, and on the motion being put by the Speaker, Mr. Williams audibly remarked "pass."

Mr. H. H. Watson, Member for Vancouver, presented a petition from North Vancouver for leave to introduce a private bill to validate certain by-laws.

Mr. A. H. B. McGowan, Member for Vancouver, asked leave to introduce a private bill to amend the "Chartered Accounts Act, 1905." This petition is from the Institute of Chartered Accountants of British Columbia.

Mr. W. W. Foster gave notice of motion that he would introduce a bill entitled "An Act respecting the B. C. Association of Architects."

HE WOULD DEVELOP DEEP SEA FISHERIES

Member for Alberni Makes
Proposal; W. R. MacLean
and Canadian Navy

It is probable that more interest than usual is being taken in the proceedings of the legislative assembly of British Columbia this session. Every day since the house opened the galleries have been full to overflowing, and yesterday was no exception to this rule. Fortunately for the onlookers there was much interesting matter before the house, and only one bill was put through committee, so that visitors had an opportunity of hearing two members contribute to the discussion of the address from the throne, in addition to an interesting and lively debate on the premier's bill. During the afternoon the premier announced the appointment of A. H. B. Macgowan, member for Vancouver, as assistant chairman of the house and chairman of the Ways and Means committee.

An excellent suggestion was made by J. G. C. Wood, member for Alberni, in the course of his address to the house yesterday, in continuing the debate on the address of the lieutenant-governor. This was to the effect that inquiry be made and expert investigation afforded into deep sea fisheries off the west coast of Vancouver Island. This work, he averred, could be very well done by the Biological station at Nanaimo, which was at the present time occupied with other and less practical business. It was all very interesting, he remarked, to discover through them that seaweed was not seaweed, but a mass of animalcules, but he ventured to suggest that a practical issue like inquiries into deep sea fisheries would be of infinitely greater commercial value.

This suggestion came in the midst of a dissertation on the fisheries of British Columbia, which the member remarked, again headed the list of all the provinces. These, however, were practically all estuary and river fisheries. British Columbia could boast of practically no deep sea fisheries. He commended his suggestion to the consideration of the house.

Mining Figures.

Taking up the question of mining, the member for Alberni proceeded to attempt to disprove a statement made on Monday by the member for Nanaimo. Mr. Place had said that the mining deaths per rata were greater here than in anywhere else in the world. He had collected, he said, figures on this point from different states in the United States, and proceeded to give the house the benefit of his researches.

In British Columbia the death rate from the years 1903-1913 was 4.87, while in Washington for the same time it was 4.93; West Virginia, 5.54; Colorado, 10.66; Alabama, 6.7; Oklahoma, 5.71, etc.

Franchise to Women.

Continuing, the member for Alberni said that he had hoped to see in the address of the lieutenant-governor some indication of a measure to be brought forward for the extension of the franchise to women. He had been vastly disappointed to see that it was not there. If such a bill could not be passed this session, he hoped that some change in the laws could be accomplished to give married women a better standing in the province than they hitherto have had. He hoped later on in the session to have further opportunity to discuss the matter on the floor of the house.

The remainder of Mr. Wood's address dealt for the most part with good roads. The province, he averred, was the leader in Canada in the good roads movement. The building of roads was a prime necessity of life; without them every industry might well fail. Much had been done, he averred, through the great programme of road building carried out by the minister of public works, but much remained yet to be done, for there were still many pre-emptors who were with-

The member for Alberni sounded a sympathetic note when he referred feelingly to the unfortunate illness of Lord Strathcona.

The Doukhobors.

The member for Nelson, W. R. MacLean, followed Mr. Wood and spoke with some acrimony on the subject of the Doukhobors, a community of Russian peasants whom a paternal government has allowed to settle near that gentleman's constituency, and who, according to him, are entirely irresponsible of the laws of the province.

These people, he remarked, refused altogether to obey the laws, refused to be educated, refused to subscribe to the marriage laws, nor would they consent to record deaths or births as was commanded on all others who resided within the four corners of the province. Many deaths, he alleged, had been brought about because Peter Verigin prevented people reporting severe illnesses to the medical authorities. He was glad to hear that the attorney-general had had an expert on the ground and was taking the matter up speedily. In his opinion urgent investigation was needed.

Mr. MacLean indicated that he had some sympathies with the Liberal policy of a Canadian navy when he spoke of the Yarrow's starting building on a large scale in Victoria. He hoped, he said, that the step would pave the way for the construction of any ships that the government might feel enabled to build for the proper protection of the Pacific coast.

The member for Nelson also had the temerity to refer to the Oriental question in a non-committal sort of way. The problem of the Japs and Hindus, he stated, was a hard subject to discuss on the floor of the provincial house, because the question belonged rightly to other parliaments. On this head, however, he stated: "British Columbia must, and will remain, as it has always been, a 'white man's country,' and the white man's interests must be well protected at all times. (At this point there was some sardonic laughter in the gallery.)

That he did not know what a political machine meant was a remarkable statement made by the member for Nelson during the course of his address. The member for Nanaimo had referred to such an instrument in his speech of the previous day. He could assure the house that in Nelson there was no such thing, at any rate.

The remainder of Mr. MacLean's remarks were exclusively confined to the handing out of carefully prepared information on the subject of Nelson and the Kootenays, he dealing in turn with the lumber and fruit industries, dubbing the latter as "the great future industry of British Columbia."

Parker Williams moved the adjournment of the debate.

QUESTIONS ON EXPENSES

Attorney-General Gives Information as to Amounts Paid Members of Agricultural Commission.

Questions were put to Acting Minister of Finance Hon. W. J. Bowser yesterday by the member for Newcastle as to the amounts paid to Messrs. Hayward and Lucas, the members for Cowichan and Yale, respectively, for expenses and incidentals in connection with the agricultural commission. Answers were given immediately by the attorney-general, who, however, informed the member that some of the vouchers for expenses were not yet in, and therefore could not be included in his reply.

The questions put by Mr. Williams and the answers given were as follows: What sum (if any) has the member for Yale received from the provincial treasury as expenses or travelling incidentals while engaged in work of royal commission on agriculture?

What was the amount, and when was such sum (if any) paid?

Mr. Bowser replied as follows: \$1,068.75.

March 31, 1913, \$230; June 9, 1913, \$231.25; June 9, 1913, \$230; July 16, 1913, \$327.50; total, \$1,068.75.

What sum (if any) has the member for Cowichan received from the provincial treasury as expenses or travelling incidentals while engaged in work of royal commission on agriculture?

What was the amount, and when was such sum (if any) paid?

Mr. Bowser replied as follows: \$1,352.95.

March 31, 1913, \$330.50; June 9, 1913, \$291.50; June 9, 1913, \$164.40; July 31, 1913, \$566.55; total, \$1,352.95.

A resolution put by the member for Newcastle and seconded by the member for Nanaimo, to find out what debts are outstanding to the province on townsites, timber lands, royalties, etc., was approved by the government and the attorney-general offered to provide the information required within a few days.

GOVERNMENT TAKES TIME

Promised to Take Important Mining Case Under Advisement.

Argument was heard by the whole of the provincial executive this morning on the application of John Hopp for a lease of the Cloud Forks mining property, on which the Guggenheims under the name of the Cariboo Gold Mining company had expended almost \$5,000,000 in improvements. Hopp staked the property recently, claiming a lapse in the title of the Guggenheims due to their having failed to keep their mining certificate renewed up to date. His application for a lease was opposed by R. T. Ward, who had purchased the property from the Guggenheims shortly before the action of Hopp.

No decision was given by the executive this morning, but the premier promised to take the matter under advisement. W. J. Taylor, K. C., supported by Mr. Wheeler, of Vancouver, upheld Mr. Ward's interests, while J. B. Pattello, of Vancouver, represented the Guggenheims. James Murphy and H. A. Maclean, K. C., presented Mr. Hopp's application.

A DICTATOR.

The Attorney-General says the legislature is omnipotent. It can seat members, he contends, who have disqualified themselves by accepting pay from the Crown in violation of the constitution or it can exempt them from penalties in case of such violations. After all, what is a little thing like the constitution to a man of the moral or ethical stamp of the Attorney-General? Last session he purposed giving the members of the legislature an extension of their term of service to five years, although they had been elected by the people in accordance with the constitution for four years; and it was only after the Times had drawn attention to the iniquity and brazenness of the proposal that it was withdrawn. Some few years ago several members of the house who had unwittingly through the firms with which they were connected sold a few articles of insignificant value, such as some tons of coal, a revolver, etc., to persons in the service of the crown, were compelled to resign their seats and appeal to their constituents for re-election. But times have changed. We have a dictator enthroned who is above and superior to such trifles as the constitution and the people. He says members may draw practically at will from the public treasury and he will see not only that they are seated but that they shall be immune from the legal consequences of their acts.

INDEPENDENCE OF PARLIAMENT.

Fourteen years ago a number of members of the provincial legislature found themselves liable to the severe penalty provided by the constitution through technical violations of the provision safeguarding the independence of parliament. Three of them were representatives of this city, who deemed themselves responsible for a few minor sales or services to government officials on the part of some of their employees. As soon as they learned of the transactions they at once resigned their seats, to which, however, they were returned by the electors. This took place in February, 1899, and the three members were the Hon. J. H. Turner, Richard Hall and A. E. McPhillips. A similar course was pursued by mainland representatives who found themselves in a like predicament.

These members were disqualified under section 29 of the Constitution, which says: "No person whatsoever, holding or enjoying, undertaking or executing, directly or indirectly, alone or with any other by himself or by the interposition of any trustee or third party, any contract or agreement with His Majesty, or with any public officer or department, with respect to the public service of the province, or under which any public money of the province is to be paid for any service or work, shall be eligible as a member of the legislative assembly, nor shall he sit or vote in the same."

This section is not the same under which Messrs. Shaw, Hayward and Lucas were disqualified, but in principle the two sections are the same. In the case fourteen years ago, however, the members themselves knew nothing at the time of the transactions which constituted an infringement of the law. In the present instance the three commissioners must have been aware that when they accepted allowances from the treasury they made themselves ineligible to sit as members of the Assembly.

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A FINE EULOGY BY THE PREMIER

Sir Richard McBride in the
Legislature Makes Impres-
sive Speech on the Death of
Lord Strathcona.

PERSONAL FRIEND OF
HIGH COMMISSIONER

Traces Very Fully Remarkable
Career of Greatest Pioneer
in the Annals of Canadian
History.

The eulogy spoken by the Premier on the death of Lord Strathcona at yesterday's sitting of the House will always rank as one of the greatest natural oratorical efforts ever delivered within the walls of the Legislative Chamber.

Sir Richard McBride has for many years been a close personal friend of the late High Commissioner for Canada, and in dignity of expression and warmth of utterance he rose to a height worthy of the praise of one of the greatest Canadians of the century.

Speaking entirely without notes, the Premier briefly traced the career of the greatest pioneer in the annals of Canadian history with a simplicity of diction that carried conviction to his hearers. He uttered no terms of fulsome adulation; but with a heartfelt sincerity spoke of the life of the departed statesman as a pioneer whose name is linked up with the earliest beginnings of the Dominion's birth.

In seconding the resolution of condolence to his family, Mr. Parker Williams spoke of Lord Strathcona as a man born of the multitude, a man who retained his faculties unimpaired to the end, a man of high character and great resource.

After the arrival of Mr. Speaker in the House, a recess was called for twenty minutes to allow His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor to appear in person in order to give his sanction to the bill validating the payment of expenses to those Members who have been serving on Royal Commissions. During the adjournment His Honor entered the House and gave his assent to the Bill, whereupon Mr. W. H. Hayward, Member for Cowichan; Alexander Lucas, Member for Yale; and J. P. Shaw, Member for Revelstoke, took their seats for the first time during the present session.

Moves Resolution

On the departure of His Honor, Mr. Speaker re-entered the House, and the Premier rose and moved the following resolution:

"That this House has learned with deep regret of the death of the Right Honorable Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal, High Commissioner for Canada; and desires to express its high appreciation of the great services he rendered during a long and honored career, to the Dominion and to the Empire.

"That, on behalf of the people of British Columbia, this House desires to extend its sympathy to the Honorable Margaret Howard and the other members of the family;

"And that His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor be requested to forward, through the proper channels, to His Royal Highness the Governor-General of Canada and to the Honorable Margaret Howard, copies of this resolution."

In supporting the resolution, the Premier said: "I have read this resolution after conferring with my honorable friend, Mr. Williams, the Member for Newcastle, who has agreed to second it. I need scarcely remind you that the resolution deals with the passing of one of the most striking figures in the history of the Dominion of Canada; or, for that matter, in the history of any country. His life reads like a romance, and while this is not the place nor the occasion to elaborate upon his many activities and achievements, I think you will pardon me if I briefly outline his splendid service to our country, which he loved so well.

His Wonderful Career

"All of you are doubtless aware how Lord Strathcona commenced his wonderful career as a clerk in the employ of the Hudson's Bay Company. Those of you who have followed his life know that he later became a responsible officer in that company. The seal of approval was afterwards set upon his services by his appointment to the post of Chief Commissioner, until finally he stepped into the exalted place of honor of chairman and president. Throughout his long life, Canada was ever in the forefront of Lord Strathcona's vision. Even in his advancing years he evinced the very keenest interest in its welfare. He was a citizen of Canada to the last, and was the sponsor in Great Britain of many great schemes of development throughout the Dominion.

"Mr. Speaker, it is not an idle task in this hour to speak of the interest which Lord Strathcona took in the work of advancing education, in the construction of highways and in the largest sphere of the building of railroads in this country, more especially through the Prairie Provinces. Lord Strathcona confined his activities to no one particular section of this great Dominion and to no one branch of its development. He was one of the leaders connected with the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway across our Continent, and great credit is due to him for having pressed forward that great undertaking until it finally stretched from ocean to ocean.

"There are many accounts given of the struggles that attended the pioneers of development of this transcontinental line. Those of us who lived in British Columbia at that time know that there was a subdued impatience here because of the delay on the part of the Government at Ottawa in forwarding the work of construction; but we have a deeper knowledge now of the obstacles, which appeared almost insurmountable at times, arising from day to day and month to month in the path of the constructors and promoters. We are able to gauge now the determination and almost illimitable courage which surmounted these troubles and made the building of this magnificent road an accomplished fact.

National Undertaking

"The pages of Standard which deal with the debates in the Dominion House of Commons when Sir John A. Macdonald, with the able assistance of Sir Charles Tupper, announced the policy of forcing the Canadian Pacific Railway through to the Pacific seaboard, form interesting reading for the student of this Province. One cannot read these pages without realizing at the same time that behind the strenuous efforts of the Federal Government was the solid and unswerving loyalty of Donald A. Smith and his colleagues in the achievement of this national undertaking. When the obstacles impeding their path are taken into consideration, especially in so far as they concern the meagre knowledge prevailing at that time in the East of our Western conditions, such as the scarcity of population from the Great Lakes to the seaboard, the lack of money and the discouraging outlook — I say, Mr. Speaker, when we consider all these things in the great perspective of history, one cannot for a moment doubt the unflinching courage, the splendid faith and the unbounded optimism that this man had in the Dominion of Canada, the country he loved so well.

"It is true that in his latter days he amassed considerable wealth. It is equally true, however, that he never forgot the responsibilities which the accumulation of this wealth imposed upon him, and he regarded it as a solemn duty to so order his doings that at least some part of that wealth should be distributed for the betterment of his fellowmen. His contributions to charity assumed splendid and munificent proportions, and no worthy charity was ever brought to his attention that did not receive a quick and generous response.

"Lord Strathcona received the crowning honor of his great career when he was honored by his King with the position of High Commissioner of Canada, a post which he filled efficiently and with a high appreciation of the responsibilities which it involved, for many years. It was my pleasant task as a representative from this Province to meet his Lordship on several occasions while visiting the City of London on Government business. He was always anxious, so far as his office was concerned, that nothing should be left undone to aid and implement any business in which British Columbia was concerned. No matter how pressing his other engagements, Lord Strathcona never hesitated in advancing the work in hand, and was always willing to place his time and his long experience at our disposal.

Interest in Province

"Lord Strathcona took a deep and a special interest in the affairs of British Columbia, and a pride in the advancement of the Province, and many times he went out of his way to show some special mark of favor towards this section of the Dominion of Canada. I do not wish to insinuate that he neglected any portion of the country, but he always felt that being so far removed from the central Government as we were, he should devote special attention to the business of this Province. Only a few years ago, when he was in his ninetieth year, in order to acquaint himself with the growth of the country through personal knowledge, he informed me that he intended to make a trip from Montreal to Victoria. I was greatly surprised with the knowledge he exhibited of what had been transpiring in British Columbia. He seemed to follow the expansion of this Province very closely indeed, and knew almost in detail the magnitude of our public works, the advancement of our educational institutions and the general improvements that have been carried out here. At that time there was some doubt expressed as to His Lordship being able to come here, but all this was set at rest in the Summer of 1909, when we were privileged to receive him in this City of Victoria, and to entertain him for two days before he turned his steps eastward on his return journey to London. Lord Strathcona was not content at that time with a trip along the main line of the C. P. R., but journeyed through the Okanagan Valley and other sections of the Province so that he might inform himself at first hand of the development of the Province.

"We, in this Province, have always appreciated his great labors on our behalf, and in a humble way by naming the Provincial Park on Vancouver Island, Strathcona Park, we have tried to make some small recognition of the many favors he has showered on us.

Strathcona Park

"I may say to you, Mr. Speaker, and to the members of this House, that Lord Strathcona was deeply sensitive of the recognition of the Province in calling this magnificent park after him and that on many occasions he spoke to me on the matter. Only four months ago through the kindness of the Minister of Public Works, and of Colonel Thomson, I was enabled to deliver personally to him a volume of views of Strathcona Park, and I can speak with personal knowledge of the keen interest with which he turned over the pages of the book and how much pride he felt in the fact that his name would be forever associated with the coastline of the Province of British Columbia.

"I would like to delay the House just a moment more to say that personally I am under many obligations to His Lordship for his kindly consideration during my visit to London, and I know of scores of Canadians now resident in this Province who have found in Lord Strathcona a kind and generous friend.

"I would add a word on behalf of the Agent General, who both in his letters and in conversation with me, has frequently impressed upon me the knowledge of the interest which the High Commissioner always took in the work of the Agent General's office.

"Mr. Speaker, I will delay the House no longer, but will rest content with the presentation of the resolution which after approval by the House will be followed by a motion for adjournment out of respect to the memory of this great Canadian."

In seconding the resolution, Mr. Williams, Member for Newcastle, said that he had only a few words to add to the eulogy spoken by the Premier.

Of Immense Energy

"An old man has passed away," said Mr. Williams, "and from the brief attention I have paid to his history I learn that he was born of the multitude and of democracy, which perhaps was the basis of that strength which carried him to the wonderful age of 94. He was a man of immense energy, of a sober cast of mind, and so we must conclude of careful habits, because character in the last analysis is merely the structure that is built upon habits and experience.

"The fates were kind to Lord Strathcona. Wealth and all that wealth can bring were his, together with an abundance of honors. But in addition to these things he enjoyed what is perhaps the greatest prize that any man can have, especially a man of his extreme age, in that to the last his faculties appeared to have remained unimpaired. And again the fates were kind when the final summons came sleep hid from his vision the dread reaper whose advent men so much fear.

"Wealth and position were his in the highest degree. Lord Strathcona possessed much that was not attributable to these material sources, and for that reason, Mr. Speaker, we are glad of the opportunity of paying tribute to his memory."

The resolution was passed in silence and the Premier moved the adjournment of the House.

Editorial

SUPREMACY OF THE LEGISLATURE

Exception has been taken to the statement that the Provincial Legislature is supreme within its jurisdiction. We had not supposed that any person was so absurd as to question this statement. The legislature can pass any law within the class of subjects assigned to it by the British North America Act, subject only to disallowance by the Governor-General. Disallowance by the Lieutenant-Governor need not be considered in this connection, because until that official has given his assent, a bill has not become a law.

It is suggested by a contemporary that if the Legislature is supreme it can pass an act declaring that members of the Legislature shall be appointed by the Government. As such an enactment would be contrary to the British North America Act, the suggestion is not worthy of serious consideration.

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We had supposed that most persons already knew these elementary things, but apparently there are some who do not, or at least who are not above the effort to make the public believe that they do not. If a member of the Legislature has incurred penalties it is quite within the power of the Legislature which imposed the penalties, to suspend them. The fact that we have in British Columbia what is called "The Constitution Act," misleads some people. That act is only a Provincial statute of just exactly the same standing as an act imposing a bounty on coyotes or fixing liquor licenses. The Legislature can change it at any time, and when an election comes round, the people can elect a Legislature that will repeal the change and re-enact the original provision.

said "Inquiries Act" by reason of his acting under such appointment, or by reason of his receiving remuneration therefor from the Dominion under the circumstances appearing in the preamble to this act, whether such remuneration or any portion thereof has been paid before or shall be paid after the passing of this act; nor shall he be liable to or incur by reason thereof any penalty provided by section 23 of the "Constitution Act."

His Many Charities.
On the subject of the late Lord Strathcona's many charities, the premier said that it was true in later days he had amassed considerable wealth but a good part of this had been distributed for the betterment of his fellowmen. His ears were ever open to the cry of the sick and needy, and there was never any deserving applicant for charity turned away from his never-failing fountain of his generous and splendid charities.

It is found that of every 100 babies born there is a probability of only some 7 surviving; the probability of these one year-old children reaching the age of two is increased. At least seventy of them will see their second year.

SOCIALIST MEMBER IN HIS USUAL ROLE

Mr. Parker Williams, Member
for Newcastle, Indulges in
Attack on Government—
Standing Committees.

Mr. Parker Williams, the Socialist Member for Newcastle, occupied the floor for two hours at yesterday's sitting of the Legislature with a speech which for the most part consisted of a personal attack on the members of the present Ministry. The Premier smiled at some of his diatribes. His remarks failed to draw a single word of protest and his attacks on those whom he accused of raiding the treasury were listened to with a far more impressive silence than similar accusations uttered by Mr. Place a few days previously.

Mr. Williams, who poses as a Socialist, did not utter a single word of constructive policy throughout the two hours during which he occupied the attention of the House; but for the most part his address consisted of a direct attack on the personal character of those who are at present administering the Government. Even the press came in for a portion of his recriminations, and he devoted the greater part of his address to a direct attack on the land policy of the Government, using the arguments that the Liberals are proclaiming throughout the Province. No one seemed to take Mr. Williams seriously.

In his opening remarks he referred to the death of a boy in Burnaby, connecting it by some analogy, that was not clear to the members, with the death of Lord Strathcona.

In speaking of the disturbances of last Summer on Vancouver Island, he said that they were of no magnitude whatever, and inferred that the punishments meted out to the offenders were entirely disproportionate to the crimes committed. Referring further to the trouble at Nanaimo, he said that the root of the evil was the incapacity and inactivity of the Government. "In view of the experience of the last few months," said Mr. Williams, "I would today go on record as favoring the popular election and recall of judges, in accordance with the practice of the majority of American States."

Before Mr. Williams spoke on the reply to the address, Mr. Watson, Member for Vancouver, asked leave to introduce a private bill to amend the Corporate Act of the Dominion Trust Company.

The following petitions were also received: From the City of North Vancouver for leave to introduce a private bill validating certain by-laws; and from the Institute of Chartered Accountants of British Columbia, for leave to introduce a private bill to amend the Chartered Accountants' Act of 1905.

Standing Committees

At the conclusion of Mr. Williams' speech the Premier announced the appointment of the following standing committees of the session:

Private Bills and Standing Orders—Messrs. Miller, Campbell, Shatford, Shaw, Tisdall and Place.

Mining—Messrs. Campbell, Mackay, MacLean, Fraser, McDonald, Wood, Hunter and Place.

Railways—Messrs. Schofield, Caven, Callahan, Watson, Jackson, Manson (Comox), Forster (Columbia), Hunter and Place.

Public Accounts—Messrs. Manson (Dewdney), Lucas, Forster (Columbia), Fraser, Shatford, Williams and Place.

Municipal Matters—Messrs. Manson (Skeena), Davey, Pooler, Gifford, Cawley, MacKenzie, MacLean, Schofield, Forster (Islands), and Williams.

Agriculture—Messrs. Lucas, Cawley, Jackson, Wood, Manson (Comox), and Williams.

Education—Messrs. McGuire, Behnen and Forster (Islands).

Mr. Bowser presented to the Speaker a message from the Lieutenant-Governor transmitting a bill entitled "An Act to Amend the Benevolent Societies Act," and it was ordered that the message, with the accompanying bill, be referred to a committee of the whole House.

On the departure of the Speaker, the House went into committee and immediately resolved to recommend the introduction of the bill. The bill was introduced and read for the first time and the second reading was set for tomorrow.

The Attorney-General presented a second message from the Lieutenant-Governor transmitting a bill entitled "An Act to Amend the Charitable Associations Act." Again the House went into committee and the bill was introduced and read for the first time, the second reading being set for tomorrow.

A similar proceeding was taken with a bill amending the Industrial Communities Act, the Industrial and Provident Societies Act, the Literary Societies Act, and the Mutual Fire Insurance Company's Act.

Mr. W. H. Hayward, Member for Cowichan, was appointed Deputy Speaker of the House, and after the introduction of the report of the Auditor-General by the Attorney-General, the House adjourned the sitting until two o'clock today.

Notices of Motion

Among the notices of motion which are on the paper for today are the following:

By Mr. Williams—On Friday next—Questions of the Hon. the Attorney-General:

1. Did the Hon. Mr. Justice Morrison, during 1913, deliver a judgment dealing with the filing of subdivision maps?

2. How many maps were held up or awaiting action at the date of judgment?

3. How many subdivision maps were held for action on December 31, 1913?

By Mr. Williams—On Friday next—Questions of the Hon. the Attorney-General:

1. How many applications to register (a) absolute fees, (b) indefeasible fees, (c) mortgages, were received at the Land Registry Offices at Victoria and Vancouver in 1913?

2. How many written notices with objections to register titles or charges were issued by the Land Registry Offices in Victoria and Vancouver in 1913?

By Mr. Williams—On Friday Next—Questions of the Hon. the Attorney-General:

1. Are the rules prepared by the Inspector of Legal Offices, and enforced in the Land Registry Offices of the Province, printed or published in any and what manner?

2. How do the people transacting business at the Land Registry Offices find out what rules are in force?

3. If said rules are changed or repealed, what notice (if any) is given or published?

4. How are the public to learn of any such alteration or repeal of said rules?

By Mr. Williams—On Friday next—Question of the Hon. the Attorney-General:

How many postcards were issued by the Land Registry Offices of Victoria and Vancouver during 1913, as the sole evidence of the registration of titles or charges?

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DAYLIGHT SAVING BILL

It is intimated that there is a probability of a Daylight Saving Bill being introduced during the present session of the Legislature. The proposal that has been put forward is, that the standard time in the Province should be advanced one hour from April 1 until the third Sunday in October. The object of such legislation is presumably to allow of the day's work being commenced an hour earlier so that there will be so much more time left for recreation while the sun is above the horizon. The end in view is one praiseworthy enough, but it seems to us that the method proposed to achieve it is in the nature of self-deception. This is by no means the only objection to such legislation. It is very certain that the Dominion Meteorological Department, which fixes the standard time for the Province, would refuse to be bound by any such arrangement as is proposed. Then, taking the case of railroad companies and steamship lines operating to and from points in British Columbia, we hardly suppose it will be suggested with any seriousness that they will disorganize their schedules just because this Province might seek to have different time to that prevailing in other parts of the Dominion and in the United States. Unless the transportation companies and the Federal authorities fell into line with the suggestion it would be difficult to carry it out successfully, and we see no reason to believe that they would even entertain the proposal. The object sought may be a laudable one, but surely there must be some other means to effect it without altering the hands of the clock to a fictitious time and hoodwinking ourselves into the belief that we are extending the hours of sunshine. If it is possible to legislate so that the time for commencing work can be made one hour earlier and the business day be brought to an end sixty minutes sooner than at present, why do so by all means, if public opinion is found to support such a change. To bring about such a reform by putting forward the hands of the clock is both impracticable and undesirable.

SCORES GOVERNMENT IN TWO-HOUR SPEECH

Parker Williams Declares
Adulation of Premier Food
for Amusement

SUGGESTS SOME MEANS
OF CUTTING EXPENSES

Calls Labor Commission a
Farce; Refers to Joseph
Mears' Death

Parker Williams, the leader of the opposition in the provincial house, spoke for two hours and a quarter yesterday afternoon and touched on very many important phases of public life in the course of his remarks. It was an address marked by broad, human scope and enlivened by many touches of humor. No more virile attack on the maladministration of the government has been heard for many months, and a large attendance thronged the galleries throughout the whole of the long address.

In his opening sentence Parker Williams said that while both the premier and himself had had occasion the day before to pay a tribute of respect to the late Lord Strathcona, a man who held the highest office in the gift of the people of this country, he had on this day to refer to an occurrence—the death of a young boy placed in the lowest position at his death it was possible for anyone to be in.

He alluded, he said, to the death of Joseph Mears, the son of a Ladysmith miner, who had just died in the provincial jail at Burnaby. It was fitting, he said, that the house pay some attention to this death also. The last thing that the mortal vision of this lad encountered was that of the cold, brutal wall which enclosed him. There was no voice of parent or friend to cheer him in his passing, for he presumed that his boy's parents had not been notified of the illness which had held him for weeks before he died.

Mr. Williams said that he had once read about a sculptor who had been asked by a child what he was going to make out of a large rough block of

marble which stood in his studio. The artist had replied: "There are man, devil and child in that block of marble. I am going to let one of them out."

Similarly, said Mr. Williams, was it with a boy just converging on manhood. The boy contains all the possibilities of man, all that man is, all that he ever can be. Every trait, every feature, every good, every evil—all are bound up in a boy. This boy had been killed. He would ask the house for sympathy were it not for the fact that the government by its domineering yet ineffectual methods was responsible for the tragedy that had taken place.

"Under these circumstances," said Parker Williams, "I could not ask for the sympathy of this house for the bereaved parents. It would be too much like mocking their sorrow."

He could suggest the name of another lad—one of the cleanest type which Scotland ever gave to this province—who would soon be in a similar position if something were not done. The last time he had seen him the unfortunate lad was broken in jail, an absolute wreck. He suggested that the government get busy and see what it could do towards getting his condition ameliorated.

Parker Williams followed with a charge against Judge Howay, of New Westminster, who, he said, made the mistake of going down to Ladysmith and rubbing noses there with the section of the population vigorously opposed to the Nanaimo miners. The result, he declared, was that the judge had come back to Nanaimo and sentenced men to varying periods from three months to two years. Only the limitations imposed by the criminal code had prevented him, he averred, from making those sentences even longer. The member for Newcastle dubbed his action as the act of "the weakest and cheapest brand of men."

Disposition to Worship.

Leaving the troubles of the miners behind for the moment, Parker Williams launched into the mordant irony of the position which many of the members of the legislative assembly and Conservatives generally throughout the province adopted towards the premier—their "revered leader." In the "mental tangle" that the member for Dewdney had given to the house a few days before, there was the very quintessence of this worshipful and reverential attitude. He (the member for Newcastle) had the very highest admiration for the modest manner in which the premier received that adoration. He averred the attitude had grown up by degrees, and had become more extravagant with each passing year. Nor was it ever more noticeable than in the case of a good Conservative who, having wandered from the reservation, made his way back again into the fold.

"This spirit of worship," Mr. Williams commented ironically, "becomes

very amusing to those who take a little diversion out of the circus of life as it goes past."

This was the same spirit as called forth gibes and sneers in the government press against those who believed they had other duties to perform than the glorifying of Sir Richard McBride in the house. On the other hand, the view of the member for Nanaimo and himself was to remedy any wrongs they believed to exist, and not to tickle further the vanity of the premier, which heaven knew was sufficiently well developed already.

There were some feeble-minded folk in the province who seemed fully persuaded, he continued, that the premier could increase the price of copper or back a man's note without impairing his own credit in the slightest degree. He noticed, however, that they generally had their own axe to grind; and when he saw the morning government organ in Victoria devoting large space and many photographs to the premier, he placed the owner in the same category; he was doing it to keep possession of the pass-key to the treasury which he had somehow got hold of.

Election of Judges.

In saying that he would like to see the election of judges taken out of the realm of politics and placed in the hands of the people, Parker Williams referred to the position of the late member for the Islands. That gentleman had been one of the most blindly partisan men in the house. Yet when he was elevated to the supreme court judgeship, he was expected to cast off his partiality like a cloak, to be above all petty motives; a fit judge, for instance to decide on an election petition. In future, Mr. Williams said, he would stand for the election and recall of judges by the people.

Taking up the statement made by the Dewdney member that the premier had found the province in unutterable chaos ten years ago, and had evolved law and order out of the welter, the member for Newcastle dubbed the whole idea as grossly absurd, and not in the slightest degree supported by facts. To hear the member for Dewdney one would conceive that before the premier made his advent there was darkness over the whole face of the deep. Then the Giant had moved, and everything was light. The mills got orders, the farmers got crops, the laborers got work, and "even the thugs that made night dangerous got jobs as special policemen."

Life Not Improved.

Yet for all this boasted marvellous work, in what manner had the life of the average man and woman become better? Was it any more comfortable? Was it any fuller in the things that count than it had been? Was it less precarious? Was it easier to meet the bill for food and clothing than it had been ten years ago before the premier's

light shone in the provincial firmament?

The one material sign they had was that the overdraft of \$1,000,000 in 1903 had increased to \$1,500,000 in 1913. For his part he did not think that fact suggested abnormal prosperity. Ten years ago also this province had all those wonderful natural resources that the government had potlatched to fill the capacious maw of the camp followers of the party. Millions of acres of good land had been sold to speculators, coal areas had been peddled off, timber holdings had been disposed of to meet the ever growing expenditure, which like a craving for drink, grows more and more with feeding.

When the alienation of natural resources had proved too small, then the government had thrown the surplus of which good old Captain Tallow had laid the foundation into the jackpot. This also had been all eaten up. Was it not a strange anomaly that the expenses of governing this province were exactly equal to those of Ontario, a province with six times the population?

To Cut Down Expenses.

Proceeding, Parker Williams went on to make some suggestions as to ways in which the province could cut down expenses.

First he had noticed in the accounts large amounts paid to special police. Law and order could prevail in two ways. The first was by clean, generous, impartial administration of the statutes; the second (the attorney-general's way) by employing one-half of the people to look after the other half.

Another way he would suggest to cut down expenses would be to get a new attorney-general who would not require to call in expensive outside help every time he wanted to draft a bill; an attorney-general moreover who would complete a bill while he was at it and not load up the order paper with innumerable amending clauses while the house was in session.

His third way would be to reduce travelling expenses, not only of members of the ministry, who usually travelled like eastern nabobs, but by sending out fewer provincial officers and making them travel in a common-sense way. He supposed that the bill for gasoline alone was greater in this year's accounts than the whole expenditure was in 1903. The premier, too, he would suggest, should pay his own expenses if he desired to make annual trips to the old country, which were only productive of generalities and bland remarks on the state of the agent-general's health. He had calculated that the premier's Port George trip in 1910 had cost the province \$1.35 per mile.

Then there were experts' fees. The attorney-general, he believed, owned some mud flats for oysters (or was it lobsters?) Most likely, said Parker

Williams, under the circumstances it would be for "lobsters." A specialist had been called to discover the value of this, and had been paid, he believed, by the people of the province. Similarly also, the expert who had been called out to look at Robert Green's land in the Peace river supposed to contain coal.

Royal Commissions.

The member for Newcastle's comment on the labor and agricultural commissions was equally censorious. They were, he said, but a means of rewarding past or prospective politicians of the Conservative color.

"A cheaper farce," he added, "than the labor commission has never been staged in any city. The agricultural commission is not one whit better. Places on them were given to men who were in touch with the machine, who were in fact cogs of it. The whole business was an inexcusable burlesque."

The government could have got more solid information, he asserted, for the price of a two cent postage stamp than this costly commission had secured. He had noticed particularly that the member for Yale had said not a word of the breaking up of large estates in Australia into small holdings. And yet that was one of the outstanding features in their land policy. Speaking of the enabling bill whereby the premier was getting three members back in their seats, he made a suggestion gratis to the premier that he include the member for Columbia in it. He understood that member was somehow outside the party pale, and such a measure would no doubt bring him back into it.

Parker Williams concluded by making the direct charge that the various associations gathering and to be gathered in Victoria during the next week or so, were simply parts of the Conservative machine. He illustrated this by a diagram which he had specially drawn for the benefit of the house, showing that the dates between the meeting of the associations in this city was filled in by meetings of the Conservative association.

The premier moved the adjournment of the debate.

ULTRA VIRES.

We invite attention to section 55 of the Constitution Act, which despite the contempt in which it seems to be held by the Attorney-General and his newspaper apologist, is the rock upon which the government of this province is founded. The section reads as follows:

"If any member of the assembly shall, without the permission of the said assembly, fail during the whole session to give his attendance in the said assembly, or shall take any oath or make any declaration or acknowledgment of allegiance, obedience, or adherence to any foreign state or power, or shall do, concur in, or adopt any act whereby he may become the subject or citizen of any such state or power, or shall become a bankrupt or insolvent debtor, or a public defaulter, or be attainted of treason, or be convicted of felony or any infamous crime, or if any member of the said assembly by ACCEPTING OFFICE or becoming a party to any contract or agreement, becomes disqualified by law to continue to sit or vote in the same, HIS ELECTION SHALL THEREBY

BECOME VOID, AND THE SEAT OF SUCH MEMBER SHALL BE VACATED, AND A WRIT SHALL FORTHWITH ISSUE FOR A NEW ELECTION AS IF HE WERE NATURALLY DEAD."

That the three members of the House were disqualified by law to sit is admitted by the introduction of the bill to which His Honor has just given his assent. The circumstances disqualifying them occurred a year ago, and their election "thereby became void" under the section we have quoted. They were to be regarded as if "naturally dead." How, then, can the legislature restore them to life? Their seats having been forfeited, how can they be filled except by the issue "forthwith" of writs for new elections? If the legislature has power to dispense with an election in this instance, it has power to dispense with it altogether. If three gentlemen who forfeited their seats, being thereby considered as "naturally dead," can be restored to life as members of the House, the legislature can perpetuate itself indefinitely over the heads of the people.

Had the legislature amended the constitution to meet the case before the members were appointed, there would have been no regularity. This, however, was not done, and we believe the courts would decide that the recent bill was ultra vires and that the three commissioners are subject to the penalty clause, which is as follows:

"If any person so disqualified or declared incapable of sitting or voting in the assembly sits or votes therein, he shall thereby forfeit the sum of five hundred dollars for each and every day on which he so sits and votes; and such sum may be recovered from him by any person who will sue for the same in any court of competent civil jurisdiction in the province."

There is only one way in which vacant seats in the assembly can be filled, and that is by an election, notwithstanding the opinion of the Attorney-General. This is the spirit and letter of the British North America Act and Terms of Union upon which our constitution is based. We urge these points upon the consideration of the three gentlemen concerned, not because of any personal feeling. We have more than once favorably re-

ferred to the instructive and interesting report of Mr. Lucas on the conditions governing the progress of the agricultural industry in New Zealand and Australia. But there is a big principle at stake which can be disregarded only to the detriment of the public interest and loss to themselves personally. We advise them not to place too much faith in the counsel of the Attorney-General, and need only to remind them of his repeated failures before the Privy Council on matters appertaining to the constitutional powers of the legislature. In almost every case in which he has differed with the justice department at Ottawa his law has been shown to be unsound. It would be unfortunate for them, indeed, if they found too late that they had been leaning upon a broken reed.

Editorial
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Editorial Jan 23rd 1914.

Parker Williams may be somewhat in advance of the times in some of his views, but in the main his criticisms of the McBride government are justifiable and moderate. The member for Newcastle is the ablest man and by far the best and most interesting speaker in the present legislature. Time undoubtedly will modify his opinions as it will justify his criticisms of the government. His influence will yet be felt in the councils of British Columbia.

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VICTORIA, VANCOUVER ISLAND, BRITISH COLUMBIA, SATURDAY, JANUARY 24, 1914

STRIKING SPEECH BY THE PREMIER

Sir Richard McBride Deals Exhaustively With Criticisms Leveled Against Government of Which He Is Leader.

ADMINISTRATION'S WISE POLICY BEARS FRUIT

No Country on the Face of the
Globe Doing More Develop-
ment Work on Sound Busi-
nesslike Lines.

Sir Richard McBride, at yesterday's sitting of the Legislature, proved the claim of his supporters that he is the ablest orator in the House, and, indeed, ranks as one of the great masters of the art in Canada today. In a closely-reasoned speech of nearly two hours duration, he dealt with the criticisms leveled at the present Government by the Members of Newcastle and Nanaimo. Making only a passing, though dignified reference to the personalities which were a strong feature of Mr. Parker Williams' speech of the previous day, the Premier trenchantly analyzed the arguments which had been used by the Opposition against the legislative and executive acts of the present Government.

There was a large attendance in the galleries in anticipation of the Premier's address, which was listened to throughout with marked attention. Speaking somewhat more slowly and deliberately than is his usual custom, after paying a grateful tribute to the speeches of the Members for Dewdney and the Islands, he launched at once into a defence of Judge Howay, and that part of his speech which dealt with the judicial acts of the man who presided at the trials at New Westminster had an added interest owing to the close personal friendship which has existed between the Premier and Judge Howay since the days of the former's boyhood.

Sir Richard's Speech

"Mr. Speaker, it is the custom in all Legislatures," said the Premier, "that the person occupying the position of Leader of the House should make a passing review on matters of public interest before the address in reply to the speech from the Throne has been adopted. In accordance with this practice, I hope, therefore, this afternoon, to recall briefly, for the information of Parliament and of this Province, some of our public business for which the administration must be held responsible."

"Let me first, however, congratulate the Member for Dewdney, who very ably and eloquently moved the resolution the other afternoon. Let me also congratulate the Member for the Islands constituency, who made his first appearance as a member of this Legislature. With regard to my honorable friend who represents Dewdney I would say that it was with an especial delight that I listened to his first effort in the House; and if he would permit me the personal reference, I would like to say that I think it would be an advantage to this House, if he could hereafter take a more prominent part in the debates. I think we have a very promising, and unquestionably a very able representative in the Member for Dewdney, and one whose contributions to our debates, from both an oratorical and businesslike standpoint, would be of benefit to the Parliament of this Province. The constituency from which my honorable friend comes was my old constituency, and I have always held a deep affection for the Dewdney rid-

ing. There were some troublous times politically in that period of British Columbia history, but through all I was invariably successful in holding the confidence of the majority of the voters of the district.

Member for the Islands

"The Member for the Islands district comes to the House with a very great reputation both as a man of public importance and as one who has played an important part in the development of British Columbia. Some time ago he was president of the Conservative Association, an organization of great influence in the Province, with all due deference to the observations made yesterday by the honorable member for Newcastle. He has also occupied a very responsible position in the Canadian Pacific Railway service, where, directly under his charge, were works of great magnitude pertaining to the maintenance and operation of one of the most important divisions of the line. Later on, through the recommendation of the Minister of Public Works, he became associated with the Government of the Province in the capacity of Deputy Minister of Public Works, where his energy, patience and tact quickly won for him the esteem and regard of the people of this Province. I venture to say that the speech delivered in this House by the honorable the Member for the Islands, stamps him at once as one of our great debaters, whose participation in the business of the House is bound to work for the general advantage of the Legislature."

"We have also listened to the speeches of our honorable friends from Newcastle and Nanaimo. It is but right, I suppose, under the peculiar order of things that obtains here to term my honorable friend from Newcastle the Leader of the Opposition. I would like to say that there has been a frankness with respect to the criticism of these honorable gentlemen that cannot be overlooked. They told us that they have views of their own which they propose to hold, come what may; and to sum up their political creed in a single sentence, they would have this Legislature and the Province believe that, no matter what the Government did, under no conceivable circumstances would it be able to bring down legislation, or perform any executive act that would meet with their commendation. Fundamentally, through and through, this Government, this Conservative administration, is wrong in their estimation. It has been conceived in all sorts of iniquity and is consequently impotent of any good results. This, to some extent, clears the way for the few words I propose to address to you this afternoon."

Replies to Criticism

"But may I pause for a moment to call the attention of the House to one or two points which were emphasized by the honorable Member for Newcastle? In the first place he spoke of the very sad occurrence which took place the other day at Burnaby. One of the men sentenced from Nanaimo was suddenly called away, and he gave this House to understand that it was presumably through the neglect of the officials of the institution that this unfortunate occurrence happened. I would like it to be understood that if there has been any neglect on the part of the officials of the Burnaby jail against which the death of this man can be placed, this Government will leave nothing undone to ascertain upon whom the blame should rest, and will take every step necessary to mete out the punishment that may be deemed as fitting the offence. I am glad the honorable Member for Newcastle mentioned the matter, because it was his public duty to do so, and I will add, this Legislature and this Province are indebted to him for the manner in which he brought it forward."

"The honorable Member for Newcastle also took it upon himself to refer to His Honor Judge Howay, who was the trial judge, sitting in Nanaimo, when several persons involved in law-breaking in that community, were sentenced to different terms of imprisonment. I have known Judge Howay from

evidence on his own account, that is evidence connected with the trial of the men. Now it may be that Judge Howay did visit Lady Smith, but, sir, I am absolutely certain, and I know that my friend will take the statement from me—that if Judge Howay went to Lady Smith, he did not for one moment commit himself during his visit, to anything that would qualify his ability to carry through his work properly as trial judge. I do not believe that my honorable friend from Newcastle means to be unfair to Judge Howay. I prefer to believe that he has been wrongly informed as to the judge's movements. I do hold no brief for His Honor Judge Howay, and I have never had an occasion, since this unfortunate occurrence took place, to discuss with him any of the details of the case, but I want to make it as clear and distinct as possible that, in so far as His Honor Judge Howay is concerned, I fully believe that he did nothing himself, and suffered nothing to take place in connection with the trials, which could be called in question, and that throughout the proceedings he conducted himself in accordance with the highest traditions of the courts of this country. For my own part I have always taken the position that, while we as a Legislature must be looked upon as the highest court in the land, at the same time, in the public interest it is our bounden duty to appreciate and strengthen our courts, until some matter of general public interest arises in which we may feel called upon to interfere. It is a dangerous precedent, and one that would unquestionably lead to the gravest consequences, if the time and attention of the Legislature is to be given over to a review of the work of our courts. So far as this Government is concerned, I think I may say that we have invariably discouraged discussion on the floor of this Legislature relative to the courts of the land."

Mr. Speaker: "It is contrary to the rules of the House."

The Premier: "It is not contrary to the rules of the House that if the proposals of a single Member are founded upon fact he should submit them."

Mr. Speaker: "That would be subject to resolution in the usual manner."

Attorney-General's Department

The Premier—"Yes, sir, there is a mode of procedure by which we can approach the matter. The honorable Member for Newcastle spoke of another prisoner in the jail at Burnaby whose health is in a precarious condition. I would like to say that if he would be good enough to bring the facts to the attention of the Attorney-General, the Government will be only too glad to give the matter its most earnest consideration. Personally I am only too pleased to listen to any matters that may be submitted, relative to the affairs of the Government. It is impossible for the Attorney-General to investigate the details of every case that is brought to his notice and at the same time efficiently administer the affairs of his department, but, at the same time, I am sure that any matter that is brought to his attention will be investigated and nothing will be left undone to have wrongs righted. Our duty in the maintenance of prisons is to see that everything is conducted on humane and modern lines, and we do not propose to fail in the discharge of that obligation. Perhaps it would not be uninteresting to the House to know, in relation to the question of the upkeep of prisons, what the department of the Attorney-General has been doing. I know, of my own knowledge, that he has taken occasion to send officials of his department to the Eastern Provinces with a view to obtaining full information and advice as to modern prison methods. I know that this is scarcely a pleasant theme, but it may be valuable information for the House that, in the construction of the prison farm at Burnaby and also in the construction of the new prison on Vancouver Island, the most up-to-date methods have been adopted. I am convinced of the fact that the work of prison reform can be efficiently carried on in any section of our country. The difficulty is that it is so hard to arouse public interest in a question of this kind. In the Province of Ontario, until the Provincial Secretary took the matter in hand, little had been done in the way of improving the condition of the unfortunate prisoners. Under his regime, however, some sweeping changes were made, and it is claimed that the prison institutions in Ontario are now conducted on more humane lines than ever before. Prisons are not so much for the purpose of providing an asylum for unfortunates as to serve as a warning to

society that misdeeds against the law are punishable, but when people have the misfortune to be sentenced to confinement there is undoubtedly a public duty upon the Government to see that the conditions of that confinement are as humane as possible.

His Personal Record

"A great deal was said by my friends the honorable Members for Newcastle and Nanaimo of a more or less personal nature. Insofar as I am concerned, I would prefer to leave to the Legislature and to the people of this Province the decision as to whether I deserve the references that were thrown at me across the floor of this House. I find no fault with these gentlemen for a single utterance, and although it is never pleasing to hear matters of a personal character directed towards anyone in this Assembly, yet Mr. Speaker, for upwards of eleven sessions, year after year, I have listened to these indictments from Members sitting on the left of your chair. If the participation I have had in the business of the country counts for anything at all, I would prefer to leave any actions of mine, or of others for which I may be held accountable as leader of the Government, to the great jury of this country, rather than leave myself in the hands of those gentlemen from Newcastle and Nanaimo. I have listened, session after session, to the pleas of the Opposition, both in and out of this House, and especially those of the Socialist party of British Columbia, but I would like to impress on the Socialist party, and my statements are borne out by a study of the records of the House, if they accord the matter a fair and unprejudiced judgment that, in my humble capacity as leader of the Government, I have accomplished ten times, and even a hundred times more for the working classes than have either of my honorable friends across the floor of this House. I have never posed as a labor representative, nor have I attempted to hold myself as a representative of capital. I have been here principally because of the support given me by the Conservatives of the Province, but I have also always attempted, as far as my ability permits, to represent all classes of the community, and when I am unable to go further in that direction, then my period of usefulness has come to an end, and I shall step down from the position I now occupy.

Traveling Expenses

"Now, sir, with regard to the traveling expenses of ministers and officials, and with regard to the private affairs of the Members of this House, I do not propose to ask you to listen to me at any length. The honorable member for Newcastle has told you year after year that when I go to Ottawa and London the traveling expenses of myself and

my secretary are charged against the treasury of British Columbia. That is true, Mr. Speaker, and whenever, in my judgment, I feel that I can serve my Province by going to Ottawa and London, I shall not hesitate to go, and charge the expenses against the treasury of this Province. If you think I am not entitled to do so, the remedy is in your hands. The people of this country can quickly displace me, and if it is their choice to do so, they can place my honorable friend from Newcastle in the position I now occupy.

"Mr. Speaker, I am always ready and willing to work with my friends from Newcastle and Nanaimo. If there is any public business arising in which the Government may co-operate with the honorable gentlemen opposite, we, on this side of the House, shall not hesitate to take counsel with them, and, so far as we are able, facilitate the work. It is only fair that I should say that during the many sessions we have sat in this House I have accepted many amendments from the honorable Member from Newcastle, relative to acts of Parliament, and I give him credit for the interest he has always displayed in our measures. And especially now, when he is obliged, as leader of the Opposition, with but one follower, to fully check our actions and peruse the bills that are presented for the consideration of this House, I would like the Members of this Government to be especially solicitous of any requests made by the leader of the Opposition and his colleagues from Nanaimo, so that they can bring to bear all the time and all the scrutiny possible upon the various bills presented in this House. There is one more reference I would like to make, before dealing with three or four items of public interest, and that is to the absence from this House of the late Member for the Islands

district, now the Honorable Mr. Justice McPhillips. It could not for a moment cause the slightest offence in any quarter were I to say that had Mr. Justice McPhillips continued as a Member in this Legislature, we would have heard from him long before this. As Member for the Islands district, he was always actively engaged in the advancement of his constituents, admirable and patient to a degree, sincere and candid, and he will be remembered by all of us as a man who retained the esteem and affection of every Member of the House. I think, that on behalf of the Legislature of this Province, it would be a graceful thing to wish him a long, successful and brilliant career as a member of the highest court of British Columbia.

Business Conditions

"I propose now, sir, in a very few words to deal generally with some items of interest referred to by the honorable Member for Newcastle. If we were to print a Hansard of this House and we were able to review the speeches made by him, what conclusion do you think we would come to? That never at any time in the history of the Province, when business was active and there was abounding prosperity, would he be able to regard such conditions as satisfactory. He has told us frankly that that is the principle of his work. In dealing with his attitude as leader of the Opposition I feel that it is my duty to draw the attention of the House to two or three things which he brought up, in order that there may be no misconception as to the true state of affairs. In the first place, I wish to speak of his reference to the Labor and Agricultural Commissions. He asked us, in that positive fashion which is peculiarly his own, not to believe that these commissions are substantial and equal to the very high duties that have been imposed upon them.

"How does he dispose of the Labor Commission? He tells us that it is a body of men, scarcely worthy of notice, and he wants his constituents to believe that it was formed for the purpose of appeasing certain disappointed politicians. Mr. Speaker, the selection made by the Government of the five commissioners serving on the board as labor investigators was very carefully made. We tried to find representative men, who were both active and careful, and I am told that in every quarter to which their inquiry led them representatives of the labor organizations of the country seized the opportunity to come before them and offer their testimony and assistance. I have read in the press of the participation in the work of this commission by labor men throughout the country. Now it is almost offensive according to my ideas of these organizations and labor leaders that yesterday afternoon they should be told by the Leader of the Opposition that their time had been wasted and that they had gone before what in his opinion was practically a fool concern.

Labor Commission

"The report of that Labor Commission will probably be presented in two or three weeks. When it is brought down I shall take especial care that my friend the honorable Member for Newcastle is supplied with copies, so that he will have an early opportunity of studying the findings of the commissioners. The proposal of the Government is that they shall be carefully studied, and that insofar as in the wisdom of the Government it is competent for the administration and the Legislature to import into the law the results of this commission's inquiry, to place ourselves in the position so that at the next session of Parliament we shall be able to bring down a comprehensive labor bill that will fully meet the requirements of the prevailing circumstances.

"My friend and his colleague may be very useful in this connection. I honestly and candidly believe that despite his references yesterday, which may have been a little more emphatic than he intended, he appreciates in some measure at least the work we have undertaken. He has a fling also at the Agricultural Commission. This body was disposed of by him in two or three words; and he also took occasion to state his objections to the presence in the House of the Members who worked upon the Agricultural Commission. However, the bill as carried has now been given the Royal assent and these gentlemen are now in their seats, and I feel sure that the Leader of the Opposi-

tion joins with me in welcoming them back to the House. What is the position in regard to these Members. Here it is in a nutshell. The Member for Yale and the Member for Cowichan, have been giving weeks and months of their time toward the advancement of the commission's inquiry. They are both Members of Parliament, representing large farming constituencies, and they are both vitally interested in the agricultural industry of the country. If you look at the question of their right to sit in this assembly in a cold-blooded manner you might come to the conclusion that two others should be sitting here in their place, but then you would have been obliged to pay them their full allowance. Of course that is a rather mean and narrow way to look at the question. But Mr. Speaker, that does not represent the true facts of the case at all. The Members for Cowichan and Yale took positions on that board at my own personal request, and I had the approval of my colleagues, in advancing that request. It was with considerable hesitancy that they accepted the positions, after giving consideration to the amount of time which the undertaking would involve.

Agricultural Industry

Mr. Speaker, I make the statement that we have never, in all the years of office, approached a more serious work than that which is involved in the reforms relative to the agricultural industry in British Columbia. This is the beginning of the agricultural era in British Columbia. The industry has experienced a very gradual growth dating back into the early sixties. In a sense it has been accelerated by the activities of the local and Federal departments of agriculture. There is still a great work to be done, but we must not be unkindful of the fact that throughout the past years we have been progressing. In the past our agricultural development was necessarily curbed by the limitations of our facilities for handling and shipping produce, but now we have more railways, more trunk roads, and consequently we have more land under cultivation. It is absolutely essential for the economic advancement of this Province that the movement toward the land should be carried out in a most efficient and up to date manner.

"This Government has always taken the position that it would be practically criminal to encourage agricultural settlement until such time as there was a reasonable measure of railway construction, trunk roads, and other means whereby the markets for produce would be brought within measurable distance of the producers. To place people on sections of land located some twenty or forty miles away from any railway connection of any kind involves a very serious hardship and is productive of little or no profit. As a Government we have never countenanced a policy of that nature, believing that the natural and proper method to pursue in a country such as ours is to prepare the country for the advent of the settler. Presently we shall have what may be regarded as adequate transportation facilities in this country, to justify a much larger measure of agricultural settlement than we have now. We feel

that with the assistance of this commission and the report that will be forthcoming from it we shall be enabled to undertake in conjunction with the railway development the establishment of a large, prosperous and contented population of agriculturists. We are not approaching this question in any academic fashion. We are not trying to bring about a movement on the land in any indiscriminate or haphazard way that might bring about very questionable results and final defeat. What we do want to do deliberately, with the assurance, so far as possible, that any movement to which the Government gives its support must mean success.

The Land

"We hear from time to time of boards of trade, progressive clubs, and other public bodies, complaining about the poor movement in regard to the land and we even hear of the Liberals making statements upon the same subject. They have been doing this for years. There is little or nothing behind it, Mr. Speaker. I do not say that with any intent to reflect upon the criticism of many of those public bodies because their principal function must be to criticize, and to criticize is to help; but I do say that frequently observations are made that have absolutely no foundation in fact. With regard

to the report of the Agricultural Commission we propose that it shall be printed and laid upon the table of the House. Copies will be distributed throughout the country so that the people as well as the members will have an opportunity of according the theme a very careful study. And when we meet next year I hope that we shall be able to devise sound and useful legislation on the subject. In that regard we shall want the assistance of the leader of the Opposition and his colleague.

Mr. Speaker, sometimes I have been somewhat confused in listening to the honorable member for Newcastle by the wonderful versatility of his poses. Sometimes we recognize him as a practical miner, and then we find him in the guise of a farmer, and so on from day to day. In fact he exhibited considerable temerity when he told us in that quiet, modest fashion of his, how he found himself in Vancouver, near Point Grey, some years ago where he proposed locating a forty-acre homestead. If he had taken up that homestead today he would have been the proud possessor of forty acres of land in the heart of Vancouver. Consider what a great loss to the Socialist party was almost sustained at that critical moment of choice. Doubtless, however, if he had secured it the newspapers of the Socialist world would today ring with the announcement that he had turned a forty-acre gold mine into the party funds.

The Financial Position

"Just a word or two now in regard to the financial position of the country. My honorable friends from Newcastle and Nanaimo would have the House and the country believe that the bulk of the money expended by the Government has been spent upon the maintenance of what they term the party machine; and the climax was reached when they intimated that we had gone through a credit balance of millions and now had an overdraft. A year ago we did have a credit balance of several million dollars, which had accumulated through the careful work of the treasury and other Government departments, and also through the sale of crown lands in the interior sections of the Province. These lands were sold according to law, and brought the Government the market price. There were no lands given away. There were no lands alienated to colonization companies. Mr. Speaker, it has always occurred to me how very farcical the whole of the Liberal indictment is in this connection, because there is no single man of them who was not ready and willing, four or five years ago, when the question of the Saskatchewan Valley land deal was prominent in public affairs—I say there was not a single man of them who was not ready and willing to stand up for Sir Wilfrid Laurier, who had been guilty of imposing upon the public in that deal, one of the greatest instances of neglect of Government ever placed on record. It is a most amusing thing to see them forwarding a propaganda and wasting hours in condemnation of the Provincial Government, when they know in their heart of hearts that the moment they have a chance at the lands department of British Columbia we will have a restoration of the old Liberal order of things, such another Saskatchewan Valley land trick, or something probably worse, will be perpetrated upon the people of this country. I have never listened to so much twaddle in regard to the management of lands as we have had in British Columbia lately, and especially during the election in the Islands riding. The lands we have sold brought their market value. They also brought many settlers to the country. The man looking for the homestead is not the only man who comes here. There are many who come with a sufficiency of wealth to enable them to buy crown lands. We hear a great deal about the poor homesteader and pre-emptor, just about election time. Our opponents make a point of elaborating that cry, particularly in the back parts of the country, but when we come to investigate the matter we find that it is so much idle talk. Suppose we have sold crown lands in blocks or groups, as the leader of the Opposition avers. We have secured the purchase money, and where we have not secured it all a considerable portion has been advanced and the balance is drawing interest at the rate of six per cent. It is interesting to ask what has been done with the money. Every dollar of it has gone for

education and public works, it is the most fortunate world that we in British Columbia have at this time, because operation resulted in more attention than the Province, but it is to build roads through the Province, to generally link up that settlement can be out any of the disavowed inevitable have accrued original conditions. It must not be forgotten the agency of the land is today, at four per cent, able to secure from a very appreciable revenue. Am I to Speaker, that if the position, or the Liberal power in British Columbia there would be no more sales reported, but that there would still of the policy of the have been inaugurated through. I am anxious party arise in opposition with a consistent criticism would do large, and we can see the result.

Mr. Parker Williams says that his opposition is the welcome the P

"Perpetual"

The Premier: "My cannot blame me for setback at the election with a meagre so instead of 110,000, shrunk from 110,000 himself to blame. the question of sometimes hear good Liberals alike express as to whether there the perpetual criticism this, however, that authorities as well, take very little stock criticism. If there is criticism why is it not power and a Government Mr. Brewster and Mr. ment as to that count public works that foundations for, in millions of dollars, where would they find they decry the adopted?

"I want the House in our adjustment of the Province involved the education of the Province, the ways, the building of the placing upon of a desirable class of settlement for a period of over most carefully studied the Province so that be made in our development and in that study and wholesome business there blocks of Crown honorable prices. It policy to attempt to a bargain, but simply balance, leaving a the purchaser. He well know that the Government will make taxation. We hope the industries carry out the policy. In the Assessment year after year to a objectionable direct have arrived at the revenue necessary to meet the natural resources make this statement a full knowledge of

Financial

"But, speaking of financial position, it is for the most part a we had. No one can expect policy for a surplus. Government to do so. fact, Mr. Speaker throughout Canada, and the Mother Country in this money stringency

education and public works. I regard it as the most fortunate thing in the world that we in British Columbia have sold blocks of crown land, especially at this time, because not only has this operation resulted in the centreing of more attention than ever before upon the Province, but it has enabled us to build roads through new sections and to generally link up the country so that settlement can be undertaken without any of the disadvantages that would inevitably have accrued to it under the original conditions. At the same time it must not be forgotten that through the agency of the land tax, fixed, as it is today, at four per cent., we have been able to secure from those crown lands a very appreciable portion of our revenue. Am I to understand, Mr. Speaker, that if the leader of the Opposition, or the Liberal party, assumed power in British Columbia tomorrow there would be no more sale of lands, that there would be a cancellation of sales reported, but not completed, and that there would still be a continuance of the policy of public works which have been inaugurated and carried through. I am anxious to see some party arise in opposition to this Government with a constructive policy. Its criticism would do us good. We are large, and we can stand criticism and opposition."

Mr. Parker Williams interrupted to say that his opposition had not received the welcome the Premier referred to.

"Perpetual Criticism"

The Premier: "My honorable friend cannot blame me because he suffered a setback at the election and found himself with a meagre majority of 11 or so instead of 110. If his majority shrunk from 110 to 11 I think he has himself to blame. But to go back to the question of the land policy, I sometimes hear good Conservatives and Liberals alike expressing their wonder as to whether there can be anything in the perpetual criticism. I am sure of this, however, that if they knew their authorities as well as I do they would take very little stock in that kind of criticism. If there is anything in their criticism why is it that this Government has not been swept down from power and a Government controlled by Mr. Brewster and Mr. MacDonald elected in its place? Would such a Government as that continue the policy of public works that we have laid the foundations for, involving as it does millions of dollars, and if they would where would they find the money, since they decry the methods we have adopted?"

"I want the House to understand that in our adjustment of the fiscal affairs of the Province our consideration involved the education of the youth of the Province, the development of railways, the building of trunk roads, and the placing upon our rural lands of a desirable class of settlers. To this end, for a period of over ten years, we have most carefully studied the economy of the Province so that no mistake would be made in our development measures, and in that study we have felt it sound and wholesome business to sell here and there blocks of Crown lands at fair and honorable prices. It has never been our policy to attempt to get the better of a bargain, but simply to strike a fair balance, leaving a margin of profit to the purchaser. Honorable gentlemen well know that the policy of this Government will make for the end of direct taxation. We hope by closely conserving the industries of the country to carry out the policy that was outlined in the Assessment Act of last year, and year after year to prune and pare down objectionable direct taxation until we have arrived at the point where all the revenue necessary to carry on the business of the Province is secured from the natural resources of the country. I make this statement deliberately, with a full knowledge of the facts involved.

Financial Position

"But, speaking of our present financial position, it is true that we have for the most part expended the balance we had. No one can argue that it is the wisest policy for a Government to carry a surplus. Governments are not expected to, and we never had any disposition to do so. But what are the facts, Mr. Speaker? The people throughout Canada, in the United States and the Mother Country had such confidence in this Province before the money stringency as to bring their

wealth here and invest it in the purchase of Crown lands and timber lands wherever desirable permits could be obtained. The money derived from these sources was paid into the bank. In that way we were enabled to carry a surplus for years. We did not spend it because our public works were not sufficiently advanced. By the year 1913, however, we had an appreciable knowledge of how we should proceed, and it was proposed to spend the large surplus which was referred to yesterday, upon the construction of roads, trails and bridges.

Wisely Expended

"Now I dare to state, and conditions in British Columbia will bear me out when I say that this money was well and wisely expended. It has not been distributed by any political machine, despite the reference of the Leader of the Opposition.

"Money spent on public works is well spent, and I may say in passing that our policy has earned the commendation of other Provinces. I have it from the Liberals of the Maritime Provinces who have gone over our roads that we have the best roads in the entire Dominion. I believe that at this moment the Hon. Mr. Taylor's department is carrying for upwards of 20,000 miles of standard roads. But here are a few

interesting figures regarding the finances of the Province.

"Ten and a half years ago, when this Government came into office, the Provincial debt approximated \$11,500,000. The Provincial income was approximately \$2,000,000. Today the entire Provincial debt, inclusive of the \$1,500,000 treasury loan is under \$9,000,000, and our income is over \$10,000,000. That will give the honorable gentlemen some idea of how the treasury of the country stands with regard to this criticism. I may further inform the House that on the 31st March, 1913, the public debt of the Province stood at \$10,752,146. Against the public debt the following sinking fund has been established to the same date \$2,375,216. And you must add to that the sum of \$185,000 as a contribution to the sinking fund this year, and that gives us over \$2,560,000; which leaves the public debt at the 31st March, 1913, at approximately \$8,000,000.

Treasury Loan

"Now, sir, with regard to the Treasury loan of \$1,500,000, which was secured in London some few weeks ago. It was not absolutely necessary that that loan should be contracted. It was a question of expediency, a question of being able to proceed with the affairs of the country without regard to immediate conditions. When we did go to the money market, despite the fact of the general stringency, we experienced no difficulty in securing what we wanted, and I take it that that was an excellent testimony of the high standing which this Province continues to occupy in the financial circles of the world. We have it all in the bank today upwards of \$2,000,000. That, I think, should set at rest any criticisms of my honorable friends from Newcastle and Nanaimo regarding our fiscal affairs. The interest paid by the Bank of Commerce is 3 1/2 per cent, and we borrowed the money at 5 per cent. It is a fact that the money is drawing less than the Province paid for it, but that is a small item indeed when compared with the ease with which we were able to secure the loan at this time. We have ample funds in the bank to meet any and every emergency. I may inform the House at this time that negotiations are proceeding between the bankers and ourselves concerning certain proposals relative to the rate of interest. We want to save every dollar possible, for while we have \$2,000,000 in the bank, we never know the day or hour when we shall be called upon for it, and it is quite possible that the balance may be entirely gone before the House rises.

"I have been asked the question in this House relative to the money received by the Government for the sale of land, and I will take this opportunity of replying. The approximate amount of money received from land sales is \$9,664,000, and the approximate amount

received in connection with townsite and suburban land sales is \$2,133,000, which gives a total sum due the Province on account of land sales of approximately \$12,000,000, bearing interest at 6 per cent. The great bulk of that can be collected without question, so that there can be no loss. In these hard times I do not think it would be a wise policy to press for payment, for that process immediately runs through the entire community, and the people of the country are affected as well.

Cost of Living

"I am not going to deal with the high cost of living, as that subject is being discussed in a higher tribunal, but it is probable, after the agricultural commissioners' report is tabled, that we may have some considerable discussion upon this interesting topic.

"I am not going to deal at any length with the Provincial outlook, but I must say that the reports of the various Government departments never indicated better prospects. I cannot recall a single year that promised more in a mining sense. The Coast section is advancing rapidly and away north at Observatory Inlet splendid results are being achieved. The operations of the Granby Company involve a tremendous sum of money, mostly connected with the construction and operation of a new smelter. The Skeena country, the Portland Canal properties, and the Atlin holdings are making very satisfactory progress, and at Howe Sound and on Vancouver Island splendid advances are being made. Already the Kootenay and Boundary properties are producing splendidly and the year is full of promise for them. We have no reason to hesitate in comparing our prospects with those of Ontario and Alaska in this respect.

Fisheries

"With respect to fisheries we have the same attractive outlook. The industry is only at its beginning, but already it is promising the very best attainments. Our fish product is the wonder of the country and in the next few years I am sure it will be the wonder of the world. With respect to timber, conditions have not been so favorable during the past year, but that was due to the general business depression. Immediately things improve the industry is bound to come into its own, because we have the material here in its best and noblest forms. There can be no question of the future of the industry.

"There is one more point I would like to touch upon, Mr. Speaker. Canadians right in their heart of hearts are sensible of the fact that London is still to be looked to for the funds essential to the development of this great land. Political exigencies may appear to say that so far the Canadian people are not ready to show Britain and the world her true attitude in regard to national defence, that if they would receive from the treasury of the Motherland they are willing to give back in duty and in interest. Speaking for the Legislature, and for the people of British Columbia, I would like to say that we are, and always have been prepared to see Canada do her part in regard to the great and growing problem of national defence. Nothing has yet been proposed in this regard that has been beyond the ambition of the Canadians of British Columbia.

"As I take my seat I would like my remarks to be placed on record with respect to 1914 and what we may look for in the Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter that we are about to approach."

Editorial 2

THE PREMIER'S SPEECH

The speech of the Premier on the Address yesterday was marked in a very especial manner by dignity and frankness. Sir Richard has developed a very concise and lucid manner of presenting a case, and we do not think he ever appeared to better advantage. His reference to the personal attacks by Mr. Williams upon members of the Administration was without passion, and exhibited a full appreciation of the value of such an assault from such a quarter and of the place he and his associates hold in the confidence of the people of British Columbia. It may suit certain people, who in their hearts know better, to make statements reflecting upon the integrity of the Premier and his colleagues, but everyone knows that the Ministers are held in esteem and confidence even by those who differ from them in matters of policy. There are in every community jaundiced eyes to which everything seems yellow; and it would be too much to expect this Province to be exempt from such an affliction.

The most interesting part of the Premier's speech was that referring to the financial criticisms directed against the Government. For the details of his observations on this point readers should read the report of the speech appearing elsewhere in our columns. The case is so succinctly put that comment is superfluous. We may, however, follow a little way the line of thought suggested by his question as to whether or not the Liberals, if they had been in power, would have carried out a programme of public works, and if so, where they would have got the money, unless from the sources the present Government has obtained it. That the Province needs development no one will deny. That there could be no development without money to pay for it everyone will admit. If the money was not obtained from the natural resources of the Province it could only be obtained from one of two sources, or both: by borrowing or by increasing taxation. Indeed both these methods must have been resorted to for it would have been impossible to have borrowed the money without imposing taxation to meet interest and sinking fund. We shall not comment upon the difficulty that might have been experienced in borrowing money on favorable terms under such conditions, because there might be a chance for argument on that point, while upon the impossibility of carrying on public works without borrowing and an increase of taxation, unless a revenue was drawn from natural resources, there is no room for doubt at all.

We submit that it is for the Liberal leaders and the Liberal press to tell us what they would have done in the conditions they would have had to face if they had been in power in 1903. There was an exhausted treasury, and a very uncomfortable overdraft. The credit of the Province in the money market was at a low ebb. There was a demand for public works. There was no money to pay for them. It surely is not unreasonable to ask the Liberal leaders to suggest what they would have done under the circumstances. They tell us that everything

It is exceedingly easy for our Liberal friends to complain of what the Government has done; but we suggest that it might not be out of place if they would tell us what they would have done. We pass over without comment just now the criticisms of the Liberal leaders in regard to the Government's railway policy. This chief onslaught has been upon the Government's land and timber policy, and it is to this point only that we are addressing ourselves this morning. There are other aspects of this so-called platform to which we may give some consideration at another time.

H. E. Forster, the member for Columbia, moved the adjournment of the debate.

Immediately afterwards Sir Richard McBride arose and stated that owing to the fact that the funeral of the late commissioner took place in London on Monday next he would ask the house, as a tribute of respect, to adjourn at once until Tuesday afternoon. The motion was unanimously carried.

While all the power is in the hands of the legislature, the city government of the city attaches particular importance to the clause enabling the city to appropriate the cost over and so save the city which has occurred in the land affected having under the present system given interest on the city cannot meet the rate.

Times Jan 24 '14.

COMMITTEES ARE NOT SO BUSY THIS YEAR

Legislative Conclave on Private Bills Has Less Work Than Last Year

No oratorical thunder will reverberate in the legislative chamber on Monday next; the chairs of the lawmakers will be vacant and the vaulted ceiling echoless. As a tribute of sympathy to the late high commissioner, the usual sitting of the house is adjourned until the following afternoon. It is altogether unlikely also that the two committees billed to sit on Monday morning in the committee rooms of the house will foregather at the times appointed, and their deliberations will probably be postponed until the day following.

These two are respectively the municipal and private bills committee, which are the first of those named to commence operations. Last year the private bills committee under the chairmanship of Ernest Miller, member for Grand Forks, was the hardest worked of all, a large number of important private measures coming before them for a decision. This year, however, there is very little work for them to do, not more than half a dozen bills having been given notice of.

The municipal committee, however, promises to be kept somewhat busy. In the first place the Victoria board of trade special committee on municipal affairs has several very important suggestions to make, and widespread interest in the interior of the country has been manifested in all legislation affecting the control and conduct of civic and municipal affairs.

When the city private bill comes up in the private bills committee it is expected that on the first day the only progress will be to accept formal proof of advertisement. The actual hearing is not expected to come on for some time. When it does the city is to be represented by the mayor, and members of the legislative committee.

While all the powers which are asked for are important to the good government of the city, the city solicitor attaches particular weight to the clause enabling the city in future expropriations in street widenings to spread the cost over a term of years, and so save the tremendous drain which has occurred through owners of land affected having to be paid at once under the present system, or else to be given interest on their money if the city cannot meet the charges immediately.

Times Editorial Jan 24 '14.

THE ENABLING ACT.

"Replying to the criticism that an act, passed by the provincial legislature, amending a provincial act, may be ultra vires, it is only necessary to say that the person who thinks so does not know the meaning of the words 'ultra vires.'—Colonist.

We expected from our contemporary more than a quibbling misrepresentation in support of an action in which an important principle is involved. We showed yesterday that it was beyond the power of the legislature to seat men whose election was voided through circumstances in connection with their appointment which arose a year ago. According to the constitution, they vacated their seats and writs for new elections should have issued "forthwith" as if they were "naturally dead." We say that the only way in which those seats could have been filled was by an election as provided by law, and we repeat that if the legislature by an enabling act can restore Messrs. Lucas, Hayward and Shaw to their places it can perpetuate itself indefinitely. Ultra vires means beyond the power of any person, state or corporation, and we contend that the house exceeded its power with regard to the three commissioners. The situation now is this: three private citizens are participating in the proceedings of the legislature and the constituencies of Cowichan, Yale and Kamloops are without legal representation in the assembly.

Our contemporary surely must recognize the important principle underlying the question. It simply amounts to whether seats in the legislature can be filled except by an election. Is the morning paper prepared to go so far as to say that this can be done? We are not concerned now with the importance of the positions to which the three commissioners were appointed, the value of their services, or their ability and personal qualities, which we have never questioned. All these must be subordinated to the principle involved in the matter. This is the all-important consideration. We would be glad to hear from our contemporary an expression of opinion touching the points we raised yesterday.

Seen From the Gallery

Facetious Definition of Political Machine—Member for Nelson Ignorant of Purpose of Device of Autocracy—Gallery Grows Impatient With Premier—How Much and Why Legislature is Supreme.

It is said the mills of the gods grind slowly, but they pulverize pretty middling fine. Both predicates are true of the legislature of British Columbia, albeit one has to go two or three days in succession to the gallery to discover enough grain to make it worth while to have started the wheels. The legislature is in no hurry about anything this year excepting to amend the constitution so as to give three forfeited seats back to members of the house who have violated its independence. In order to do this it was necessary for Bowser, attorney-general, and the greatest legal light in the house since Mr. Justice McPhillips has been elevated to the bench, to convince the house that "the legislature is supreme." As the rubber stamp brigade have to do what Bowser tells them, the attorney-general took an unusually modest and suspiciously disingenuous way of telling the country that "Bowser is supreme." Hayward, Lucas and Shaw will now reappear in their seats, and take the risk of any action which may arise in the courts to test whether or not Bowser is supreme. Putting himself above the courts is no new incident in the Bowser regime, but autocrats who do that sort of thing persistently are usually caught up at some unexpected and inconvenient point where the roads do not fork. We shall see what we shall see.

Excepting for an occasional illuminating rocket, one has to go to the gallery many times to learn anything fresh or interesting. A good many centuries before the Christian era somebody made the statement that "wisdom is justified of her children." He must have got his inspiration by looking over the railings of the gallery of the legislative assembly of one of the Assyrian back provinces, and even then he must have written more in sorrow than in anger.

J. G. Cory Wood, who made a short address in reply to the speech from the throne, evidently spoke with feeling when he declared that "the making of good roads is the most important work of a government." Calling these little eulogies "continuing the debate on the S. V. C.," etc., as the newspapers usually put it, is very funny. Outside the two Socialist members, there is no such thing as debate. All the other members understand that their whole duty is performed when they laud the "policy" and the acts of the autocracy. Cory Wood found out something new to him when he essayed a hint that he hoped some time before the close of the session some intimation might be made that the franchise would be extended to women. A frown from the premier shrivelled him into proper proportions in an instant, and he immediately retracted and "ventured to hope." If this could not be done, that the law might be so amended as to give married women equal custody with their husbands of the children common to both. As "the legislature is supreme," there does not appear to be any good reason why Cory Wood should not "venture to hope."

There is a good story told of Cory Wood in connection with some incidents of the last general election. Many people will remember that the legislature appropriated nearly \$200,000 for public works in the Alberni riding. As Cory Wood had been road boss it was supposed that he would know better than anyone else how to win the seat from the solitary Liberal then left in the house. So he was chosen to "run" in the government interests. A few days after the house prorogued Cory Wood dined with an eminent citizen of Victoria and took his leave late at night intending to board the train next

morning for Alberni. The most affectionate good-byes were said and the friends did not expect to meet again until after the imminent election. But two days later Cory Wood's intimate friend met him in the foyer of the Hotel Empress and expressed surprise that he was still in the city. Wood's explanation was that he had "received orders to win the Alberni seat at all costs and he was waiting over to get final instructions."

One of the things inexplicable in the gallery was why Sir Richard should have felt so "testy" when Parker Williams asked for an amendment to the rules making it possible for two members to call for a record of the division. Sir Richard's manner—for he neglected for a moment his role as poseur—clearly betrayed the contempt he feels for the Socialist members of the legislature. For the first time in Sir Richard's career as first minister the gallery resented the brutal contumely with which he replied to Parker Williams's proposition.

The gallery remembered and so did Parker Williams, and so should Sir Richard have remembered, the time when Parker Williams was dear as the apple of his eye to the premier. Time was when the rabid rant and irresponsible braggadocio of the then Socialist leader in the house was tolerated good-naturedly by Hon. Richard McBride. Time was when the feeling of Richard McBride toward Comrade Hawthornthwaite and Parker Williams was best expressed in the words "I need thee every hour," and in those days the premier did not display his real feelings with so much disregard for their repugnant features as he does to-day. Yet Parker Williams is not changed, excepting for the better. And Hawthornthwaite has gone to his reward. Or at least a part of it, for it is believed Hawthornthwaite's reward is "cumulative" in its character. As there never was any bargain between McBride and Parker Williams, there is no need now for the premier to deceive Williams as to the relations of the two. When Williams secures a record of the divisions it will not be because of any "right," but because "this house will grant the hon. mem-

ber for Newcastle a record whenever he asks for it." Again "the legislature is supreme," and quite as supreme in the dispensation of its favors as it is in the jealous guarding of the privilege of the autocracy. There will be times when the premier will "view with calm indulgence" Parker Williams's request for a record of names and there will be other times when Sir Richard's biliary duct will be obstructed.

McLean, of Nelson, also "continued the debate." McLean is the man who got permission from the premier in caucus last year to criticize the government on the floor of the House so that there might be some show of independence in the legislature and the common reproach that all the members are "subservient" might be removed. The idea was brilliant and worthy the member for Nelson. The naive understanding arrived at in caucus was a master stroke of political genius.

Only, and there is the fly in the ointment; McLean should not have told about it afterward.

McLean is full of brilliant ideas and has some creditable ambition too. For instance, he attempted a refutation of the charge that there is a "political machine" under the ciceroneage of the twin autocrats in this province. He began badly and illogically by declaring that he did not know what a political machine is, but he believed "it was understood" to be an arrangement by which a particular (government) candidate secured election in his riding. He then grew chesty and declared that there is no such machine in his constituency. Ah, and ahem. A cow is an animal with four legs, two or more horns and a tail, therefore this is not a cow.

McLean will have to revise his definition of a political machine. And when he declares there is no such institution dominating the Conservative party in Nelson he will have to go farther and explain why in thunder the McBride government wants a political machine in a constituency that is not getting any money out of the public treasury. Does not McLean know that the McBride political machine exists for the purpose of seeing to it that the money spent on public works, contracts and other patronage, gets into the proper pockets, that it gets there through the proper channels and that it gets its "toll" extracted somewhere during the process. But what's the use trying to explain this to McLean? He is not a miller and doesn't know what "toll" is. He should be told. Toll is "that part of the flour, middlings and bran the miller keeps back for grinding the wheat." As McLean has had no wheat to grind, he may be excused for his affirmation. Unhappy innocence!

Strangely enough, McLean broke the ice and made the first declaration in the House this year for "a white British Columbia." He approached the question with great diffidence and apologized beforehand in case he, as an amateur, might make any breaks. He admitted that it was a somewhat "ticklish" question to be discussed in a provincial legislature and it was undoubtedly one belonging to "higher politics in the federal House." He set forth in categorical order the difficulties in the way of solving the Oriental problem and kept the gallery on pins and needles for fear he was going to spring another Natal act. But he didn't. He caught the look of warning in the premier's eye—Bowser was out at the time—and put his helm hard-a-starboard instantaneously.

Of course McLean is excusable. He was not in the legislature, not even in the gallery, at any time during all those long years when the McBride patriots shouted themselves hoarse for a white British Columbia. He, perhaps, did not even read the newspapers and learn that while the Liberal government was in power at Ottawa the "Oriental" question was the chief worry of Richard McBride and not a little worry to Bowser. In those days, however, it was not true that "the legislature is supreme" and the fact that the Oriental question belongs to the federal House was not thought to have made it a matter to be delicately discussed out here.

As for Sir Richard, he looked on in some trepidation, thinking all the while of his own Chinese servants and wondering whether they were, at that particular moment, earning their money and still further wondering what he personally would do if it were to be decreed by some parliament which really is supreme, that British Columbia must remain a white man's country.

And when McLean had finished his speech the legislature turned to its tasks and amended the constitution. It was a good time to do it.

Editorial Jan 26/14

A WARNING NOTE.

Sir Richard McBride says he did not need the money, although he issued treasury notes against current revenue in order to raise a million and a half dollars. He explains that this course was taken in order to provide against a possible emergency, such as a wash-out or a landslide. Sir Richard's figures of speech are peculiar, while his statements are not in harmony with those of his second in command and the auditor-general of the province. Still there can be no doubt that he anticipates some kind of a financial crisis, as he admits that before the house rises the two million dollars he says is in the treasury may have disappeared entirely. In the meantime may we be permitted to call his attention to the opinion of one who is described as a "leading banker," who issues a note of warning in the Monetary Times? The subject of this authority's discourse is "The dangers of issuing treasury bills or short-term notes." He says: "It has been demonstrated that a method of finance which is convenient and inexpensive for the British government, the government of India, the Dominion of Canada and a few of the principal cities of the United Kingdom, may become both costly and dangerous when adopted by others who, excellent as their securities undoubtedly are, have not yet attained to the front rank in international credit."

WANTS TA
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Mr. H. E. Fors
Makes Plea fo
dustry—Delta
Model Farming

Yesterday was the present session which to the debate on the r from the throne, and only not yet in sight.

Mr. Forster resumed made a strong plea taxation in the lumb he said was already a burden. He was McKenzie, of Delta, showing the wonderfr Fraser Valley during Mr. Cawley, of Ch the third speaker, Government on the the past year, and the member for Nan caused of representin of his constituency. Place's own confessi House last week.

The debate in rep from the throne was H. E. Forster, the bla. Naturally Mr. considerable part of dical of conditions a his own district. At gratifying number o had come to the d stated that the Koo way had made good building of its line, pleted, will give e both main lines, of miles were opened, and since that time two miles has been of the present year the line will be con tion throughout.

Speaking with res ing Mr. Forster, st Widemere road hu under the managem considerable difficulty l in places, notably a the road, where th blasted out of the of the Canyon, on S "During the past were completed on road, and seven an east end, in add miles on the west on the east and we ing," said Mr. For about twenty-five The most difficult been completed, h remainder, should b traffic before the Proceeding to el to roads, Mr. For definite policy who wanted to know concerning the ro some cases the G the work, and in the property were ered that a fair nection would be owners to clear a streets and the them as their sha trest they appro townsites. There the land and irri the event of it b Government to ex of the lands for company had ne who was there t tuate purchas the land compan should be held eventually, but was no provision for such cases.

WANTS TAXATION TO BE REDUCED

Mr. H. E. Forster, M. P. P.,
Makes Plea for Lumber In-
dustry—Delta's Claim as
Model Farming Section

Yesterday was the sixth day of the present session which has been devoted to the debate on the reply to the address from the throne, and the end is apparently not yet in sight.

Mr. Forster resumed the debate and made a strong plea for a lessening of taxation in the lumber industry, which he said was already bearing too heavy a burden. He was followed by Mr. McKensie, of Delta, who quoted figures showing the wonderful prosperity of the Fraser Valley during the last ten years.

Mr. Cawley, of Chilliwack, who was the third speaker, congratulated the Government on the splendid record of the past year, and broke a lance with the member for Nanaimo, whom he accused of representing only one section of his constituency, according to Mr. Place's own confession, made in the House last week.

The debate in reply to the address from the throne was continued by Mr. H. E. Forster, the Member for Columbia. Naturally Mr. Forster devoted a considerable part of his speech to a recital of conditions and development in his own district. After referring to the gratifying number of new settlers that had come to the district, Mr. Forster stated that the Kootenay Central Railway had made good progress in the building of its line, which, when completed, will give communication with both main lines of the C. P. R. Sixty miles were opened last Spring, he said, and since that time a further twenty-two miles has been laid, and by the end of the present year it is expected that the line will be complete and in operation throughout.

Bank-Windermere Road

Speaking with reference to road building, Mr. Forster stated that the Bank-Windermere road had been pushed ahead under the management of Mr. Bell. Considerable difficulty had been encountered in places, notably at the western end of the road, where the roadbed had to be blasted out of the perpendicular walls of the Canyon on Sinclair Creek.

"During the past year, some ten miles were completed on the west end of the road, and seven and a half miles on the east end, in addition to which eight miles on the west end and twelve miles on the east end were prepared for grading," said Mr. Forster. "This leaves about twenty-five miles still untouched. The most difficult part of the road has been completed, however, and the remainder should be finished and open to traffic before the end of the year."

Proceeding to elaborate with regard to roads, Mr. Forster stated that some definite policy should be followed. He wanted to know what the policy was concerning the roads in townships. In some cases the Government was doing the work and in others the owners of the property were doing it. He considered that a fair proposal in this connection would be for the townsite owners to clear and rough grade their streets and the Government to finish them as their share for the quarter interest they appropriate in all the new townsites. There was also the case of the land and irrigation companies. In the event of it being necessary for the Government to expropriate some portion of the lands for roads which the land company had neglected to provide for, who was there to reimburse the unfortunate purchasers. He contended that the land company who sold the land should be held responsible in such an eventuality, but pointed out that there was no provision in the statute books for such cases.

Good Name of Province

"This leads to another matter which is of grave importance, in that it affects the good name of the Province," said Mr. Forster. "I refer to the need of some form of legislation to curb the unscrupulous propensities of the boomer and the wild-catter, and stop the gross misrepresentations that he so often utilizes to boom whatever he has to sell."

Mr. Forster then made a reference to the water department and expressed his appreciation of the announcement that the Water Act was to be consolidated this session.

Dealing with the lumber industry in the Province, Mr. Forster took up the question of taxation. He regretted that the poll tax had been rescinded, as it was the only means they had of making the transient pay his share in the upkeep of the country. While these were exempt the lumber industry was bearing a considerable burden, he said. The boast was made that the industry paid the largest proportion of taxes of any industry in the Province, and yet he contended that there was no justification for the burdens imposed. He ventured to say that the high rate and uneven way in which the lumber industry had been taxed was responsible for the great proportion of the loss of revenue to the Government last year, as the people concerned could not stand such taxation during a period of financial depression.

Plea for Lumber Industry

"When you realize these facts," said Mr. Forster, "you will see that the lumber industry is being rather hard hit, particularly in the interior of the Province. At the Coast, where there are many square miles of dense timber easy of access and of such splendid quality that it is famous the world over, perhaps the lumbermen can stand paying the present taxes, but the mountain lumberman has to be content with limits that generally contain a much smaller proportion of merchantable timber."

Mr. F. J. A. MacKenzie, Member for Delta, then took up the discussion. He opened with a reference to that part of the address relating to municipalities and the agricultural interests therein. He pointed out that the three municipalities comprising the Delta riding were of the food producing class, and held a high position as such in the Province. He referred briefly to the difficulties that faced the early settlers in his district, and stated that by a system of co-operation the lands had been dyked and reclaimed, and were now as productive, if not more so, than any in the Province. He claimed that in a single season the 30,000 acres comprising the riding had yielded as much in produce as represented a valuation of \$1,350,000.

Model Farming Section

"This municipality is a model farming section, and the Dominion Government would be well advised should the Provincial Agricultural Department induce it to spend some of the Dominion aid to agriculture in B. C. by establishing an experimental truck garden farm, so that the wants of the adjacent cities could be met," said Mr. MacKenzie.

He proceeded to say that if the Government's policy of expenditure was based along the lines of helping those who help themselves, the Delta riding would loom large in the Provincial estimates.

Referring to the question of land settlement, Mr. MacKenzie said he was heartily in accord with the policy of the Government, and congratulated the Minister of Lands upon the energetic manner of carrying out the duties of his office.

"Traveling in the interior of the Province," he said, "I was assured on every hand of the splendid treatment the new settler is getting from this Government, and it contrasted very favorably with that received in the U. S., where many of the settlers came from."

He contended that it was not right that agricultural aid should come from the sale of a portion of the crown lands. He understood the Government to be in the same position as the farmer with 160 acres of land and no money, who sold eighty acres to obtain money to develop the other eighty and make it productive. He did not consider it good business for the Government to realize on a portion of its land in order to give the settler schools, roads, and other assistance.

Administrative Record

In rising to continue the debate on the reply to the address from the throne, Mr. S. Cawley, of Chilliwack, paid a graceful tribute to Mr. Speaker Eberts, expressing a hope that he might long be spared to preside over the Legislature. He congratulated the Government on the splendid showing made in the several departments during the past year, and said that in spite of the criticisms of the members for Nanaimo and Newcastle, the administration had made a record of which it might well be proud. "Notwithstanding the money stringency and the falling off of revenue, British Columbia is still on the map," said Mr. Cawley, "and stands today in the money markets of the world second to no country or Province."

He said that he was glad to see that an act amending the present Registration Act was to be introduced, as he considered the question of land registration one of the burning issues of the Province. He strongly criticized the Land Registry Office at New Westminster, which he said was inadequately housed and which was so managed that in some cases title to property had not been given for three years after transfer. He complained also that the land office fees were, as a rule, too high, and he urged that this department should not be revenue producing but self-supporting.

"Paid Agitators"

In dealing with the recent labor disturbances on Vancouver Island he bitterly attacked the paid agitators, who he said, had been imported from other countries to stir up trouble.

"So long as the laboring men of the Province are guided by the counsel of these professional agitators—so long will there be trouble," said Mr. Cawley.

He twitted the Member for Nanaimo for saying on the floor of the House that he was not concerned with the land policies of the Government, but only represented the laboring classes. He said that he understood that a member of the Legislature was supposed to represent the entire constituency, and not merely one section or faction of it.

The Member for Chilliwack congratulated the Government on its recent importations of dairy stock and suggested that in future the cattle should be sold on time payments, in order to give the small farmer the same opportunity as his richer neighbor.

In dealing with the proposed loan act Mr. Cawley said that he hoped that appropriations for agriculture and mining would be made from this sum, as he considered them the two great industries of B. C. He urged the enforcement of the wild lands tax on those who held large sections of land, and, before concluding, outlined a suggestion for throwing open model tracts of land by the Government with roads cut through and built, the whole area after subdivision being thrown open to the public by auction.

Mr. Tisdale, Member for Vancouver, moved the adjournment of the debate.

Petitions Presented

The following petitions were presented:

By Mr. Cawley—From J. L. Atkinson and others, commissioners of Sumas Dyking District, for leave to introduce a private bill to amend the "Sumas Development Company Act, 1905."

By Mr. Carter Cotton—From Francis W. Rounsefell and others, for leave to introduce a private bill to incorporate the Corporation of the District of Shaughnessy.

By Mr. W. Manson—From J. H. McCormick and others for leave to introduce a private bill to incorporate the Northern Telephone Company.

By Mr. W. Manson—From the Columbian Methodist College, for leave to introduce a private bill to amend the "Columbian Methodist College Act, 1893."

The first and second reports from the private bills committee were presented and it was agreed that the time be extended for presenting petitions to the House from January 28th till February 19th.

A petition from the Methodist Church in Canada for leave to introduce a private bill to apply to B. C., respecting the union of certain Methodist churches in the Province was received.

Special Constables

In reply to a question from Mr. Place, the Member for Nanaimo, the Attorney-General gave the number of special constables at present employed in the recent coal strike area. The figures were Nanaimo 31, Ladysmith 20, Cumberland 48, Extension 21, and South Wellington 21, making a total of 191.

In reply to a question by Mr. Hayward regarding an official report of the proceedings of the House, the Premier said that arrangements had been made with The Colonist to have a verbatim report made of the speech of any member who gave notice beforehand to the chief Government whip.

Mr. Parker Williams asked a question regarding the use of the Provincial Coat of Arms, alleging that it had appeared on the badges at the recent Conservative Convention. The Speaker ruled the question out of order, and Mr. Williams said that his purpose was merely to direct the attention of the Attorney-General to the matter.

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CRITICIZES SEVERAL ITEMS OF POLICY

Member for Columbia Leads
Way With Some Honest
Opposition

IS CLOSELY FOLLOWED
BY CHILLIWACK MEMBER

Interesting Contribution to De-
bate in House; Land Act
Bombshell

For the first time in the present session, active opposition against the administration by members of its own political color developed in the house yesterday, heralding, it is hoped, a new era in the chamber of freer discussion of subjects that lie closer to the heart of the people as a whole than merely to the government members.

Nor was the opposition, such as it was, confined to one isolated instance. While the speech of H. E. Forster, the Ishmael from the caucuses, bristled with independence and the determination to take a logical and not a blindly partisan stand on every subject with which the house has to deal, the address also of S. A. Cawley contained little hints and references that the acts of the British Columbia government are not altogether above the reproach which its members so obviously dread.

The third address of the afternoon as a contribution to the debate in reply to the speech of his honor, made by Mr. Mackenzie, member for Delta, was for the most part non-committal, and dealt largely with the developments and work of the people of the district he represented rather than with issues affecting the province as a whole.

Not Quite Clear.

After allusion to other contributors to the address and championing the cause of his own constituency for a few sentences, Mr. Forster first came to grips with his subject when he asked that the roads policy of the government be cleared up and a definite platform taken on the floor of the house. At that the members generally began to sit up and take notice. The premier's eyebrows drew together in a reproving frown, and altogether there were not wanting many signs that the attack was quite unexpected.

"What is the policy regarding the roads in the townships?" asked Mr. Forster. "Is the government going to make roads and streets through a township or are the owners to do it? At present there is no uniformity whatsoever," Mr. Forster said he would like some definite knowledge on the matter.

Then there was the case of land and irrigation companies. In some cases companies had laid lands in blocks for sale without making proper provision for roads through them. They had sold land to people who had in many cases cleared and cultivated it.

"Who," asked Mr. Forster, "is to reimburse purchasers in the event of the government finding it necessary to expropriate?"

Wildcaters and Boomers.

The member for Columbia brought forward another matter which he claimed to be of great importance and affecting the good name of the people of this province. He referred to the propensities of the boomers and wildcaters, and the need of some form of legislation to stop the gross misrepresentations which they so often practiced. He was not talking, he said, against legitimate development, but against unscrupulous schemers. The Americans had learned the necessity of such legislation and many states of the Union had passed good laws dealing with this evil.

The water act next came in for the marked disapproval of the member for Columbia.

"There is too much red tape about the water act," he pronounced, regardless of the not too lovable glances thrown at him by various members of the government party. "The water commission has been going round the country for two years endeavoring to gather statistics and adjust water rights. It is apparently hopeless to make the present act answer its purpose. I trust something will be done to make it comprehensible and useful to laymen who desire to take advantage of it."

The pioneer, to whom the opening up of the province was largely due, he averred, would be afraid of the winding road tape of the act as at present constituted, and would most likely take himself off to a place where the laws were more understandable and workable.

Complains of Recession.

Mr. Foster then uttered a complaint against the recession of the poll tax last session.

Unfortunately for the province, he said, as the tax was the only means of making the man who only comes into the province for a few months and then takes all the money that he has earned away with him, help towards the administration of affairs. Its recession meant that this deserved source of revenue was lost. The man who was here for a few short months should pay his share towards the administration of justice and the like just the same as did the real dweller.

"While these people are exempt," said Mr. Foster amid a dead silence, "the poor old lumber industry is taxed up to the hilt."

This he described as killing the goose that laid the golden eggs.

Comparing the timber industry with others he found that in the land department there are \$12,000,000 of deferred payments which only bear interest at 6 per cent, and yet the owner of a timber license is fined \$25 for each license if he is a day late.

"The lumber industry," concluded Mr. Foster, "is getting a pretty hard deal."

F. J. A. Mackenzie, the member for Delta, was on his feet immediately the speaker put the question. He asked the house to bear with him as a representative of one of the farming districts which had been so abundantly referred to in the speech of the lieutenant-governor.

Under Two Heads.

He classed the municipalities of the province under two separate heads. The first comprised the suburban municipalities, or the non-producers; the second, the agricultural municipalities, or the producers. Needless to say, the three municipalities comprising Delta riding were of the producing class, holding a high position as such.

In a few eloquent sentences Mr. Mackenzie dealt with the early days when the Delta district had shipped all its produce to the Victoria market. All the difficulties and troubles which the early settlers there had met were encountered with that determination and courage which was still characteristic of the people of that quarter. The four things there were in the greatest abundance were salt water, sea grass, ducks and mosquitoes.

By co-operation and mutual effort, however, the settlers had dyked these lands, shut out the flood waters, and reclaimed them, and to-day they were as productive as any in British Columbia. The entire cost of the construction of these dykes had been shouldered by the people and not by the government.

Mr. Mackenzie then computed to the house the season's yield of these reclaimed lands comprising less than 24,000 acres. The grand total monetary yield of these crops for one season was no less than \$1,250,000.

A Suggestion.

"The municipality," said Mr. Mackenzie, "is a model farming section, and the Dominion government would be well advised should the provincial authorities induce them to spend some of the Dominion aid to agriculture in British Columbia by establishing an experimental truck garden farm, so that the wants of the adjacent cities could be met."

The blessings of the Ladner and Woodward's Landing ferry were then enlarged upon and the traffic figures quoted by the member. Later he touched in turn on the room for greater population in the Delta district, the magnitude of the highway problem in that section of British Columbia, and the ruinous effect of the motor traffic on the country roads, and the aid which should be given to municipalities. Mr. Mackenzie concluded by thoroughly endorsing the government's land policy.

Criticizes Land Act.

S. A. Cawley, member for Chilliwack, threw another bombshell among the benches when he showed he was not so complacent with regard to the administration of lands by the present government as the member for Delta had been.

"There are many people," he remarked, "holding vast tracts of land for speculation purposes, and paying very little in the way of taxes. I think a wild land tax should be enforced." (At this point the opposition members in the house applauded heartily.)

Mr. Cawley dealt with a wide range of subjects during his address in addition to his caustic comment on the Land act, and went considerably out of his way to criticize the administration of the land registry offices of the province. He hoped the new act would provide some much needed relief. The fees charged, too, he said, were altogether too high, being two and sometimes three times as much as were charged in other provinces. He did not think the land registry offices should prove revenue producers, but merely self-sustaining.

The member for Chilliwack, though he could not see eye to eye with the government over the land question, found occasion to congratulate one and all on the financial showing in a time of depression, and made the statement that the credit of British Columbia at the present time was second to none in the world.

Municipal Act.

On the subject of the Municipal act, Mr. Cawley considered that an advisable amendment would be one giving to reeves and chairmen of school boards the right to vote as did the councillors and trustees. He expressed the opinion also in the case of money by-laws, that a model by-law should be incorporated in the act as a guide to all.

The present trend in education, commented Mr. Cawley later, was to educate people off the farm instead of on to it. If the back to the land cry was to mean anything, the only thing to do was to encourage the young men and women to go back. He was glad to hear from the minister of education that an agricultural grant was to be made in connection with the public schools, and that the asylum farm was to be turned over to the university.

The Loan act, he contended would meet with his hearty support, and he hoped that a very large part would be expended on those two staples of the provinces—mining and agriculture, which he urged were practically inseparable.

C. E. Tisdall, a Vancouver member, moved the adjournment of the debate.

Editorial Jan 28th

LAND SETTLEMENT.

Everybody admits that the question of land settlement in British Columbia is pressing and that the existing conditions are far from satisfactory. The Minister of Agriculture is just as emphatic in his opinions as Mr. Brewster or any other critic of the government. Mr. Ellison says it is an unfortunate thing that a province such as British Columbia, with its great diversities of soil and climate, which are admittedly of the best, should be compelled to import annually twenty-five million dollars' worth of agricultural products. Naturally the thought will arise, therefore, that it is remarkable the government does not take immediate and drastic action to remedy such a state of affairs. Mr. Ellison says public opinion will be ripe to sanction something being done next year. Why wait till next year? The farmers have placed their views upon record as in favor of instant measures of reform. The consumers, who are the victims of circumstances and have to pay the twenty-five million dollars that well could be employed within the province to outsiders for the necessities of life, will assuredly raise no objections to anything that promises them relief. Neither the government nor the legislature has anything on its programme that is more urgent than this matter. Why not get down to some business that is worth while and place a measure upon the statute books that will upset existing conditions and bring relief to all?

RESENTS ON

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The debate on from the throne today's session

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RESENTS ATTACK ON VANCOUVER

Mr. C. E. Tisdall, M. P. P.,
Comments on Misstatements
of Hon. R. Lemieux—Out-
look for Agriculture.

The debate on the reply to the address from the throne was continued at yesterday's session of the Legislature.

The prevailing tone of optimism which has marked the speeches of the Members throughout the debate, except in the speeches of the Members of the Opposition, again found expression when the Members for Vancouver and Kamloops spoke of the progress of development in their constituencies during the past year.

Mr. C. E. Tisdall, who was the first speaker, condemned the issuance of statements emanating from Hon. Mr. Lemieux as to the amount of unemployment existing in Vancouver, and said that although there had been some depression in the building trade, the returns of the mercantile houses showed very little diminution of business during the past year.

In dealing with the prosperity of the Fraser Valley, and the general improvement in the agricultural industry, Mr. Tisdall quoted figures to show the great increase in the fruit industry of recent years and predicted that with the opening of the railroad lines now under construction this advance would be even more marked.

Mr. Shaw, of Kamloops, who followed the Member for Vancouver, gave some interesting statistics of the progress made in dry farming during the past year, telling the House that within the last twelve months more than 250,000 bushels of grain, and 1,000 tons of hay that had been grown in this arid belt had been shipped to Western markets.

"Unwarranted Pessimism"

Mr. C. E. Tisdall, Member for Vancouver, continued the debate, in reply to the address from the throne. He prefaced his remarks by saying that when the Province was experiencing a period of remarkable prosperity he refrained from expressing too much optimism, and he thought that now, when the period of depression existed in the Province it was only right and proper that he should discountenance the unwarranted pessimism that appeared to be the principal stock in trade of a number of people.

He criticized the statements made on the floor of the House of Commons, at Ottawa, by the Hon. Mr. Lemieux, to the effect that there were 17,000 unemployed in the City of Vancouver, and pointed out that as there were only 23,000 male adults on the voters' roll it was scarcely likely that 17,000 of these were unemployed. As a matter of fact he was satisfied from his personal observation and investigation that 2,000 unemployed was much nearer the mark. Mr. Tisdall explained that a city like Vancouver, possessing a mild climate, was always subject to an influx of people from outlying districts, especially during the winter months. He did not think it was much to the credit of Mr. Lemieux to make such unwarranted statements, and he felt that it was time reports of the kind were vigorously contradicted.

"In the first place it is a pity that a gentleman occupying the position of Mr. Lemieux in the Dominion House should lay himself open to criticism by making an attack on a city like Vancouver in the manner he has adopted," said Mr. Tisdall, "and in the second place it was doubly a pity that he should lend himself to the issuance of statements so obviously false to anyone who cared to give the matter a moment's consideration."

The Member for Vancouver expressed the opinion that the depression had been felt mostly in the building industry, and in order to show the difference in conditions he stated that during 1912 the building permits issued in the City of Vancouver amounted to \$19,000,000, whereas last year they dropped to something like \$10,000,000. While that condition prevailed in the building industry the commercial houses of the city continued to do a large amount of business and the returns from the banks, clearing house, and custom house were almost on a par with those of previous years. He referred to the establishment of the assayer's office in the city and expressed the view that it would be a material asset, as miners generally located themselves in the same town as the assay office, and spent their money there when on vacation. General merchandise conditions continued to be excellent, and there was no reason to suppose that the present conditions meant one fraction of the disaster that had been predicted in regard to them.

He briefly sketched the progress made in the leading industries of the Province. In regard to fruit culture he referred to his recent visit to the Okanagan, and spoke of the wonderful achievements that had been made in a few years. With the advent of railway development, now under way, he stated that the people of the City of Vancouver would be able to enjoy Okanagan fruit instead of having to send their money to Wenatchee. During the past year he said that 1,550 carloads of fruit and vegetables had been shipped out of the valley, and during the next few years, with a continuance of the present rate of settlement, the output would be enormously increased. He also laid stress upon the fact that with the completion of the railway system now in process of construction the Okanagan would be brought into closer touch with the great market offered by the prairie provinces.

"In addition to fruit culture," said Mr. Tisdall, "canning had been successfully carried on during the year, and 500 cars have been used in removing the output to the markets."

Agricultural Development

Speaking with reference to the Fraser Valley and the development of agriculture generally, Mr. Tisdall said he believed this section would not be properly developed until the Government appointed a commissioner to go thoroughly into the question of settlement. He was glad to know that the settlement of the lands of railway belt in this section was one of the questions that had been referred to the Better Terms Commission, and he hoped that as a result of the deliberations of the commission a satisfactory method would be devised for settling the question.

Dealing with the mining development he expressed his satisfaction at the wonderful progress of the past year, and stated that considering the limited time during which the industry had been in existence remarkable results had been achieved. Large dividends had been declared by operating companies, but still it was impossible to do more than vaguely estimate the marvelous productivity of the mines of the Province.

Deep Sea Fishing

The question of deep sea fishing then engaged the attention of the Member for Vancouver, who stated that the industry had been expanding rapidly, although little notice had been taken of it officially. He believed that there were great possibilities in the deep sea fishing on the West Coast, and as it was well known that there was an almost limitless market for such produce he considered that it would be a wise policy for the Government to give special attention to the question of developing this wonderful asset of the Province. The herring fishing also was well worth looking after, he said.

"In every inlet of the Coast there is a plentiful supply of this food fish," said Mr. Tisdall, "and as yet the business has been practically unexploited."

He expressed his appreciation of the Government's policy in regard to maintaining the fishing industry for the white people of the country. In regard to markets for British Columbia fish he quoted from The Daily Telegraph, London, to the effect that a consignment of British Columbia fish had met with a ready demand, and there was the certainty of a good trade in the Motherland immediately the industry here was in a position to handle it and supply the demand.

He looked to the opening of the Panama Canal to accomplish a great deal in establishing the necessary cheap connection between the fishing grounds of British Columbia and the European markets.

Mr. Tisdall welcomed the announcement that the Government intended to provide for comprehensive Municipal Clauses Act, and in this connection he suggested that provision should be made for the Government to have some authority to supervise the borrowing powers of the municipalities, not only in the general interest of the Province, but in the interest of the municipalities themselves. Saskatchewan, he said, had legislation of that sort, and Alberta had adopted a similar policy.

Dry Farming

Mr. J. P. Shaw, Member for Kamloops, continued the debate on the address. In opening his remarks he referred to the construction work now in progress on the Parliament Buildings, and stated that by next year the congestion which so many of them had experienced in the offices during the past year or two would be greatly relieved.

Mr. Shaw then referred to the dry farming operations in his constituency, and commended them to the country at large.

"Eight years ago there were only two or three farmers in the district of Rosehill," he said, "and now there is quite a settlement, all engaged in the new business of dry-farming. I believe there are something like 140 families on the dry or arid belt of that country, and during last year they produced no less than 250,000 bushels of grain and 1,000 tons of hay. There are two or three dairies in the district now supplying milk to the City of Kamloops, and their operations will be extended immediately the railway facilities will permit."

He called the attention of the Minister of Railways to the fact that in the irrigated districts there was a fear expressed by farmers that their work might be interfered with by the construction of new lines, and asked that steps be taken to protect the interests of the farmers of the district by making such arrangements as would obviate any unnecessary interference with the irrigation scheme of the country.

In concluding, the Member for Kamloops called the attention of the Minister of Lands to the opposition of the farmers to the proposal to impose a tax for grazing privileges.

Grazing Privileges

"In my district," he said, "there has been a great deal of discussion on this question because the Dominion Government has taken up the question of imposing a tax for grazing. We have written to Ottawa, asking that the regulation be not applied this year, in the hope that by next year better counsels will prevail at the Capital. I understand that similar regulations are proposed by the Provincial Government and I would ask that very careful consideration be given to this question before it is proceeded with. The farmers and ranchers have had the free use of the ranges from time immemorial, and it is not likely that they will take kindly to a new tax of this nature."

Mr. Shaw criticized the Opposition for its allegations regarding the amount of available land for settlers, and said that their contentions in this respect were confuted very emphatically all over the country by the greatly increased settlement. He did not know what the Opposition meant by prosperity when they claimed that British Columbia had not enjoyed it, but his understanding was that development and progress were its synonyms, and as such he was convinced that British Columbia was today enjoying such prosperity in a large measure.

Petitions Presented

Before continuing the debate on the reply, petitions were presented to the House by Mr. W. W. Foster, of the Islands, from the Municipality of Saanich, for leave to introduce a private bill entitled the "Saanich Water and Sewer Act of 1914," from Francis W. Rounsefell and others for leave to introduce a private bill incorporating the district of Shaughnessy Heights; from J. H. MacCormick and others for leave to introduce a bill incorporating the Northern Telephone Company, and from the Columbian Methodist College to introduce a private bill affecting that institution.

The third report of the committee on private bills was sent up to the Speaker and the report received, and following the formal suspension of the rules of the House was adopted.

Three bills were read a first time and ordered to be read a second time at today's session: The first, introduced by Mr. Williams, amending the Masters and Servants Act; the second by Mr. W. W. Foster respecting the British Columbia Association of Architects, and the third by Mr. MacKenzie amending the Dentistry Act.

In reply to a question asked by Mr. Place as to the amount of land staked by agents during the last five years, Hon. W. R. Ross, Minister of Lands, said that no records are kept of land staking effected by agents, as the custom had always obtained and there appeared to be no reason for keeping such a record.

In reply to Mr. Parker Williams, as to the amount paid to certain printing and publishing companies, the Minister of Finance said that during the past year \$28,378.12 had been paid to The Colonist Printing and Publishing Company, \$397.56 had been paid to The Herald Publishing Company, of Nanaimo and \$7,857.15 to the News-Advertiser Company, of Vancouver.

Must Be British Subjects

Mr. Place asked the Attorney-General what proof of citizenship is required of special constables, and in reply Mr. Bowser said:

"Instructions are given to all Chief Constables that all specials, as well as regulars, must be British subjects, and when sworn in must take the oath of allegiance."

The Minister of Lands presented a return to an order of the House showing the following sums overdue the treasury from the sale of townsite lots, \$1,27,695.44; from the sale of agricultural land, \$3,657,517.62; from timber license, none; from timber royalty, \$187,645.44, and from the purchase, lease and rental of coal and petroleum lands, \$10,784.21.

Hon. Dr. H. E. Young presented the report of the Commissioner on the Coal Commission under "The Public Inquiries Act."

A private bill conferring certain additional powers on the City of Victoria was brought in by Mr. H. B. Thomson and read a first time.

The House adjourned at 4:50 p. m.

Editorial Jan 29th 14.

VANCOUVER MEMBER AS MARK TAPLEY

Can See No Dark Side in Affairs of Province of British Columbia

SUGGESTS GOVERNMENT
HANDLE ALL BORROWING

Member for Kamloops Also
Adds His Contribution to
Debate on Address

There are several members of the legislative chamber who would have made excellent prototypes for Dickensian characters, but the putting forward of his claim to the role of Mark Tapley, the eternal optimist, by C. E. Tisdall, the Vancouver member, yesterday, caused many smiles around the house during the progress of the debate.

Certainly Mr. Tisdall endeavored to live up to the part with which he voluntarily clothed himself, and for the best part of an hour treated the government and all its works to eulogy of the most complacent character. His optimism was gigantic, and in only one instance did he ever stray from the path of laughter which he had obviously set out to tread.

That came when the Vancouver member was discussing the financial situation throughout the world. Then he had to confess that money was harder to buy than it had ever been before; and also that it would be still harder in the future. He showed how 16 years ago the Dominion government had been able to borrow money in London for 2½ per cent. Last year they had had to pay 4 per cent. In the future he looked for the rate of interest to be even higher.

For the remainder of the time he was on his feet Mr. Tisdall dealt in the main with the development of the four greatest assets of British Columbia—agriculture, mining, fishing and lumber—and reviewed for the benefit of the house the growth and importance of Vancouver city, and the effect of the present stringency upon it. While on this subject he took occasion to resent a recent reported statement of Mr. Lemieux, saying that there were 17,000 unemployed in the city of Vancouver. He (Mr. Tisdall) greatly doubted if there were more than 2,000 regular residents of the Terminal City out of work. He ventured to remark that the present situation in Vancouver was quite as good as in many of the eastern cities, and considerably better than in many of the cities of the United States.

Finding Markets.

Mr. Tisdall prophesied that before very long the Okanagan valley would supply not only the coast cities and the Pacific northwest with fruit, but would also find new markets in Great Britain and Australia, where the extent of the trade would only be bounded by the amount the valley could produce.

The Panama canal would also help to enlarge and develop the marketing of British Columbia fish. He particularly referred to the sale of halibut in English markets and read a dispatch from the Daily Telegraph in which it described the arrival of the first consignment of B. C. halibut at Grimsby, and the great demand there had been for the fish.

"Why should we send to New Zealand for our butter?" asked the member for Vancouver, with unconscious irony, waving his hand in the direction of the minister of lands. The Fraser valley would in time look after the wants of the province in this regard, when the present shortage of milk had passed away.

Mr. Tisdall made the suggestion that the government would be well advised to advertise the lumber of the province by showing specimens in eastern exhibitions, which formed as fine an advertisement as one could wish for. He also suggested that home-grown wood should be used as a lasting monument in the construction of the new British Columbia building in London.

In discussing the financial state of the country, the Vancouver member hinted that the government would do well to take charge of the borrowing powers of municipalities. He quoted the example of the Saskatchewan government, which employed a commissioner for the purpose. Similar action was taken by the government in the British Isles, who detailed the local government board to look after this work.

"Such a step," he stated, "would enormously enhance confidence of investors in the municipalities of this province. We cannot do enough to show the London markets that our bonds are worth all that we represent them to be."

But the Vancouver member brought his Mark Tapleyism most prominently into the limelight when he was discussing the merits of the Conservative party. The men under the revered leadership of Sir Richard McBride were not to be checked by the carping criticism of the Liberal leaders, nor the obfuscations of the Liberal press. They "had put their hand to the plough and would not turn back."

Kamloops Member Speaks.

But Mr. Tisdall was outshone entirely in scriptural allusion by Mr. Shaw, of Kamloops, who followed him on the floor of the house and calmly corralled for the British Columbia government an allusion which has hitherto been preferred to a much higher source. He said: "There is a saying which is very often used that 'The British Columbia

government helps those who help themselves."

Mr. Shaw was commendably brief. He dealt for the most part with what he had observed while travelling at the expense of the two governments into the four corners of the province. He had heard commendations of the government he could say, but he also had to confess that he had encountered some dissatisfaction with the administration.

Some dislike of the policy of the Dominion government with regard to the forestry regulations, he stated, was coming to a head in his own district, where the settlers were somewhat annoyed at the sweeping nature of new regulations which had been imposed upon them. For they felt that if these regulations were strictly enforced the stock industry of that district would receive a very severe blow. As at present constituted they merely blanketed the settlers.

Mr. Shaw did not outline exactly what these regulations are, but it is well-known that one of them forbids settlers allowing their cattle to range without paying taxes; another is that forest rangers have power to make the settler count up cattle at any time the ranger so desires. It is also well known that Hon. W. R. Ross, the provincial minister of lands, is intending to bring down legislation along similar lines this session; so that Mr. Shaw's remark assumed the form of a warning as well as a complaint.

Mr. Shaw also dilated at some length on the importance of inserting something in the railway act which would prevent a certain railway company from interfering with the irrigation projects of the people of his district. At present there was a danger of this happening at Kamloops, and the people were very anxious that it should not take place.

A Wonderful District.

The achievements of the people in the wonderful little district of Rosehill, which recently had the high honor of a visit from the attorney-general, were made the subject for some very favorable comment by the member for Kamloops. There were 140 families in this district, he said, and in one year they had produced 250,000 bushels of grain, 1,000 tons of hay; had raised 1,000 head of cattle, 1,400 head of horses, and 1,100 pigs. Three fine dairies gave Kamloops its milk supply.

Mr. Shaw said that if he had not noted any great deal of prosperity throughout the province he had certainly seen many signs of progress and development, and these two things he had always thought, were parents of prosperity. He had been struck also with the magnificent programme of public work which the government was carrying out; none of these was deserving of higher praise than the additions to the parliament buildings in this city.

W. Manson, member for the Skeena district, moved the adjournment of the debate.

"WE ARE THE PEOPLE!"

The Honorable Price Ellison, Minister of Finance and Agriculture, is destined for the Senate. We have cast his horoscope several times, and his bright, particular planet has shot its beam consistently towards the East. Kismet!—so be it. In the sequestered vale of the Upper House he is fated to pursue the even tenor of his way. Will he resist his destiny; dislocate the charm worked by the magi in the temple across James Bay? Not much. When the time comes he will pack his grip, receive his vade in pace from Sir Richard and pass hence. How time has changed our Minister of Finance! Looking down from the legislative gallery upon his serene countenance as he complacently records the will of his political chiefs, no matter what it may dictate, who would believe that the member for the Okanagan had ever been a near-revolutionist; an irrepressible Ferrar; an Ajax defying the lightning? Who would imagine that there was a time when he played the role of the village Hampden, withstanding the petty tyrant of his fields?

It happened fourteen years ago. The Lieutenant-Governor had dismissed the Semlin ministry and invited Joseph Martin to form a ministry. The members were furious. When His Honor prorogued the House they stalked from the chamber into the lobby, making the place resound with their outcry. Then when the Lieutenant-Governor finished his task, they re-entered even more noisily than they left, and one of them, seized with the inspiration of that moving moment, leaped into the aisle, and, after a Cromwellian glare at the empty throne, waved a brand new bowler hat in the direction of the galleries and exclaimed: "We are the people!" Patrick Henry, addressing the delegates of Virginia; Danton arousing the enthusiasm of the Girondists; Garibaldi stirring the Sicilians to frenzy—these leaped into the minds of the beholders of that memorable scene. Those flaming words, "We are the people!" fell from the lips of the member for the Okanagan. Just what they meant nobody knew, but it was felt that they expressed the member's readiness to carry the staff of Washington or wear the Jacobin cap in defence of popular liberty.

And now, no longer do we behold the dauntless Hampden. Not only does he not passionately declaim, "We are the people!" but he will not even murmur "cheap money for the farmers; free powder for settlers," a much less dramatic but more useful battlecry. Time and subjection to the will of Sir Richard and the Attorney-General have dimmed the revolutionary ardor which o'er-leaped the barrier of reserve fourteen years ago, and it will be a dignified, highly respectable but subdued ex-minister who, in about a year's time, will begin political life anew in the placid atmosphere of the Canadian Senate.

MINING ST HEALTHY

Members for
Slocan Deal
in the Indust
Advances Ro

A pungent attack the Liberal party for the misrepresentation of the Liberal press the present tour of his party throughout an encouraging report and prosperity Roseland districts, of yesterday's session.

Mr. William M. Skeena, who opened the Liberal party constructive policy, and that the number who had settled during the past year those who entered followed by Mr. Lorne land, who dealt amount of ore has profits made in Ros also gave a brief cultural development.

In opening the for Skeena said the Opposition seemed of any report being was favorable to the standing and the present Administration throughout the Province affected by bro government, which up by specific flag the Government has overwhelming major in recent years, at the last few month constituency became servative candidate magnificent majority fact that the Liberal took the field and d for the return of the

Campaign
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In dealing with land policy of t Manson said that matter was a vit lieved, after a clos lem as it affected the policy is a sai paid a tribute to the Minister of L and fair administr lated him especia of the Water Act done so much to in this Province sition to look at vincts expenditure standpoint, so th stand how the la work provided for had been paid for lands, which, he made such perman able, but had als able area which ducing to the pul

MINING SHOWS HEALTHY GROWTH

Members for Rossland and
Slocan Deal With Conditions
in the Industry—Legislature
Advances Routine Work.

A pungent attack on the leaders of the Liberal party in British Columbia for the misrepresentation reported in the Liberal press of the meetings of the present tour of Mr. Brewster and his party throughout the Province, and an encouraging report of the development and prosperity of the Slocan and Rossland districts, were the features of yesterday's session of the Legislature.

Mr. William Manson, Member for Skeena, who opened the debate, taunted the Liberal party with its lack of constructive policy, and gave figures showing that the number of pre-emptors who had settled on Crown lands during the past year was in excess of those who entered in 1912. He was followed by Mr. Lorne Campbell, of Rossland, who dealt minutely with the amount of ore handled and the net profits made in Rossland district, and also gave a brief review of the agricultural development of that district.

In opening the debate, the member for Skeena said that the Leader of the Opposition seemed to be very jealous of any report being made public that was favorable to the Government. The standing and the policies of the present Administration were too well known throughout the Province to be materially affected by broad charges of misgovernment, which were not backed up by specific figures. He said that the Government had been endorsed by overwhelming majorities at the polls in recent years, and that even within the last few months, when the Islands' constituency became vacant, the Conservative candidate was returned by a magnificent majority, in spite of the fact that the Liberal leaders personally took the field and did all in their power for the return of their nominee.

Campaign of Liberals

In dealing with the published reports of what the Liberal papers termed the triumphal march of their leaders, he said that it had been stated that in some places 700 people were present in the halls to listen to their addresses. Anyone who is acquainted with the district knew that the maximum capacity of these halls did not exceed 200.

"If the Liberals are so ready to criticize the policies of the present Administration, it is unfortunate that they cannot enunciate some constructive policy instead of the policy of general destruction which they so freely dictate," said Mr. Manson. "Had such a course been taken some years ago, it is my belief that we should today see some of the Liberal members in the House instead of the entire party being wiped out from this Legislature."

In dealing with the question of the land policy of the Government, Mr. Manson said that in his district this matter was a vital issue, and he believed, after a close study of the problem as it affected his constituency, that the policy is a safe and sane one. He paid a tribute to the Hon. W. R. Ross, the Minister of Lands, for his honest and fair administration, and congratulated him especially on the workings of the Water Act, which he said had done so much to advance agriculture in this Province. He urged the Opposition to look at the matter of Provincial expenditure from the business standpoint, so that they might understand how the large amount of public work provided for during the past year had been paid for by the sale of Crown lands, which, he said, had not only made such permanent improvement possible, but had also added a large taxable area which could be revenue-producing to the public treasury.

Money for Land Sales

In dealing with the matter of the amounts outstanding to the Province from the sale of land, he said that he realized the difficulty of collecting many of these sums without disturbing the balance of trade, but he hoped that some definite arrangement would be made by which outstanding debts could be realized within a stated period.

Turning to the progress in the Skeena District, which he called the new British Columbia, he said that, owing to the widely scattered nature of settlement in that area, there was an enormous demand for a system of roads which would require a large amount of money in their construction. In dealing with this settlement he said that the number of pre-emptors who located in Prince George during the past year was 442; in Hazelton, 167; in Fort George, 581; and in Fort Fraser, 490.

"The total number of pre-emptors in British Columbia during last year was 3,855," said the Member for Skeena, "covering an approximate area of 516,000 acres, as compared with 3,668 settlers during the previous year, covering an approximate 500,000 acres."

Ore Ready for Shipment

In reviewing mining conditions in the northern part of the Province, he said that the conditions of the industry were satisfactory; that the smelter at Granby Bay was already completed and would be in operation within a few days; that the Portland Canal tunnel had been pierced for a distance of 2,500 feet, and that there was a large amount of ore ready for shipment as soon as the Grand Trunk Pacific was in operation, which, he predicted, would be next June.

"The mining output for last year was far in excess of any previous year, with the exception of the record year of 1912, and aggregated \$30,158,000."

With regard to the fisheries, he said that both the Dominion and the Provincial Departments were doing all they could to encourage white fishermen in Pacific waters, and he predicted that within five years the Japanese fishermen would be a thing of the past so far as British Columbia is concerned.

"Business conditions at Prince Rupert are most satisfactory, and the depression of which we have heard so much during the past few months, has not been felt to any extent in that city. We have under construction a drydock that will cost \$2,500,000 before completion, work has begun on the Grand Trunk Pacific terminus, and the excavations have also been begun for a hotel which will cost \$2,000,000; and altogether the outlook in this district has never been more favorable than it is today."

Outlook in Rossland

That Rossland looks forward also to an increased prosperity with the opening of the Kettle Valley line, which will give the people of that district communication with the Coast, was the statement made by Mr. Lorne Campbell, Member for Rossland, who continued the debate.

"In the past we have felt isolated from our neighbors on the Coast," said Mr. Campbell, "and our only outlet has been through our neighboring state in the South, but with the coming of the new line we shall be able to take a night train and be in Vancouver or Victoria early on the following day."

In continuing, he said that mining had played a prominent part in the prosperity of their district, and that in the past year there had been a net profit of \$1,500,000 in an area of 300 acres. He said that not so long ago it used to be the current belief, and the statement was backed up by the Administration, that there was no payable ore lower than 600 feet below the surface of this Province, and that today in Rossland they were taking ore from the 2,300 feet level and that they had five years' supply of ore in sight at the present rate of shipment.

Plea for Prospector

He made a strong plea for the mining prospector, who he said had been driven out of the country, and urged the Government to devise some measures for his relief. He eulogized the work of the geological survey by the Dominion Government, and hoped that the work would be extended and developed during the coming Summer. He said that agriculture used to be considered as something quite foreign to Rossland, but that today within three and a half miles of the city 1,500 acres were under cultivation, in spite of the fact that it cost \$125 to clear a single acre of land. In giving an example of the fertility of the soil in that region, he said that two tons of timothy hay had been harvested during the Summer off an acre of brushed out land. He urged the Provincial Government to recommend settlers to turn their attention to mixed farming, and said there was a splendid prospect for the fruit industry in that district.

In dealing with the fruit of the Province generally, he said that if all the trees in British Columbia orchards were bearing, they would have enough to supply the entire population of British Columbia, Alberta and Saskatchewan, and he ventured the opinion that in some districts the fruit industry was being overdone.

Workmen's Compensation

In bringing forward the question of the Workmen's Compensation Act, he recommended that an amendment should be added to the present bill which would cover Sunday labor, as anyone who had experience in mining camps knew that it was impossible to shut down all work on Sunday, and that under the present Act if a workman was injured on that day he was debarred from claiming compensation. He also recommended the extension of the Provincial police system, which he believed, could, in addition to its regular duties, do a large amount of work done by the fire rangers and game wardens.

In dealing with the question of the Doukhobor colony, he congratulated the Government on its intention to bring down legislation during the present session, but was not very sanguine as to the results.

"It is not a difficult matter to bring down legislation," said the Member for Rossland, "but knowing these men as I do I think it will be exceedingly difficult to enforce any act after it has been placed on the statute book. It seems to me that the proper way to handle the situation would be by the appointment of a resident agent, and if this was done, I believe that the complex problem would very quickly be solved."

Before resuming his seat he made a strong plea for the extension of the road system in Rossland. He said that \$67,000,000 had been taken out of the Rossland mines, and that for this reason he thought it only just that the wagon roads of this section should be extended on a large scale.

Conditions in the Slocan

Mr. Hunter, Slocan, continued the debate. He devoted his remarks entirely to a statement of the conditions in his district, and said that but for the slight depression that had been experienced in the lumber industry no one in the Slocan territory would have known that there was such a thing as a financial stringency.

"I have the honor of representing the 'Silver Slocan,'" said Mr. Hunter, "and it is a signal honor indeed, for not only is the constituency one of the most thriving in the Province, but it is at the same time vitally wrapped up in affairs of the outside world on account of its mining production. We have passed through three stages in mining development in the Slocan. The first was negligible from the productive point of view, and the second was, in the light of comparison, not particularly great, but the stage we are entering upon now is the greatest and the most promising, and I venture the opinion that within the next year more silver will be produced from the Slocan mines than ever before."

Mr. Hunter reviewed the work of the past year and intimated that the production had touched high-water mark, with the exception of one single year, but now the development was no longer uncertain or spasmodic but assured all the time, and that, he said, was better than a fat period one year followed by a lean period.

Dealing with the marking of claims, which has occasioned some discussion and dissatisfaction in his district, Mr. Hunter suggested that some change might be made in the regulations so as to meet the requirements of the miners.

Appreciates Coming of Yarrow's

Mr. R. H. Pooley, Member for Esquimalt, continued the debate on the address. He referred in appreciative terms to the establishment of Yarrow's shipbuilding firm at Esquimalt, which he said must, in the nature of things, prove exceedingly beneficial not only to his constituency but to the City of Victoria, and the whole Province.

In regard to the question of agriculture, Mr. Pooley expressed the hope that the report of the Royal Commission on this subject would contain some improved ideas upon the methods of clearing land. In his constituency, he said, the question of land clearing was a very important one and stumping powder and other methods had not proved as effective as was expected.

Mr. Pooley criticized the Liberals for their present agitation throughout the country, and accused them of being without any constructive policy to substitute for that of the Government.

Mr. Neil McKay, Member for Kaslo, moved the adjournment of the debate.

Mr. M. Manson, Member for Comox, presented a petition from the Corporation of the District of Penticton, asking leave to introduce a private bill giving increased corporate powers.

A petition was received from the Municipality of Saanich for leave to introduce a private bill entitled the "Saanich Water and Sewer Act, 1914."

The private bills and standing orders committee reported that the petition of the Columbian Methodist College complied with the regulations of the House. The report was received.

The Hon. Dr. Young, Minister of Education, presented a return under the "Probates Recognition Act."

Trunk Sewer Scheme

On the motion of the Premier a bill intended to ratify an agreement made between the City of Victoria and the Municipality of Esquimalt, respecting the construction and maintenance of a joint sewer, was introduced and read a first time. The second reading will be given today.

The bill represents the wishes of the city and the municipality respecting the trunk sewer scheme which was agreed to last fall.

In reply to Mr. Williams, Member for Newcastle, Hon. Thomas Taylor, Minister of Public Works, stated that the "Jack of Clubs" road was constructed by Mr. John Hopp at a cost of \$3,922, the Government paying \$2,000. Other questions put by the same member relative to the matter were also answered.

In reply to the same member Hon. Thomas Taylor informed the House that during the past four years twenty-one miles of the Pacific Highway had been constructed between Westminster and Blaine. The total expenditure for the same was \$121,972.

On the second reading of the act respecting the British Columbia Association of Architects, which was introduced by Mr. W. W. Foster, Member for the Islands, the debate was adjourned by Mr. Williams.

Protection for Buildings

Mr. Foster argued strongly in favor of the bill and showed that its provisions would not work any hardship upon qualified architects. The object of the bill was to protect citizens from the dangers of badly constructed buildings, and in order that engineers might not suffer in their building operations provision had been made to exclude engineers from the restrictions of the act. Mr. Foster said that the bill would not apply to buildings costing less than \$10,000.

The Premier moved the adjournment of the debate on the second reading of the bill to amend the Dentistry Act, which was introduced by Mr. MacKenzie, Member for Delta.

Hon. W. J. Bowser, Attorney-General, gave notice of motion that he would introduce amendments to the Industrial Communities Act in its relation to the registration of joint stock companies. He also gave notice of his intention to introduce an amendment to the Industrial and Provident Societies' Act.

Mr. Parker Williams, Member for Newcastle, gave notice that he will introduce a resolution on Monday urging upon the Government that action be taken immediately to bring about a termination of the strike situation on Vancouver Island.

Colonist Jan 30-14.

DREADFUL DISCLOSURES

We gather from an article in a local contemporary that Sir Richard McBride is responsible for the use of oil instead of coal by ships. At last the cat is out of the bag. We have often wondered how the Premier managed to fill up the spare moments he has had between his efforts at playing high links with the Province, about which our contemporary is so fond of telling us, and the deadly secret is out at last. He has been inventing oil-burning engines and has been demonstrating to the Lords of the Admiralty, and the transatlantic steamship companies, and the steamship owners everywhere how much cheaper and more beneficial it is to use oil instead of coal. Naughty, naughty, Sir Richard, and you Minister of Mines! You did not think your sin would find you out, but now you know. We suggest to the Premier that he may as well make a clean breast of the whole business. He ought to rise in his place today in the House and, speaking to a question of privilege, explain how he came to think of so dreadful a thing; and if he really also invented the petrol engine, let him "fess up." Let us have it all at once and have done with it. Possibly it is he who invented the Aurora Borealis. And, though we hate to suggest it, perhaps he was the man who struck Billy Paterson.

DAILY TIMES, FRIDAY, JANUARY 30, 1914

DEBATE ON ADDRESS NEARS ITS CLOSE

Four Members Contributed to
Discussion Yesterday; is
Pleased With Condition

MEMBER FOR ROSSLAND
AIRS SOME GRIEVANCES

Says He is Always Bumping
Into Officials; Makes Two
Suggestions

The end of the debate on the address in reply to the speech from the throne is in sight. To-day will see its close, and Hon. Dr. Young, provincial secretary and minister of education, will administer the "coup de grace." In the last day or two the debate has relaxed into discreet boasts of certain districts by the members elected for those districts. Four such were supplied to the house yesterday, when Messrs. W. Manson, Lorne Campbell, William Hunter and R. H. Pooley contributed to the debate in the order named. Each did his level best to convince the house that Paradise was a howling wilderness in comparison with the particular district he had the honor to represent, and phrases like "Silver Slokan," the "mighty Skeena" and "fortunate Esquimalt" were heard as frequently as at a boosters' banquet.

The house was not in a particularly attentive mood throughout the whole sitting, while the attorney-general did not put in an appearance at all. For the rest, the members sprawled about their seats, talked together in audible whispers, sagged off to the reading rooms, and generally paid little or no attention to the progress of the debate.

Two of the speakers were representatives of mining districts, and treated the house to a discussion of the mining situation, averring that in their districts at least there was no sign of the stringency which was being so much talked about on the coast. To prove their points they quoted figures showing that the output at the mines was in every case as good if not better than in previous years.

W. Manson, of Skeena, was the first to have the floor after the customary preliminaries of the house had been gone through. Mr. Manson offered the usual sugar plum of compliment to the government on its land programme, which he felt had been a sane and safe policy.

It was in dealing with this question that Mr. Manson astonished the house by attempting to cast reflections on the truthfulness of the reports published by the Liberal newspapers on the coast as to the very successful meetings which are being conducted by the Liberal leaders touring this province.

The member for Skeena turned his artillery on Parker Williams, who, he said, believed in saying nothing good of a man until he was dead. That was why he had not had a word of praise for the McBride government. But, asserted the member for Skeena, Mr. Williams, would have to wait a long time to deliver his posthumous eulogia in this instance, as the government did not intend to die just yet a while.

Reiterated Statement

Mr. Manson continued the argument of practically every Conservative member who has up to the present caught the speaker's eye. He justified the selling of huge blocks of crown lands by saying that the money was necessary to supply the province with education, and those works which are necessary to her welfare. He contended that in the land policy the government had treated Conservative, Liberal and Socialist alike. The whole regime of the present minister of that department had been conducted on business lines, without fear or favor. (There was some subdued, ironical laughter in the gallery at this point.)

Mr. Manson managed at the close of his speech to inject just a little criticism. He thought that the moneys due to the government on lands should be collected as soon as possible, so that they would be available for the making of trails, roads, railways and bridges, etc. He did not think it wise to have so much outstanding.

Sir Richard McBride came in for a bouquet over the better terms arrangements, the speaker averring that his "farsightedness redounded to his everlasting credit," and also that the province would reap great benefits from the formation of the commission, and as a result of their findings. He was glad also that the agricultural commission had been formed, and looked also for splendid results from their wanderings. He touched briefly also on the mining progress and fisheries of British Columbia.

The residue of Mr. Manson's address dealt more particularly with the progress of Prince Rupert and the mighty future which that city could look forward to. The completion of the G. T. P. next June would mean a tremendous lot to the northern city, he averred, which was already anticipating the dignity of a great fishing centre, and he alluded to the added lustre and importance which would accrue when the dry-dock now in course of construction was an accomplished fact.

Wants Mounted Police

Lorne Campbell, member for Rossland, had something like an ovation when he followed Mr. Manson. Last year, it will be remembered, the Rossland member broke away from the tacit rule of his brother Conservatives, and piled unexpected criticism on the administration. Yesterday there were not lacking signs that Mr. Campbell's spirit is not yet broken, as he dealt in his blunt way with several things that he thought might be bettered in British Columbia.

The first of these had regard to the policing of the province.

"I feel," he remarked, "in knocking about British Columbia that it is a rather difficult matter to go anywhere without bumping into either a fire ranger or a game warden. Would it not be a better plan to have mounted police, who in addition to policing the province, could also act as fire rangers and game wardens? Something I think could be worked out on the lines I have given. I recommend the suggestion to the consideration of the house."

Mr. Campbell made another suggestion which he hoped would meet with the favor of the house. This was in relation to the Donkohobers, of whom they had had some experience in his own constituency. These people could not be handled by a few policemen, was his plea. Why not have an agent who could live among the people and compel them to obey the laws of the lands? He thought that in a short time these defaulters could soon be brought into line, and taught to register their births and deaths, and send their children to school. His candid opinion was that any legislation that the government brought down with regard to these people would be extremely difficult to enact.

In pleading for wagon roads for his constituency, the member pointed out that at the present time they had practically no outlet on these highways of transportation except through the state of Washington. Rossland camp had contributed something like \$45,000 of taxes last year, and he thought they were entitled to some consideration. He trusted better transportation facilities would be provided for when the time came to draw up the estimates.

Spoke of Conditions

William Hunter, who followed Lorne Campbell, is one of the veterans of the Conservative party, and spoke very briefly on present conditions in "Silver Slokan." These were better, he averred, than at any time in the history of the district. He referred his auditors to the wonderful success of the Standard mine during the past year.

R. H. Pooley, speaking of development of his own constituency, referred particularly to the forthcoming erection there of one of the largest dry-docks in the world, and also to the location of the shipyard of Messrs. Yarrow, who, he said, had travelled right up and down the Pacific coast before they had finally decided upon Esquimalt as the most suitable spot. The future that he had prognosticated on the floor of the house for Esqui-

mal was going a long way towards being fulfilled. The two undertakings he had referred to would demand the employment of a very large number of men, and would mean great things both for Esquimalt and Victoria herself. In this connection he did not forget to lay his offering at the feet of Messrs. Bob Rogers, Barnard and Green.

Denunciation of the "weak-kneed gentry," who always grumbled when things were not going too smoothly, followed. Last year everything had gone sailing along smoothly under clear skies. People were basking in the sunshine of prosperity. Yet as soon as squally weather came many of them held up their hands, and said the country was going to the dogs. The depression, said Mr. Pooley, was not local, but existed pretty nearly all over the world.

Mr. Pooley went on to quote a little ancient history, as he called it, or some of the despatches of Sir James Douglas to the colonial secretary after the former had toured this province. One sentence was pregnant with importance:

"Without the farmers' aid British Columbia must ever remain far beneath what she ought to be."

He thought those words had now been proved to be true, and that the policy of the present government was well in line with that the old governor had suggested.

Nell Mackay, member for Kaslo, moved the adjournment of the debate, which closed to-day.

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ENLARGES SCOPE OF EDUCATION

Public Schools to Be Supplemented by Technical Courses—Government's Programme for Increasing Facilities.

HON. DR. YOUNG GIVES INTERESTING DETAILS

Tells of Varied Work of His Department—Messrs. N. McKay and E. Miller Deal With Their Constituencies.

The argument known in the Aristotelian school of logic as the "defence by inference," has seldom found a clearer exposition in the Legislative Hall than that propounded by the Hon. Dr. H. E. Young, in closing the debate on the reply to the address from the Throne yesterday.

Basing his desiderata of proof on the premises that his department was essentially an expending, and not a revenue producing part of the Government, by close reasoning and the introduction of an array of figures he carried the Members step by step in his speech, until he showed that not only had such expenditure been carefully conceived and efficiently carried on, but he proved conclusively that such diversion of public funds had tended towards the efficient administration and material prosperity of the Province.

Dr. Young has long been regarded as one of the most able and eloquent speakers in the Legislature, but it is probable that in the presentation of the records of the several divisions of the work of the Government, under his control, he eclipsed all previous efforts. Dealing first of all with the record of the civil service, he passed to the work of the Board of Health during the year. Following this, he gave a review of the work of the Archives Department, and thereafter spoke at considerable length on the splendid record of the Colony Farm and the Mental Hospital at Coquitlam. Following this he launched into an analysis of the report of the expert on technical education, passing to a review of the progress made in the University of British Columbia. The attacks recently made on Dr. Westbrook for his alleged advocacy of a utilitarian course of study were warmly rebutted by the Minister, and in his closing words he pleaded for a broader spirit of optimism throughout the Province, condemning the cry of "blue rain" which of late had been freely circulated by the leaders of the Liberal party and their press.

Member for Kalso Speaks

The debate in reply to the address from the Throne was continued by Mr. Neil Mackay, Member for Kalso. He referred to the optimistic speeches that had been delivered the previous day by the Members for Rossland and Slocan, and said he was pleased to offer his own contribution regarding the prosperity of the mining industry in his constituency.

"I am glad to be able to say to the Members of this House that all is well with us in the mining world. We have had a series of dispiriting years. With the ore first discovered it was necessary to drive long tunnels and that required a heavy expenditure of money, but today the industry is working on a firm basis and prospects for the future are exceedingly bright."

Mr. Mackay referred to the work which the C. P. R. is doing at Kalso, and stated that the residents were looking forward to a period of great prosperity with the final railroad connection to the larger centres of the Province. Plans have been completed, he said, for the erection of extensive terminals at Kalso, and it was generally expected that these developments would materialize in benefits to the entire district. Since the mining industry had come into its own, he said, it had been found possible to develop the old mines which had been discarded for a time, and now production was being carried on in practically all the properties.

Agricultural Development

"But mining is not our only asset," said the Member for Kalso. "During the past year we had a considerable development in agriculture. New communities have sprung up and new territory has been brought under cultivation. I do not pretend that we are as productive in this regard as some of the more favored districts of the Province, but in point of quality we can easily hold our own with the best land in British Columbia."

Mr. Mackay dealt with the question of roads in his constituency, and admitted that the Government had been most generous in that regard. With the increasing settlement, however, and the ever-growing production, more roads were necessary, and he asked the Government to consider the requirements of the district in connection with the year's estimates.

"Dry-farming is one of the features of the year's work in the constituency which I have the honor to represent," continued Mr. Mackay. "The work is still in an experimental stage, but the results achieved so far are very hopeful and entirely worthy of the continued consideration of the Government. Should the experimental work prove an ultimate success, and we have every reason to think it will, thousands of acres of dry land can be brought under cultivation by the dry-farming method, land which under other circumstances would be altogether useless from an agricultural point of view."

Mr. Mackay concluded with a reference to the construction of a sailing ship on the Pitt River, and he predicted that with encouragement this industry might develop considerable strength, especially in view of the importance of sailing vessels in carrying the Province's timber to the markets of the world.

Deals With Doukhobors

Mr. E. Miller, Member for Grand Forks, continued the debate. He prefaced the subject matter of his address, which related to the Doukhobors, with a reference to the prosperous mining conditions in his constituency. He also referred to the agricultural industry and stated that during the year it had made rapid development.

The question of the Workmen's Compensation Act briefly engaged the attention of the Member. He pointed out that in many instances the object of the act, which he described as an economical method of settling disputes, had been defeated, and he cited a number of instances in which the costs had exceeded the amount of the claim. He suggested that the Government should adopt some legislation to relieve the condition of ill-feeling that existed between the employer and employee and referred to the act in operation in Oregon and Washington and commended it to their consideration.

"In regard to the Doukhobors," said Mr. Miller, "it has been said that some people appear to have the Doukhobor question on the brain. I, myself, have 'Doukhobor' on the brain, and practically everyone I have the honor to represent is in the same condition. I want to say in the first place that I am perfectly satisfied that the Provincial Government has done everything in its power to enforce the laws of the land, and in any criticisms I have to offer I would like it to be understood that there is no intention on my part to reflect upon the administration. The difficulty is not one of inaction on the part of the Government, but rather the lack of proper legislation, and I hope it will not be long before the Government sees its way to introduce a measure that will give the necessary power to handle this most vexing question."

Blames Peter Verigin

Mr. Miller proceeded to recount the complaints which the residents of Grand Forks have against the Doukhobors. They refused to recognize the laws of the land, he said, and, and openly boasted of their immunity. Not only had the Doukhobors created a feeling of dissatisfaction among the residents of Grand Forks, contended Mr. Miller, but they had been the means of affecting the land values of the district. That they affected settlement was one of the most unfortunate features of the situation, and he looked to the Government to go into the question thoroughly and see what could be done with a view to bringing the recalcitrants into line. He did not suggest that they should be driven out of the Province, but he maintained that any community that refused to abide by the laws of the land might as well pack up and go, and the sooner the better. He attributed the attitude of the Doukhobors to the personality of Peter Verigin, who, he said, controlled them absolutely.

Mr. Miller then took up the report of the commissioner on the subject and commended the thorough manner in which the task had been handled by Mr. W. Blakemore. He drew attention to one part of the report, however, in which it was stated that a telegram from himself had been construed as meaning that the presence of the Doukhobors had had no ill effects upon the land values and that they were as high as ever. He desired to correct this view and expressed his surprise that it should ever have been made.

Where the Onus Rests

"But there is one phase of this question that has never been touched upon," continued Mr. Miller, "and to my mind it is of considerable importance. We find in the Liberal press of today a great deal of criticism of the present administration in regard to the Doukhobors, and I think it is only right that the blame should be placed where it belongs. The Doukhobors came into Canada through an agreement made by the Liberal administration at Ottawa. They came over the country to Saskatchewan and when they migrated into British Columbia we had no power to stop them because there is no provision in the statutes to deal with such a problem."

"The Liberal Government at Ottawa sent out a commissioner to inquire into the question of the Doukhobors, proposed immigration to this country, and it must be presumed that the commissioner was aware of their habits and modes of thought, but in spite of that the agreement was ratified by the Government and the Doukhobors came to this country. I understand also that the sum of \$5 a head was paid for their immigration and an extra \$1.50 was paid them to assist in their transportation. I would like to bring these facts before the attention of our Liberal friends in this Province when they are criticizing this administration in regard to the Doukhobors."

Mr. Miller briefly described the difficulties that had been encountered in securing evidence from the Doukhobors. One of them had been asked the question if he would report to the authorities any case of murder that might occur, and he replied in the negative. As to whether they would punish the criminal the answer again came in the negative, and finally it was stated that the murderer would be punished "in his own conscience."

Speaks of Dr. Westbrook

The debate was brought to a conclusion by Dr. H. E. Young, who in a spirited defence of Dr. Westbrook, the chosen head of the new University of British Columbia, took issue with his opponents on the subject of the newspaper criticism, which, he said, had recently circulated to the effect that Dr. Westbrook intended to subordinate the humanities to purely utilitarian subjects.

Leaving the question of the University, he outlined the reports submitted by Mr. G. H. Dean, who was sent to Europe to inquire into the latest methods of technical education, and he intimated that proposals would be brought down involving a radical change in this branch of the work, which would enable every boy and girl in the Province to obtain the advantages of technical instruction.

With reference to the Provincial University, Dr. Young spoke of the progress that had been made since the question was mooted in 1907. He referred to the appointment of Dr. Westbrook as president, to the selection of a board of governors, the completion of a group plan for the buildings, and the present tour of the president in search of material for the University staff.

"I confidently expect that when the University opens its doors in 1915 we will have fully 1,000 students enrolled," said Dr. Young. "That figure may appear somewhat optimistic, but I can inform you that it is based on the number of students doing University work at the present time. In this connection I may say that we have arranged with the Royal Institution at Vancouver for an extension of their course, so that students attending that institution and being desirous of graduating may complete their course with the Province."

Comments on Criticism

Commenting upon the criticism which had been leveled against Dr. Westbrook since his address at the Canadian Club in the City of Victoria, Dr. Young stated that there was no reason in the world to suppose that the president had any intention of subordinating the humanities to the material side of the University, and quoted at length an address delivered by Dr. Westbrook in Winnipeg on the occasion of the irrestiture of the new president of the Manitoba University to demonstrate the true attitude of Dr. Westbrook.

"We feel that in Dr. Westbrook we have a man to whom we may readily commit the responsibility of our University," said Dr. Young. "His association with this department and with the board of governors has already proved entirely satisfactory, and we are looking forward to his work in the administration of the University with the greatest of confidence. He is now engaged on the important work of selecting the deans of faculty, and, upon his return, we expect to take up the task of organizing courses."

Best Educational Efforts

Continuing, Dr. Young said: "Any school system that becomes satisfied with its own accomplishment, and neglects to consider both the general educational movement of the times, and the specific educational problems of other communities, will of necessity tend to deteriorate. It is very important that the department become informed as to the best educational efforts that are being put forward elsewhere."

It was for this reason, said Dr. Young, that the Department authorized Mr. Dean, Assistant Superintendent of Education, to investigate more particularly the schemes of technical education in vogue in the United States, England, Germany and Switzerland. He said that in his report Mr. Dean stated that he was satisfied that our elementary schools provide good preparatory training along broad cultural lines, which are not excelled anywhere else in the world.

In dealing with the question of the enlargement of the scope of technical education, Dr. Young said that it would be the aim of the department to extend the manual training and domestic science work to districts which do not at present benefit from this important branch of education, and to revise the nature study courses so as to give rural districts an opportunity of emphasizing on elementary agriculture in connection with school gardens.

Secondary Schools

"In this way," said the Minister, "our public schools will provide a good general education and a sound preparation for all classes of students." In dealing with the question of secondary schools, Dr. Young said that the present course provides a preparation with a distinct bias towards the professions, and that the aim of the department would be to enlarge the scope of secondary work so as to give boys and girls who are able to take a 3 or 4-year course in the high school a good grounding in the common essentials, and at the same time differentiating in special work so meet all classes.

Continued from page 1.

In outlining the several classes of students for which such education would be provided, he mentioned university matriculation courses, teachers' non-professional courses, special commercial training, technical training for those who enter applied science colleges or higher technical institutions, technical training for those taking agriculture or intending to enter agricultural colleges, and training for home life.

Under these proposals suggested by Mr. Dean there would be classes for boys who can only remain in high school for two years, with special technical training to fit them for their chosen vocations, together with good general training. It was also proposed to provide special instruction for boys and girls who have to leave school at fourteen, giving them an opportunity of attending a few hours each week at continuation schools.

A special feature of the proposed system of technical education would provide for technical evening classes for adults, in order that they may extend their knowledge by a system of vocational training, such work being adapted to the particular needs of the community.

"At the present time our high schools only provide for ten per cent of our students," said Dr. Young, "and at the end of their elementary training they must either go to work or be financially able to continue their studies at the university."

"Small Matters"

He made a reference to the presence in the House of Mr. W. W. Foster, Member for the Islands, whom he welcomed cordially, and to the absence of Mr. Justice McPhillips, who formerly represented the same constituency. He then proceeded to rebut the criticism of Mr. Williams, Member for Newcastle, in regard to expenditure, and pointed out that the objections of that honorable Member were confined to very small matters indeed.

Dealing with the advance that had been made in the civil service system during the past few years, Dr. Young indicated that still further improvements were in contemplation.

"Several years ago, when we first took hold of the civil service, it was in a very unsatisfactory condition," he said. "Men were not inclined to give of their best because the rewards did not appear commensurate with the effort. The measure which was brought down by myself was put into operation, and since then the service has greatly improved. An increase in pay was granted and the whole service was placed upon a working basis, and now we have a service that compares favorably with many others. In going into it nowadays men realized that it was a lifework, and they were prepared to give of their best because the rewards had been brought up to a point that appeared commensurate with the work."

Printing Department

Dr. Young referred briefly to the printing and museum departments of the Government, and characterized them both as spending departments. He stated that the printing department was one of the best in the Dominion, but on account of the increasing business they had about reached the limit of their capacity for production. In regard to the museum he pointed out that the accommodation was inadequate, and that many of the most valuable specimens had to be stored. That difficulty would be negotiated shortly, however, with the completion of the new museum, he said.

Proceeding to discuss the Board of Health Department, Dr. Young emphasized that it was becoming more important every day.

"The board of health department is being re-organized," he said. "This in my mind, is the most important department in our jurisdiction, in as much as it relates to the health of the community of the Province, to the question of sanitation, and the many other important questions related to health. He referred to the new branches that have been established by the department, mentioning the inspection of logging camps, the supervision of hospitals, and the medical inspection of the schools.

Original Documents

Dr. Young also made a passing reference to the archives department, and stated that this branch was rapidly assuming a very important aspect. He stated that the original documents relating to the early history of the Province were being gathered together so that the future historian of the Province would be in possession of the necessary data without having to go to the trouble of searching for them.

He regarded the department connected with the hospitals, charities, and asylums as one of the most important connected with the administration. During last year the sum of \$750,000 was spent upon hospitals, charities and asylums, he said. He referred to the Provincial Sanatorium at Kamloops, and pointed out the development work that had been accomplished in connection with that institution.

Dealing with the question of caring for the insane, which he described as an obligation resting upon the Province, he said that the percentage of insane people in the population of the country was rapidly increasing, or rather that the number of them cared for in this manner was greatly increasing. He said that it had been necessary to add two storeys to the institution at New Westminster to cope with the increased admissions.

Increasing Needs

Dr. Young then entered upon a discussion upon the education system of the Province and showed how the increasing needs of the growing population were being met.

"The educational system of the Province has made greater progress than any other department of the Government," he said. "It has been most difficult for the Province to keep pace with

the abnormal growth of the population. The number of school attendants had increased enormously during the past year, and when the reports come in again in June I expect them to show another increase of from 15,000 to 20,000. We have been criticized in some quarters for building ahead of time, but although we honestly attempted to build ahead of time very considerably, we have failed. In Kaslo we have built a magnificent school, which, when conceived, was understood to provide for the growth of a number of years, and already we are informed that it is too small and it has not been opened yet. That is the sort of thing we have to contend with all over the Province.

"In this connection I would like to issue a slight note of warning to municipalities and school boards. While the Government has been very generous in the matter of assistance for the construction of new schools I cannot promise that this procedure will be continued. It is time for us to go a little slow in this regard. It must not be understood that the Government is not in accord with the educational advancement of the Province, but simply that in this particular matter it has been decided to pursue a more moderate policy than has been pursued during the past two or three years.

New Normal School

"We are not curtailing our expenditure upon education. That is best evidenced by the vast sums we propose spending upon the new University and upon the new normal school. In regard to the normal school, when the necessity for it was fully realized, it was decided that it would be better to have it established in the Capital, as its administration is directly responsible to the Education Department of the Province. I may say that it is the intention of the department to inaugurate several new features in the normal school. These may be described generally as manual training, domestic science and technical work.

"In our consideration of this question of the normal school we were impressed with the facts that very few students take advantage of any classes above the secondary or public school grade, that only about 10 per cent graduated to the high school, and that probably not more than 50 per cent of that number completed their courses at the high school. It was felt that the State, generous as it was, should not allow such discrimination to go on. It was felt that if the majority of the pupils could not go to the large centres and complete their courses it was necessary for the department to adopt such methods as would make possible the dissemination of a high educational standard throughout the country by means of the normal school teacher. We wish to establish our facilities in connection with the normal school, so that our teachers going to other cities or to rural places will be able to train their scholars along the lines laid down at the central teaching institution, namely, the normal school.

"It is the desire of the department, through the normal school, to afford guidance to the young boys and girls of the country as to what vocation they shall follow in after life, instead of leaving them, as at present, to take up the first thing that comes along."

Dr. Young concluded his remarks with a reference to his own constituency. He stated that in Atlin they did not know anything about the money stringency except by hearsay, and he attributed that to the fact that they worked there for their money instead of waiting around the corner until the price of real estate went up.

His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor transmitted a bill to amend the Trust Deeds Act, and recommended it to the Legislature. After going into committee of the whole the question was reported and the bill read a first time. It will come up for second reading on Monday.

On the motion of the Hon. Price Ellison, Minister of Finance, it was resolved that the speech of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor at the opening of the session, be taken into consideration on Friday next.

A bill to validate an agreement between the district of Burnaby and the city of New Westminster for the building of a main trunk sewer was introduced by the Attorney-General, read a first time, and ordered to be placed on the order paper for a second reading on Monday.

Mr. Williams gave notice of his intention to ask when instructions were given to all chief constables that all special as well as regular constables must be British subjects, and when sworn in must take the oath of allegiance. Also what proof of citizenship is required of special constables.

Mr. Williams will also ask the cost of the new portion of the Victoria-Campbell River road built last season.

Colonist Editorial
Jan 31/1914

Saturday, January 31, 1914

AN ABLE SPEECH

Dr. H. E. Young's contribution to the debate on the Address was a notable one, because of the close reasoning power he displayed and the lucid manner in which he covered the work of the various branches of the department over which he so ably presides. He spoke at greater length than is his habit, but we question if there was anything which those who heard him would have wished unsaid. He dealt with matters which are essential to all development that is conceived along rightly directed lines. His department is a spending one, and in common with other branches of administrative activity, has been the subject of attack by the Liberal party and the Liberal papers in the Province. In many cases the Minister of Education did not reply directly to the vague criticisms that have been advanced. It would have been quite unnecessary for him to do so, for the record of achievement upon which he based his speech was in itself a conclusive rebuttal of the attacks that have been made by the opponents of the Government. Dr. Young's ability and his ready grasp of those matters which come within his purview have seldom been shown to greater advantage than in his effort of yesterday. He gave the Legislature an exhibition of his close knowledge of those matters with which he dealt, reflected the keen enthusiasm which marks his attention to his multifarious duties, and in addition proved beyond doubt that the expenditures of Provincial revenue for which his department is responsible have been so distributed as to produce the best results for the Province as a whole.

SAYS DOUKH MENACE TO

Hot Shot From
Grand Forks;
Also S

There are, happily, no servatives in the who are not afraid own minds, even a clash with the view tion.

Of these is Erne getic member for again detailed to the intense dissatisfaction of the failure of compel the Doukh as at Brilliant, to the land. Whatever may do, Mr. Miller government for the pressed confidence legislation from th will act like a char

In continuing the his temerity in ris debate by the imp which he had to dis of his constituents. the pith of his sp ever, but when he d

"We have in the Grand Forks a col do not obey our law that they will sub their own ideas. If happy and contente community must of land and subordina to ours. Honorabl think that I have ti on the brain. I everybody in the di the honor to repre brag about this disr are not content wi obey the law, but c tell our people that palled to do so. I r ties in the way whei last year, and I an erament has done to enforce the laws so far as the Doukh ed, but the difficult does not meet the i will have to be intr

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"Had I the time I not only do they di which control mor boasted morality th world as the basis myth. They absolut sider the marriage voice laws, and it h yond doubt that di place within their c ties remarrying. (with us when we co holly that we are bulations in, con colony? It is ful ingers to say that religious belief to to school, since it the commissioner t advised them to ser school. But while the truth of the n are to-day held pr afraid to disagree Verigin. They say t to their religious b consider how their that Peter Verigin land, that no mem ty has any tangib interest in the pr munity, that when has broken away has been turned c sideration or recom some reason why t willing to submit man Verigin.

"They have three hordes of their peo Peter Verigin appr editor with an ad that six thousand that any person d should apply to his by made the threat

SAYS DOUKHOBORS ARE MENACE TO COMMUNITY

Hot Shot From Member for
Grand Forks; Neil Mackay
Also Speaks

There are, happily, one or two Conservatives in the legislative chamber who are not afraid of speaking their own minds, even should their opinions clash with the views of the administration.

Of these is Ernest Miller, the energetic member for Grand Forks, who again detailed to the house yesterday the intense dissatisfaction which the people of his district feel as a result of the failure of the government to compel the Doukhobor colony there, as at Brilliant, to observe the laws of the land. Whatever his constituents may do, Mr. Miller did not blame the government for this failure, but expressed confidence that the promised legislation from the attorney-general will act like a charm.

In continuing the debate, he excused his temerity in rising so late in the debate by the importance of matters which he had to discuss in the interests of his constituents. He did not reach the pith of his speech directly, however, but when he did he said:

"We have in the neighborhood of Grand Forks a colony of people who do not obey our laws, who openly state that they will subordinate these to their own ideas. If we are to have a happy and contented people the whole community must obey the laws of the land and subordinate their own laws to ours. Honorable gentlemen may think that I have the Doukhobor question on the brain. I have, and so has everybody in the district which I have the honor to represent. These people brag about this disregard of law. They are not content with quiet refusal to obey the law, but come into town and tell our people that they are not compelled to do so. I realized the difficulties in the way when the premier spoke last year, and I am satisfied the government has done everything possible to enforce the laws of the province in so far as the Doukhobors are concerned, but the difficulty is that the law does not meet the situation. Measures will have to be introduced to that end.

Is a Myth.

"Had I the time I could tell you that not only do they disregard the statutes which control morals, but that the boasted morality they proclaim to the world as the basis of their belief is a myth. They absolutely refuse to consider the marriage laws and the divorce laws, and it has been proved beyond doubt that divorces have taken place within their community, the parties remarrying. Can you find fault with us when we complain bitterly and hotly that we are not satisfied with conditions in connection with that colony? It is futile for Doukhobor leaders to say that it is against their religious belief to send their children to school, since it was proved before the commissioner that Peter Verigin advised them to send their children to school. But while Verigin did do this the truth of the matter is that they are to-day held practically as slaves, afraid to disagree with the will of Verigin. They say their actions are due to their religious belief, but when you consider how their property is held—that Peter Verigin has title to all the land, that no member of the community has any tangible evidence of any interest in the property of the community, that whenever any Doukhobor has broken away from the colony he has been turned out with little consideration or recompense—you will see some reason why these individuals are willing to submit to the rule of this man Verigin.

"They have threatened to bring in hordes of their people from Russia, and Peter Verigin approached a newspaper editor with an advertisement stating that six thousand were coming in and that any person desiring to sell land should apply to him. They have openly made the threat in the Kettle valley

that they would buy land at their own price. The commissioner in his report says that the price of land has not been affected by the presence of these people. I know differently; I know that people object to having the Doukhobors purchase land next them; I have one case in mind where a farm was sold at two-thirds its value to escape them."

Mr. Miller had a bone to pick with Commissioner Blakemore on this point, and explained how he had come to pen a certain remark which the commissioner had quoted, unfairly he claimed. Concluding his references to this subject the member for Grand Forks tried to place the blame for the trouble with the Doukhobors on the Liberal government during the regime of which they first entered Canada, but said nothing about the failure of the Conservative government of British Columbia to enforce the laws of the province among those who came here. He closed with a quotation from the evidence where a Doukhobor stated that if one of them murdered another they would not report the matter nor punish the murderer, whose only punishment would be in his own conscience!

Advocates Changes.

Before reaching the main portion of his speech Mr. Miller spoke of the great output of copper in the Boundary country, hoped the labor commission would recommend some changes in the workmen's compensation act, which would prevent its being the most expensive means of securing damages—he had known solicitors' costs being twice the amount of the award—and declared that something should be done to insist on the Kettle Valley railway carrying out its agreement and constructing into Franklin camp.

Spoke Briefly.

Neil F. Mackay (Kaslo), experienced parliamentarian as he is, assured the house at the outset that he would not detain them with any lengthy address at this stage of the debate, and he kept his word. Following the optimistic tone of previous speakers in regard to their respective districts he remarked:

"All well with us" in Kaslo, with prospects bright for mining and progress and development in agriculture. Communities were springing up and settlers were coming in, who confined themselves largely to fruit-growing. Mr. Mackay lauded the minister of lands for support to dry farming, and declared that hundreds of thousands of acres of land would be brought under cultivation by this means, but he failed to point out where this large area of land would be found.

Mr. Mackay mentioned the interesting fact that to-day there would be launched at Port Coquitlam what is the largest sailing vessel built in British Columbia and the first to enter the foreign trade. This is the Coquitlam City, a vessel of nine hundred tons burthen, which will carry one million feet of lumber.

Parker Williams had four questions on the order paper at the session of the house yesterday afternoon, which Mr. Bowser answered, all referring to land registration. The first was as follows: "1. Did the Hon. Mr. Justice Morrison, during 1913, deliver a judgment dealing with the filing of subdivision maps?"

"2. How many maps were held up or awaiting action at the date of judgment?"

"3. How many subdivision maps were held for action on 31st December, 1913?"

Mr. Bowser replied as follows:

"1. (a.) Mr. Justice Morrison, on 3rd July, 1913, decided, in ex parte Williams, 38 British Columbia reports, 248, that an owner might encumber any designated portion of a lot shown on a subdivision plan without necessitating a statutory resubdivision, on any division such as is contemplated by section 90 of the 'Land Registry act.'"

"(b.) Mr. Justice Morrison, on 14th August, 1913, decided that it is not obligatory, under paragraph (a), subsection (2), section 90, of the 'Land Registry act,' to show new roads or streets around the external boundaries of subdivisions; but that if same are shown they must be at least thirty-three feet in width unless the attorney-general otherwise orders."

"2. (a.) None on 3rd July.

"(b.) Probably ten or twelve on 14th August awaiting the consideration or signature of the attorney-general."

"3. Two hundred and forty-seven in all; one in the attorney-general's department and 273 in the different land registry offices. All but ten of these were held because of defects in the plans, because the title was not indefeasible, for payment of fees or for other fault of the depositor. Ten (four of which had only been deposited on 29th December) were awaiting attention and examination in the different offices. The ten were dealt with and disposed of within a few days after 31st December."

The member for Newcastle further asked:

"1. How many applications to register: (a) absolute fees, (b) indefeasible fees, (c) mortgages, were received at the land registry offices at Victoria and Vancouver in 1913?"

"2. How many written notices with objections to register titles or charges were issued by the land registry offices in Victoria and Vancouver in 1913?"

The minister's reply was:

"1. Victoria—(a) absolute, 4,699; (b) indefeasible, 6,229; (c) mortgages, 3,467. Vancouver—(a) absolute, 10,146; (b) indefeasible, 8,976; (c) mortgages, 4,905."

"2. Victoria, 3,861; Vancouver, 5,189."

Mr. Williams was naturally curious, as everyone who has to do with the land registry office, to know what rules govern these places. He asked:

"1. Are the rules prepared by the inspector of legal offices, and enforced in the land registry offices of the province, printed or published in any and what manner?"

"2. How do the people transacting business at the land registry offices find out what rules are in force?"

"3. If said rules are changed or repealed, what notice (if any) is given or published?"

"4. How are the public to learn of any such alteration or repeal of said rules?"

The answer he got was this:

"1. In making uniform the practice in the different land registry offices, the inspector of legal offices decides which of the different practices in vogue in the different land registry offices is most satisfactory, and instructs the registrars in writing accordingly. Such instructions arise out of concrete cases, and usually follow inquiries by registrars or decisions of judges of the Supreme court; such instructions are communicated by the registrars to the parties concerned. They are not printed or published. In nearly all cases such instructions merely deal with the routine work of the offices."

"2. Answered by No. 1.

"4. In the same manner as when first issued."

"4. In the same manner as when first issued; by inquiries at the land registry office in connection with their application."

"How many post-cards were issued by the land registry offices of Victoria and Vancouver during 1913, as the sole evidence of the registration of titles or charges? Mr. Williams asked."

Mr. Bowser replied: "No post-cards were issued in 1913 as sole evidence or any evidence of the registration of titles or charges. Post-cards notifying applicants that their registrations had been completed were approximately as follows: Victoria, 6,250; Vancouver, 12,200."

Following up Mr. Bowser's statement that chief constables are instructed that all constables must be British subjects Mr. Williams will on Monday ask: "When were instructions given to all chief constables that all special as well as regular constables must be British subjects, and when sworn in must take the oath of allegiance? What proof of citizenship (if any) is required of special constables?"

The private bills committee will meet on Tuesday morning next to take up the city of Victoria bill.

SPOKE OF EDUCATION IN ENDING DEBATE

Hon. Dr. Young in a Long
Speech Dealt Also With
Mental Hospital

Having spent a fortnight debating the address in reply to the speech from the throne the house yesterday afternoon ended what has largely degenerated into a continuous course of adulation of the government by its supporters. The debate has lasted somewhat longer this session than it usually does. With the house constituted as it now is the only chances members get to air their views and their abilities as speakers are on the address and the budget.

The debate closed with a lengthy speech by the minister of education. There was in Dr. Young's remarks yesterday a little of defence of the administration of which he is a member, but not very much. He spent most of the time in detailing the operations of the hospital for mental diseases and the farm colony at Essondale, of the success of which he is very proud, and in foreshadowing the technical education scheme which he intends to submit to his colleagues. This he purposes to place under the care of Inspector George H. Deane, as a separate branch of the education department, and the headquarters of the system is to be in the Victoria Normal school, now in course of erection on Lansdowne road.

Hon. Dr. Young deemed it well to deal with the speech from the throne and the debate, inasmuch as his own department had been mentioned more than once. First taking up some of the references in the speeches he eulogized the old and new members for the islands. The former president of the council he spoke of as a man who had endeared himself to the house and the people by his upright, honest conduct, and his attention to detail and public business. Answering the criticisms from the other side in regard to expenditure Dr. Young, as minister in charge of a large spending department without revenue, defended the large appropriations he had asked. Beginning with the civil service he claimed that the changes made were bringing about better service at a lower cost generally. The printing bureau, the museum and the archives were all valuable assets of the province. At Kamloops the home for men who had grown old in the province, chiefly as prospectors and miners, was an institution which called for a large outlay but a commendable one. Hospitals, charities and asylums had required the expenditure of three-quarters of a million dollars last year in aid of hospitals, salaries of district physicians and upkeep of asylums.

Speaking of insanity, Dr. Young said the percentage of the world's population which was afflicted with mental disorders was largely increasing. In this province the proportion had grown from 1 in 550 of the population in 1900 to 1 in 300 in 1913. At the end of last year there were 919 patients in the provincial hospital for mental diseases, an increase of one hundred per cent in five years. As a result of his management of this department, Dr. Young said, the per capita cost of patients in 1913 was 47 2-10c. daily, while at the same time the accommodation and food compared more than favorably with any similar institution on this continent.

When he came to the department in 1907, the provincial secretary said, he found conditions at New Westminster deplorable, with antiquated methods of treatment, and his first order was that all this should be changed. To-day, in the mental hospital at Essondale, there were no dark or padded cells, no strait jackets, none of the cruel and harmful methods of an older time, and he was able to say with pride that the system in use in this province was being adopted elsewhere. It is recognized now that all cases of functional insanity can be cured, and the record of 23 2-3 per cent. of the number of admissions, Dr. Young considered, was a

justification of all the expenditure made. At the same time he maintained that apart from this there had been an avoidance of reckless extravagance on the one side and extreme cheapness, amounting to meanness, on the other hand which should meet the commendation of the province. In this connection Dr. Young described what is being done on the Retreat farm, and promised that within two or three years the institution will be self-supporting.

The educational system of British Columbia, the minister declared, showed greater advance and progress than any other department of government activity. There had been an increase in the number of school children attending school in the year ending June 30 last of 7,500, and this number would be more than double in the current year. Touching on the amount spent on school buildings by the government, the minister sounded a warning to municipalities—as might be expected in view of the urgent need to borrow money to carry on the ordinary operations of the province—that they must not expect the government to give the same generous aid to building as during the past couple of years. It was time to go a little slower in further erection, especially in the line of modern fads and the carrying out of additions to the curriculum that might not prove to be worth while.

In respect to technical education, Dr. Young told of his appointment of Inspector Deane to investigate, of the inspector's valuable report and of his own preparedness to submit a scheme for the carrying out of technical work in British Columbia, it being practically certain that the federal government would not fall in with the recommendations of the royal commission on technical education. While not perhaps immediately, the provincial government was decided on carrying out its own inspector's report.

Inspector Deane had reported that the elementary education system in British Columbia was good, but there was needed an extension of manual training and domestic science to districts which could not get these advantages now, and the revision of nature courses so as to give rural schools an opportunity to specialize in agriculture. The secondary schools he found to have too decided a bias towards the professional, forgetting actual work and workingmen.

Dr. Young explained briefly what his proposals in regard to technical education will be. For the boy or girl who is financially able to take a four-year course in the high school there will be selective courses. If going to the university, they will get a university matriculation course; if choosing teaching, a teachers' non-professional course; if going into business, a special commercial training; technical courses for those who purpose to enter an applied science college or higher educational institution, taking up agriculture or entering an agriculture college; and, lastly, training for home life.

For boys who can only spend two years in high school there will be special technical training to fit them for their chosen calling, with a good general education. Boys leaving the common school at fourteen or thereabouts will have an opportunity to attend classes at convenient hours, which will be in the nature of continuation courses, with the same teachers and subjects. For artisans there will be technical evening classes.

Dr. Young expects to see one thousand students in the freshman class when the University of British Columbia opens in the fall of 1915, and he bases this optimistic estimate on the number of students from this province who are now taking university courses. Replying to critics of a recent address of President Westbrook, the minister said that the head of the university had never said that the institution was going to be entirely utilitarian, but that he had meant to point out that it would proceed along the best lines for the advancement of the students. In proof of this he quoted from an address of the president at the inauguration of the president of the University of Manitoba, when he described the function of the university as the meeting of "all the needs of all the people."

The formal motion for the adoption of a loyal address was then passed without division and the address was ordered to be presented to his honor by members of the executive council. The minister of finance made the equally formal motion that the address be taken into consideration on Friday next, but this does not mean that the budget will be ready then, nor will it be for some considerable time after that date.

The attorney-general introduced two bills, one to amend the Creditors' Trust Deed act as to registration of assignments, and the other to validate an agreement between Burnaby and New Westminster for the building of a trunk sewer.

THE D LEGISLATION TO BE

Hon. W. J. Bowser
Natures
to Trust Co
Routine Wor

The session of the day was devoted of amendments to for the operations tions and societies within the provision Act.

There was practical on the eight bills Attorney-General, standardizing legislation except for some re Parker Williams, castle.

That the new me trust companies, fo Bowser's speech at weeks ago, will be s dicated by some r dealing with the qu ment to the Benevo

Trust Com
The trust comp will shortly introd prehensive and se Attorney-General, that several trus operating will be o doors when the n effect."

The first bill intr aer was the Act to which was brought day of the session. one, and an explan visions was suffic House. It passed without discussion dent voice.

In introducing th provisions of the ec workings of the C Attorney-General c object was to obtai formity for all con the Province. He s several companies charters granted by working entirely it was in order to giv as well as the inv of keeping in touc and transactions of ganizations that th had been brought : cases the registr elightly increased, done for the put rather than with an their operations.

Mr. Williams
The Charitable A passed without disc ing this, Mr. Bowser same lines on the l ident Societies Act, its second reading, was the Literary s was one of those in tion fee had been t \$10. This increas date protest from l who said that he th arment might find of replenishing an than by using such the provisions of th Sir Richard McBr ply to Mr. Williams object of the Act reguatory of joint keep in touch with the operations of t and that the amou treasury through a was so infinitesim be seriously regard the bill.

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1914

1914
VICTORIA, VANCOUVER ISLAND, BRITISH COLUMBIA, FRIDAY, JANUARY 16, 1914

SECOND SESSION OF LEGISLATURE

Opening Yesterday Accompanied by Usual Ceremonies, With Large and Brilliant Assemblage.

MEASURES INDICATED GOVERNOR'S SPEECH

First Government Bill of Session Relates to Quality of Milk Supply—Member for Islands Is Introduced.

The second session of the Thirteenth Legislature of the Province of British Columbia was opened yesterday, by His Honor Lieutenant-Governor Paterson, with the quiet dignity that has marked the opening ceremony in former years.

Sharp on the stroke of 3 o'clock, His Honor, who was accompanied from Government House to the Legislative Chamber by his private secretary, Mr. H. J. S. Musket, and attended by Captain B. H. Tyrwhitt Drake, A. D. C., arrived at the Legislative Buildings, in front of which stood a guard of honor from the 8th Fusiliers, under the command of Captain C. A. Moorhead, who had with him Lieutenants Collinson and Major. The band of the regiment struck up the national anthem, and the entrance of the Lieutenant-Governor into the House of Parliament was watched by a large crowd of sightseers, who had assembled several hours previously.

On his arrival at the portals of the Legislative Chamber, His Honor was met by an escort of officers, composed of the officers of the Algonquin and the Rainbow, the staff of the permanent corps of the district and the officers of the several regiments of militia in the city. The party preceded His Honor into the chamber and formed a double line, through which Lieutenant-Governor Paterson passed to the Speaker's chair.

There was a large attendance of invited guests, who were seated on the floor of the House and in the north and west galleries. The general public, who were admitted to the east and south galleries, had taken their seats early in the afternoon, and the gay dresses of the ladies with the sombre frock coats of the men, enlivened by the brilliant uniforms of the officers, made an attractive pageant.

Before the arrival of His Honor, Mr. Speaker Eberts, preceded by the sergeant-at-arms carrying the mace, had, for a short time, taken his usual place, but on the heralded approach of the Lieutenant-Governor, Mr. Speaker Eberts left the chair.

The Speech

Lieutenant-Governor Paterson, speaking from the chair beneath the throne, said:

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly:

In welcoming you to the second session of the Thirteenth Parliament of British Columbia, it affords me pleasure to state that the Province has enjoyed a large share of advancement and prosperity during the past year.

Prevailing conditions in the money market have delayed the payment to the Government of large sums outstanding on account of the sale of townsite and district lands; but these amounts are bearing a profitable rate of interest. Treasury notes have been issued for the sum of \$1,500,000, and legislation affecting the Revenue Act and providing for a provisional loan will be submitted to you. The high standing of British Columbia's credit, I am pleased to observe, still continues.

Under authority of the legislation enacted last year, the Auditor-General's office has been instituted.

The liberal appropriations made by you at the last session for public works have enabled further extensions to be made to the highways of the Province, and, as well, have aided in opening up the Central and Northern parts of British Columbia. Suitable public buildings have been constructed, where necessary, in order to increase the efficiency of the public service.

London Building

Negotiations for the site of the provincial building in London have been concluded, and work is in progress preparatory to the erection of the structure. The new mental hospital at Escondido has been completed and is occupied. Satisfactory progress has been made on the additions to the Parliament Buildings; a portion of these will be available for use in a short time.

While there have been unfortunate troubles in the coal-mining districts of Vancouver Island, the output of our mines during the year has been most satisfactory. Based on reliable information, reports indicate that the outlook for increased development in this industry is most assuring.

Vigorous work has been carried on by the Department of Lands. Under the supervision of the Surveyor-General surveys of large sections of the public domain have been carried out and new maps compiled. The water and forest branches, now regularly organized, have already given most valuable results. Measures will be submitted for your approval dealing with the water and timber resources.

For the more effective working of the laws with regard to the registration of land, it is proposed to amend the present Act.

Following the report of the Municipal Commission, you will be asked to consider a bill to amend and consolidate the laws relating to municipalities, including provision for the establishment of a municipal department under the Government.

Trust Companies

Among other important measures to be laid before you will be one dealing with trust companies; also an amendment to the Schools Act, and the consolidation of the game laws.

The Royal Commission on Agriculture has been steadily prosecuting its inquiries and is now engaged in preparing a report. Much good has attended the endeavors of the Agricultural Department to bring about co-operation among the growers in respect to shipping and marketing farm products; on the whole, the progress of this important industry throughout the Province has been most substantial.

The inquiry into the conditions of labor has been completed by the Royal Commission charged with that duty; the evidence collected and findings arrived at will be placed before you during the present session.

It is expected that the report of the commissioner appointed under the Public Inquiries Act to investigate matters affecting the price of coal in the Province will be duly laid before the House.

The organization of the new Provincial University at Point Grey has been proceeded with the governing body formed, and the president appointed. You will be asked to sanction an appropriation towards the erection of the University buildings.

The output of the fisheries of British Columbia now ranks first in the Dominion. Various questions affecting this industry, submitted jointly by the Province and the Dominion, relative to certain constitutional rights, have been settled by the Privy Council. The effect of this judgment does not impair nor limit the usefulness of the provincial department.

Civil Service Act

The Civil Service Act, having been in force for a sufficient time to test its utility, is found to be working beneficially.

The First Minister, with the Minister of Lands, attended, as representatives of British Columbia, the conference of the Provinces held in Ottawa in October last, and a report of the proceedings will be presented to the House.

The construction of railways in the Province has progressed most satisfactorily. You will be asked to consider measures aimed at facilitating the object of the legislation already approved.

By virtue of an Order-in-Council approved by His Royal Highness the Governor-General, Mr. Z. A. Lash, K. C., of Toronto, and Mr. E. V. Bodwell, K. C., of Victoria, have been selected to represent respectively the Federal and Provincial interests on the commission presently to assemble for the purpose of investigating the claims of the Province for better terms. A request has been formally made to the Colonial Secretary for the appointment of the third member. As soon as this is completed with it is expected that the inquiry will be undertaken. Meanwhile the case for the Province has been prepared and filed with the secretary of the commission.

The public accounts for the past fiscal year will be laid before you, and the estimates of expenditure will also be submitted for your consideration.

These and all other matters which may be brought before you will, I feel assured, receive your careful and earnest attention.

Formal Proceedings

At the conclusion of the reading of the address, His Honor proceeded through the chamber, the double line of officers enfilading as he passed out.

The mace, the signal of the Speaker's authority, again approached, and Mr.

Speaker Eberts too his seat in his accustomed place. A reading desk was brought in, and, standing in front of the Speaker, robed in his academical garb and with pectoral cross and his Episcopal ring as the symbols of his high office, the Bishop of Columbia read the well-known prayer from the Liturgy of the Church of England.

On his retirement, Mr. Thornton Fell, K. C., clerk of the House, read the certificate of election announcing that Mr. W. W. Foster had been regularly elected as member for the Islands constituency to fill the vacancy caused by the elevation of Mr. Justice McPhillips during the recess of Parliament.

Premier McBride and Mr. H. B. Thompson, chief whip, then left the House and returned through the north door with their arms enlinked with those of the new member, who was greeted with the only applause that was heard in the chamber during the session as he approached Mr. Speaker Eberts to shake hands on his admission as a member of the Assembly. Mr. Foster took the last seat furthest from the Speaker on the west side, and immediately afterwards Mr. Richard McBride rose to make the formal motions attendant on the opening of the session.

After the usual order with regard to the printing of the votes and proceedings of the House, it was agreed that the select standing committees of the House be appointed for the following purposes: On standing orders and private bills; on private accounts; on printing; on railways; on mining; on agriculture and on municipal matters.

First Bill

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. Bowser the first bill of the session, entitled an Act to amend the Milk Act, was ordered read for the first time, and will be read for the second time at today's sitting. The amendment provides that every municipality shall be authorized to enact by-laws, fixing the standard of butter fat and total solids of milk sold in such municipalities, although no milk may be sold for human consumption which contains less than 3 1/4 per cent of milk fat or less than 8 1/2 per cent of milk solids other than fat.

The Minister of Finance presented the public accounts of the Province for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1913. The Provincial Secretary presented the annual report of the public schools of the Province and also a copy of the minutes of the proceedings of the representatives of the Provinces, who held a conference last October. The House adjourned till 2 o'clock today.

Among the notices of motion is one by Mr. Williams, who, on Monday next, will ask the Minister of Finance what sum was paid for expenses of the Premier's visit to the Fort George locality during the last fiscal year. On the same day Mr. Hayward has given notice that he will ask the Premier if an arrangement had been made for an official report of the proceedings of the House this session, and, if so, what is the arrangement.

Mr. Place gave notice that, on Monday next, he would ask leave to introduce a bill entitled an Act to amend the Workmen's Compensation Act, and on the same day Mr. Williams will ask leave to introduce a bill entitled an Act respecting the payment of wages.

Those in Attendance

The following officers escorted Lieutenant-Governor Paterson to his place on the Throne: Captain R. Corbett, R. N.; Lieut. H. M. Garrett, R. N.; Lieut. W. S. Chalmers, R. N.; Lieut. Silthwick, Col. Roy, D. O. C. Mil. Div. No. 11; Capt. Moore, D. S. A.; Capt. J. F. Foulkes; Capt. Almon, R. C. A.; Capt. Bray, C. O. C.; Capt. Martin, C. O. C.; Capt. Sherman, C. O. C.; Lieut. Col. Flock, 31st B. C. Horse; Capt. Longstaff; Capt. R. V. Harvey, and Lieut. Bromley, of the 88th Regiment, and the following officers of the 5th, R. C. G. A.: Major W. Ridgway-Wilson, Capt. H. H. Woolson, Capt. R. P. Clark, Lieut. F. A. Robertson, Lieut. Gordon Smith, Lieut. T. B. Monk, Lieut. C. B. Birch, Lieut. W. B. Shaw, Lieut. A. E. Sargison and Lieut. A. E. Craddock.

Among those who were present at the opening ceremony were: Lady McBride, Miss McBride and Miss Peggy McBride, Mrs. Bowser, Miss Eunice Bowser, Miss Irving (from New Brunswick), Miss Bowser (from Vancouver), Miss Newcome, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Young, Dr. and Mrs. C. P. Higgins, Miss McAllister, Mrs. Thos. Taylor, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Turner, Mr. J. W. Taylor and Miss Eleanor Taylor, Miss Taylor, Mrs. Henry Esson Young, Mrs. Eberts, Mrs. Charles, Mrs. Thomas, Mrs. Watkin-Boulton, Miss Allen, Mrs. W. W. Foster, Mrs. Thornton Fell, Rev. J. Inkster and Mrs. Inkster, Mr. A. F. Yarrow, Mr. Norman Yarrow, Mr. Keay, Mr. Stratton, Miss Besch, Rev. C. D. Scott and Mrs. Scott, Mr. A. W. Vowell, Senator Riley and Mrs. Riley, Mrs. MacDonald, Mrs. Paterson, Mrs. Richards, Colonel Jones, the American Consul and Mrs. Smith, Mr. Karl Lowenberg, Mrs. Tindall, Rev. J. B. Warnicker and Mrs. Warnicker, Mrs. Newall, the Hon. Robert Beaven, Mr. J. A. Mara and Miss Mara, Mrs. Holmes, Mrs. Duncan Ross, Col. Peters and Mrs. Peters, the Rev. T. W. Gladstone and Mrs. Gladstone, Mr. J. G. and Mrs. Bergeron, Col. C. H. Payne, Mrs. Hosa, Mrs. Pileber, Mrs. E. O. S. Schofield, Mrs. Curry and Miss Curry, Mr. Justice Gregory and Mrs. Gregory, Mr. Justice McPhillips, Mr. Justice Gallagher and Mrs. Gallagher, Chief Justice Macdonald, Bishop Roper and Mrs. Roper, Dean Doull, Bishop Macdonald, Mrs. Irving and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Rattenbury, Mr. J. J. Shallcross, Mr. G. A. Fraser and Miss Fraser, Senator Macdonald and Miss Macdonald, Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Wolfenden, Mr. and Mrs. J. Miller, Mrs. Blankenbach, Mrs. Ponton and Miss Ponton, the Rev. E. Carson, the Rev. W. Reese, Mrs. Dunsmuir and Miss Dunsmuir, Mrs. H. M. Fullerton, Mrs. Riggall, Mrs. Richard Hall, Mr. John Jardine and Mrs. Jardine, Mrs. J. W. Troup and Miss Troup, Mrs. Tolmie and the Misses Tolmie, Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Drury.

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FORMAL OPENING OF PARLIAMENT

His Royal Highness Reads
Speech From Throne and
Both Houses Adjourn After
Routine Business.

OTTAWA, Jan. 15.—Owing to the inclement weather, the crowd which awaited the arrival of His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught and his escort at 3 o'clock was not as large as usual. It dispersed soon after His Royal Highness had reached the Senate Chamber.

The scene in the chamber was quite as brilliant as usual, and the attendance of society people was quite as usual. The galleries were crowded. There was the usual array of brilliant uniforms on the right and left of the throne, the Premier, in his Windsor uniform, occupying the position of honor.

His Royal Highness was attended by Lieut.-Col. Farquhar and Capt. Hon. C. E. Boschen, aides-de-camp in waiting.

Her Royal Highness, the Princess Patricia, was accompanied by Hon. Catherine Villiers and Lord Spencer Compton. They entered the Senate Chamber at the back of the throne, and the Princess took her place on a chair placed at the left of the date. His Royal Highness then proceeded in English and well-modulated French, to read the speech from the throne, which was as follows:

"Honorable Gentlemen of the Senate, Gentlemen of the House of Commons:—

"I take this public opportunity of expressing to you all my deep sense of gratitude for the comfort and support that were afforded us at the time of the serious illness of the Duchess of Connaught by the numerous messages of sympathy that were received from Canada, and by the knowledge that the hearts of so many Canadians were with us during those dark days. I can only regret that my enforced absence made it impossible for me to fully exercise the duties of my high office during a considerable portion of last year.

"It gives me great pleasure to be able to congratulate you upon the remarkable expansion of Canada's trade with other countries in the past fiscal year, during which our total trade far exceeded that of any preceding year. The bountiful crops with which the Dominion has fortunately been blessed during the past season have been harvested under unusually favorable conditions, which have enabled the transportation companies to make full use of all the facilities at their disposal. Thus the difficulties which sometimes arose in former years have not been manifested, and an unusually large proportion of the crops have been conveyed to the seaboard before the close of the season of inland navigation.

Boundless Resources
"Canada has been favored by a long series of prosperous years, and although at the present moment business is slightly restricted by the financial stringency which prevails throughout the world, I feel convinced that this condition will be merely temporary, and that the boundless resources of this Dominion, which are so fully and universally known and recognized, give us the fullest assurance of continued material prosperity and progress.

"As a result of the recent decennial census the representation for the different Provinces must be readjusted as required by the British North America Act, and a bill will be introduced for

that purpose. A bill consolidating the Railway Act and its various amendments, as well as bills relating to the civil service and to trust and loan companies, will be submitted for your consideration. Several other bills will be submitted, including measures providing for increased representation of the Provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia in the Senate.

"The volume of immigration during the present fiscal year promises to be greater than that of any preceding year. It has come in greatest measure from the British Isles and from the United States, but a large stream of desirable immigrants has also reached our shores from other countries.

Agricultural Instruction
"You will be pleased to learn that satisfactory arrangements have been made with the various Provinces under the Agricultural Instruction Act, passed at the last session. My advisors are convinced that the co-operation between the Dominion and the Provinces which is thus afforded will accomplish excellent results in assuring better agricultural instructions and needful improvement of existing methods of agriculture.

"The work on the National Transcontinental Railway has been rapidly advanced during the past year, and notwithstanding the difficulties attending the construction of the Hudson Bay Railway and the provision of terminals every possible progress has been made in bringing that important project nearer to completion.

"In connection with the highly important subject of transportation of our products the provision of adequate terminal facilities at our great national ports has received, and is receiving the attention of my advisors. You have doubtless learned with satisfaction that the new Government terminal elevator at Port Arthur is completed, and that it has been in operation since October last. In conjunction with this a sys-

MINERS WAIT ON SIR RICHARD M'BRIDE

Large Deputation From Island
Coal Mining Centres Make
Plea for Liberation of Men
Now in Prison.

A strange scene was witnessed yesterday in the Executive Chamber of the Parliament Buildings that was not without a touch of pathos, when the wives and mothers of the imprisoned miners of the coal mining district of the Island waited on Premier McBrice to plead with him for clemency. There were about sixty women present in the room, and as they laid their pleas before Sir Richard McBrice, many of their eyes were filled with tears, while one or two completely broke down in making their appeals for their dear ones.

The delegation, arrived from the North on a special train, which reached the Capital about 10:30 in the morning, and quickly made their way to the Parliament Buildings. They attracted considerable attention on the street, with their red badges, while a number of children, sons and daughters of those who are now suffering imprisonment for participating in the late disturbances, were driven through the city. Mr. H. J. McEwen, secretary-treasurer of the Miners' Liberation League, of Vancouver, and Vice-President A. Watchman, of the British Columbia Federation of Labor, got into communication with the Premier, and a conference was immediately arranged.

Mr. McEwen, who accompanied the women into the Chamber, said that the delegation numbered more than 350 people. He presented a petition to the Premier asking for the release of the miners, which, he said, was signed by every woman in the strike district who had a male relative in jail. He candidly laid blame for the whole of the late disturbances on the Premier, and complained that the imprisoned miners had not received justice during their trials.

Appeal to Ottawa

"We have appealed to the Minister of Justice at Ottawa," said Mr. McEwen, "and he is not investigating our case. Cables have been sent to the Home Secretary in the Imperial Parliament and to His Majesty, praying him to extend the Royal clemency. The Minister of Justice ignores the demands of thousands of people in Canada who have urged him by petition to liberate those who are now incarcerated. We take our appeal on the grounds of British justice, on which we have been taught to rely."

Several of the women next made a personal appeal to the Premier for the liberation of relatives, many of whom are the breadwinners of the family.

Mrs. Morgan, who was the first speaker, said that she had a son 19 years old, who is now serving two years in the penitentiary for a crime of which, she said, he was innocent. Mrs. Axelson pleaded for her husband, who, she said, was 50 years of age, and who had spent fifty years of his life in the mines. Mrs. Armstrong pleaded for her three children. Mrs. Dawson asked for the release of her three sons, who are serving their first sentence. Others who also spoke were Mrs. Caddy, Mrs. William, Mrs. Mrs. Bimberl, who pleaded for her father; Mrs. Brighton, Mrs. Mayers and Mrs. Portrey. Vice-President Watchman, in supporting the case, said that the courts were prejudiced against the strikers, and he warned the Premier that unless the strikers were released by the 15th day of this month there would be a call for a general strike throughout the Province.

"Employees who are now working under agreement for their employers will break those agreements if our just claims are not met, and, bad as industrial conditions have been during the past year, the working men of British Columbia will no longer stand the unfair treatment that the miners have received in the courts," said Mr. Watchman.

Premier's Reply

In his answer to the deputation, the Premier spoke in terms of appreciation of the sacrifice of time and money which the delegates had undergone, and said that he believed that only an appeal which so closely touched their home life could have drawn them to confer with him.

"I know what it must mean to many of you to have your loved ones removed from your homes, and while at this time I do not wish to be argumentative, I would reply with the same candor that the speakers today have expressed that there must be some cause for the troubles that have fallen on you. Those for whom you have pleaded have been tried; some have been found guilty after trial, and some pleaded guilty in the constitutional courts of law. We must deal with the situation as it is. Courts of the land have imposed certain punishments on those whom they have found guilty, and you protest that these men should be no longer kept in prison.

"There is a Royal clemency which has been generally extended in recent years in meritorious cases, but the only agency through which this clemency can be applied is through the national Government at Ottawa, where the Governor-General is in close touch with the Minister of Justice.

"A deputation from the trades unions of Victoria waited on me several days ago to urge the case of the liberation of imprisoned miners. They said that memorials had been sent to Ottawa, and I shall be glad to send to the Minister of Justice an account of this meeting. The responsibility for advising the Governor-General rests with the Minister of Justice and not with this Province.

Law and Order Always

"It has been repeated all over the Province and circulated in certain newspapers that I, in my capacity of Minister of Mines, am responsible for all this stress and law-breaking that has occurred in the affected district and all the ruin and hardship arising out of the disturbances has been laid at my door. It is an easy matter to blame the Government, and I have no wish to shift any blame that properly belongs to me. I believe, personally, that the working men of this Province have the right to strike, and the Government of British Columbia has never interfered with this right of industrial labor, but while I acknowledge that right to strike, the law compels me to keep order, and, if that law is not effective, there will be chaos.

"If peace and order do not obtain, then it is the function of the civil powers to enforce the Criminal Code. I am confident that many of your dear ones may have committed excesses in

the heat of the moment that they would not have done under normal conditions. The proposal to cause a general strike, which might involve industrial ruin in the Province, is calamitous, but no threat of this kind will deter us, neither will it deter the Minister of Justice in executing the laws of the land.

"If the power of pardon is to be influenced by threats of industrial strikes, a precedent would be established that could only mean disaster to the civil liberties of the people of the Province."

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS LAID UPON TABLE

Annual Statement of Provincial
Affairs for Past Year
Is Published—Information
Regarding Conditions.

Perhaps the balance sheet for the yesterday be regarded as the most important item in the volume, inasmuch as it presents in brief tabulated form the exact position of the Province, from a financial standpoint, at the present time. Among the notable items appearing among the assets of the Government are: Cash balances in hands of district agents, \$1,754,744; cash in bank and on special deposit, \$3,066,792; and cash balance on hand at the treasury, \$8,308.

The revenue of the Province for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1913, amounted to \$12,510,215.08, according to the Public Accounts which were yesterday laid on the table of the Legislative Assembly by Hon. Price Ellison, Minister of Finance.

Of this amount \$1,723,990.60 was obtained under the Chinese restriction act, \$2,344,596.52 was for land sales throughout the Province, and \$1,539,457.18 for timber licenses. The amount of the Dominion subsidy for the year amounted to \$732,489.40, while \$155,163.35 was for mineral tax. Timber royalties for the year brought \$517,672.19 to the Provincial treasury, while registry fees aggregated \$712,255.14. Land revenue amounted to \$301,184.55, and an additional sum of \$22,059.48, was obtained for survey fees. The revenue tax for the year was \$350,863.00, the real property tax was \$459,510.40, and the personal property tax amounted to \$197,790.44.

The land taxes including the taxes on wild lands, coal and timber lands, aggregated \$516,087.20, and the royalty and tax on coal brought \$302,235.35.

Under the heading of miscellaneous receipts which amount to \$290,457.71, a sum of \$100,136.60 was obtained from fees under the Motor Regulation Act, while a sum of \$135,890.67 was received from the G. T. P. for improvements in Prince Rupert townsite.

The expenditure for the year amounted to \$15,650,014.40, which was made up of the following items: Public debt, \$553,329.16; civil Government for salaries, \$867,092.24; administration of justice for salaries, \$42,489.89; legislation, \$132,008.89; public institutions, \$193,842.03; hospitals and charities, \$392,349.21; administration of justice, other than salaries, \$421,205.65; education, \$944,087.71; transport, \$34,128.50; revenue service, \$94,566.56; public works, \$7,664,468.64, which is made up of the following items: Works and buildings, \$3,815,648.50; roads, bridges and wharves, \$1,750,401.24; and subsidies to steamboats and ferries, \$65,258.90. In the expenditure there is also included a miscellaneous item aggregating \$2,912,566.85.

STRIKING SPEECH BY THE PREMIER

Sir Richard McBride Deals Exhaustively With Criticisms Leveled Against Government of Which He Is Leader.

ADMINISTRATION'S WISE
POLICY BEARS FRUIT

No Country on the Face of the
Globe Doing More Development
Work on Sound Businesslike Lines.

Sir Richard McBride, at yesterday's sitting of the Legislature, proved the claim of his supporters that he is the ablest orator in the House, and, indeed, ranks as one of the great masters of the art in Canada today. In a closely-reasoned speech of nearly two hours' duration, he dealt with the criticisms leveled at the present Government by the Members of Newcastle and Nanaimo. Making only a passing, though dignified reference to the personalities which were a strong feature of Mr. Parker Williams' speech of the previous day, the Premier trenchantly analyzed the arguments which had been used by the Opposition against the legislative and executive acts of the present Government.

There was a large attendance in the galleries in anticipation of the Premier's address, which was listened to throughout with marked attention, speaking somewhat more slowly and deliberately than in his usual custom, after paying a grateful tribute to the speeches of the Members for Dewdney and the Islands, he launched at once into a defence of Judge Howay, and that part of his speech which dealt with the judicial acts of the man who presided at the trial at New Westminster had an air of interest owing to the close personal friendship which has existed between the Premier and Judge Howay since the days of the former's boyhood.

Sir Richard's Speech

"Mr. Speaker, it is the custom in all Legislatures," said the Premier, "that the person occupying the position of Leader of the House should make a passing review on matters of public interest before the address in reply to the speech from the Throne has been adopted. In accordance with this practice, I hope therefore, this afternoon, to recall briefly, for the information of Parliament and of this Province some of our public business for which the administration must be held responsible."

"Let me first, however, congratulate the Member for Dewdney, who very ably and eloquently moved the resolution the other afternoon. Let me also congratulate the Member for the Islands constituency, who made his first appearance as a member of this Legislature. With regard to my honorable friend who represents Dewdney I would say that it was with an especial delight that I listened to his first effort in the House; and if he would permit me the personal reference, I would like to say that I think it would be an advantage to this House, if he could hereafter take a more prominent part in the debates. I think we have a very promising, and unquestionably a very able representative in the Member for Dewdney, and one whose contributions to our debates, from both an oratorical and businesslike standpoint, would be of benefit to the Parliament of this Province. The constituency from which my honorable friend comes was my old constituency, and I have always held a warm affection for the Dewdney constituency."

ing. There were some troublous times politically in that period of British Columbia history, but through all I was invariably successful in holding the confidence of the majority of the voters of the district.

Member for the Islands

"The Member for the Islands district comes to the House with a very great reputation both as a man of public importance and as one who has played an important part in the development of British Columbia. Some time ago he was president of the Conservative Association, an organization of great influence in the Province, with all due deference to the observations made yesterday by the honorable member for Newcastle. He has also occupied a very responsible position in the Canadian Pacific Railway service, where, directly under his charge, were works of great magnitude pertaining to the maintenance and operation of one of the most important divisions of the line. Later on, through the recommendation of the Minister of Public Works, he became associated with the Government of the Province in the capacity of Deputy Minister of Public Works, where his energy, patience, and quickness won for him the esteem and regard of the people of this Province. I venture to say that the speech delivered in this House by the honorable member for the Islands, stamps him at once as one of our great debaters, whose participation in the business of the House is bound to work for the general advantage of the Legislature."

"We have also listened to the speeches of our honorable friends from Newcastle and Nanaimo. It is but right, I suppose, under the peculiar order of things that obtains here to turn my honorable friend from Newcastle the Leader of the Opposition. I would like to say that there has been a frankness with respect to the criticism of these honorable gentlemen that cannot be overlooked. They told us that they have views of their own which they propose to hold, come what may, and to sum up their political creed in a single sentence, they would have this Legislature and the Province believe that, no matter what the Government did, under no conceivable circumstances would it be able to bring down legislation, or perform any executive act that would meet with their commendation. Fundamentally, through and through, this Government, this Conservative administration, is wrong in their estimation. It has been conceived in all sorts of iniquity and is consequently impotent of any good results. This, to some extent, clears the way for the few words I propose to address to you this afternoon."

Replies to Criticism

"But may I pause for a moment to call the attention of the House to one or two points which were emphasized by the honorable Member for Newcastle. In the first place he spoke of the very sad occurrence which took place the other day at Burnaby. One of the men sentenced from Nanaimo was suddenly called away, and he gave this House to understand that it was presumably through the neglect of the officials of the institution that this unfortunate occurrence happened. I would like it to be understood that if there has been any neglect on the part of the officials of the Burnaby jail against which the death of this man can be placed, this Government will leave nothing undone to ascertain upon whom the blame should rest, and will take every step necessary to mete out the punishment that may be deemed as fitting the offence. I am glad the honorable Member for Newcastle mentioned the matter, because it was his public duty to do so, and I will add, this Legislature and this Province are indebted to him for the manner in which he brought it forward."

"The honorable Member for Newcastle also took it upon himself to refer to His Honor Judge Howay, who was the trial judge, sitting in Nanaimo, when several persons involved in law-breaking in that community, were sentenced to different terms of imprisonment. I have known Judge Howay from boyhood and have always found him to be an upright and honorable man. As a judge he has already, through his work on the County Court bench, earned the

reputation of being one of our ablest jurists, and I cannot conceive of any order of things that would induce him to depart from the high traditions which pertain to his office. It seems that my honorable friend across the floor of this House has been informed that Judge Howay, in the course of his work, when sittings were being held at Nanaimo, took occasion to go to Ladysmith for the purpose of looking over

evidence on his own account, that is evidence connected with the trial of the men. Now it may be that Judge Howay did visit Ladysmith, but, sir, I am absolutely certain—and I know that my friend will take the statement from me—that if Judge Howay went to Ladysmith, he did not for one moment commit himself during his visit, to anything that would qualify his ability to carry through his work properly as trial judge. I do not believe that my honorable friend from Newcastle means to be unfair to Judge Howay. I prefer to believe that he has been wrongly informed as to the Judge's movements. I do hold no brief for His Honor Judge Howay, and I have never had an occasion, since this unfortunate occurrence took place, to discuss with him any of the details of the case, but I want to make it as clear and distinct as possible that, in so far as His Honor Judge Howay is concerned, I fully believe that he did nothing himself, and suffered nothing to take place in connection with the trials, which could be called in question, and that throughout the proceedings he conducted himself in accordance with the highest traditions of the courts of this country. For my own part I have always taken the position that, while we as a Legislature must be looked upon as the highest court in the land, at the same time, in the public interest it is our bounden duty to appreciate and strengthen our courts, and so matter of general public interest arises in which we may feel called upon to interfere. It is a dangerous precedent, and one that would unquestionably lead to the gravest consequences, if the time and attention of the Legislature is to be given over to a review of the work of our courts. So far as this Government is concerned, I think I may say that we have invariably discouraged discussion on the floor of this Legislature relative to the courts of the land."

Mr. Speaker: "It is contrary to the rules of the House."

The Premier: "It is not contrary to the rules of the House that if the proposals of a single Member are founded upon fact he should submit them."

Mr. Speaker: "That would be subject to resolution in the usual manner."

Attorney-General's Department

The Premier: "Yes, sir, there is a mode of procedure by which we can approach the matter. The honorable Member for Newcastle spoke of another prisoner in the jail at Burnaby whose health is in a precarious condition. I would like to say that if he would be good enough to bring the facts to the attention of the Attorney-General, the Government will be only too glad to give the matter its most earnest consideration. Personally I am only too pleased to listen to any matters that may be submitted relative to the affairs of the Government. It is impossible for the Attorney-General to investigate the details of every case that is brought to his notice and at the same time efficiently administer the affairs of his department, but, at the same time, I am sure that any matter that is brought to his attention will be investigated and nothing will be left undone to have wrongs righted. Our duty in the maintenance of prisons is to see that everything is conducted on humane and modern lines, and we do not propose to fall in the discharge of that obligation. Perhaps it would not be uninteresting to the House to know, in relation to the question of the upkeep of prisons, what the department of the Attorney-General has been doing. I know, of my own knowledge, that he has taken occasion to send officials of his department to the Eastern Provinces with a view to obtaining full information and advice as to modern prison methods. I know that this is scarcely a pleasant theme, but it may be valuable information for the House that, in the construction of the prison farm at Burnaby and also in the construction of the new prison on Vancouver Island, the most up-to-date methods have been adopted. I am convinced of the fact that the work of prison reform can be efficiently carried on in any section of our country. The

difficulty is that it is so hard to arouse public interest in a question of this kind. In the Province of Ontario, until the Provincial Secretary took the matter in hand, little had been done in the way of improving the condition of the unfortunate prisoners. Under his regime, however, some sweeping changes were made, and it is claimed that the prison institutions in Ontario are now conducted on more humane lines than ever before. Prisons are not so much for the purpose of providing an asylum for unfortunate as to serve as a warning to society that misdeeds against the law are punishable, but when people have the misfortune to be sentenced to confinement there is undoubtedly a public duty upon the Government to see that the conditions of that confinement are as humane as possible."

His Personal Record

"A great deal was said by my friends the honorable Members for Newcastle and Nanaimo of a more or less personal nature. Insofar as I am concerned, I would prefer to leave to the Legislature and to the people of this Province the decision as to whether I deserve the references that were thrown at me across the floor of this House. I find no fault with these gentlemen for a single utterance, and although it is never pleasing to hear matters of a personal character directed towards anyone in this Assembly, yet, Mr. Speaker, for upwards of eleven sessions, year after year, I have listened to these indictments from Members sitting on the left of your chair. If the participation I have had in the business of the country counts for anything at all, I would prefer to leave any actions of mine, or of others for which I may be held accountable as leader of the Government, to the great jury of this country, rather than leave myself in the hands of those gentlemen from Newcastle and Nanaimo. I have listened, session after session, to the pleas of the Opposition, both in and out of this House, and especially those of the Socialist party of British Columbia, but I would like to impress on the Socialist party, and my statements are borne out by a study of the records of the House, if they accord the matter a fair and unprejudiced judgment that, in my humble capacity as leader of this Government, I have accomplished ten times, and even a hundred times more for the working classes than have either of my honorable friends across the floor of this House. I have never posed as a labor representative, nor have I attempted to hold myself as a representative of capital. I have been here principally because of the support given me by the Conservatives of the Province, but I have also always attempted, as far as my ability permits, to represent all classes of the community, and when I am unable to go further in that direction, then my period of usefulness has come to an end, and I shall step down from the position I now occupy."

Traveling Expenses

"Now, sir, with regard to the traveling expenses of ministers and officials, and with regard to the private affairs of the Members of this House, I do not propose to ask you to listen to me at any length. The honorable member for Newcastle has told you year after year that when I go to Ottawa and London the traveling expenses of myself and my secretary are charged against the treasury of British Columbia. That is true, Mr. Speaker, and whenever, in my judgment, I feel that I can serve my Province by going to Ottawa and London, I shall not hesitate to go, and charge the expenses against the treasury of this Province. If you think I am not entitled to do so, the remedy is in your hands. The people of this country can quickly displace me, and if it is their choice to do so, they can place my honorable friend from Newcastle in the position I now occupy."

"Mr. Speaker, I am always ready and willing to work with my friends from Newcastle and Nanaimo. If there is any public business arising in which the Government may co-operate with the honorable gentlemen opposite, we, on this side of the House, shall not hesitate to take counsel with them, and so far as we are able, facilitate the work. It is only fair that I should say that during the many sessions we have sat in this House I have accepted many amendments from the honorable Member from Newcastle, relative to acts of Parliament, and I give him credit for the interest he has always displayed in our measures. And especially now, when he is obliged, as leader of the Opposition, with but one follower, to fully check our actions and peruse the bills that are presented for the consideration of this House, I would like

the Members of this Go especially solicitous of made by the leader of and his colleague from that they can bring to b and all the scrutiny po various bills presented. There is one more ref like to make, before dea or four items of publi that is to the absence of the late Member i district, now the Honor McPhillips. It could no cause the slightest o quarter were I to say. Justice McPhillips conti ber in this Legislature, heard from him long. Member for the Islands always actively engaged ment of his constituent patient to a degree, sin and he will be remem us as a man who rete and affection of every House. I think, that Legislature of this Pr be a graceful thing to successful and brillian member of the highest Columbia.

Business Con

"I propose now, sir, words to deal generally of interest referred to Member for Newcastle print a Hansard of th were able to review t by him, what conclusi we would come to? T time in the history when business was a was abounding prosper able to regard such co factory. He has told that is the principle dealing with his attit the Opposition I feel t to draw the attention two or three things up, in order that ther conception as to the, fails. In the first plac of his reference to the cultural Commissions, that positive fashion v his own, not to believ missions are substan the very high dutie imposed upon them."

"How does he dis Commission? He tel body of men, scarcely and he wants his e lieve that it was fo pose of appealing co politicians. Mr. Spe made by the Govt commissioners argin labor investigators made. We tried to men, who were both and I am told that which their inquiry natives of the labor the country seized come before them at money and assistance press of the partiel of this commission throughout the cour most offensive acc of these organization that yesterday affe be told by the Lead that their time ha that they had gone opinion was practic

Labor Co

"The report of th will probably be p three weeks. When I shall take esp friend the honorabl castle is supplied he will have an e studying the findr sioners. The prop ment is that they studied, and that wisdom of the Go pefect for the ad Legislature to imp results of this com place ourselves in at the next sessio shall be able to b hensive labor bill the requirements c circumstances."

"My friend and very useful in th estly and candidly his references. He have been a little he intended, in a measure at least, dertaken. He has Agricultural Com was disposed of by words, and he a state his objection

the Members of this Government to be especially solicitous of any requests made by the leader of the Opposition and his colleague from Nanaimo, so that they can bring to bear all the time and all the scrutiny possible upon the various bills presented in this House. There is one more reference I would like to make, before dealing with three or four items of public interest, and that is to the absence from this House of the late Member for the Islands district, now the Honorable Mr. Justice McPhillips. It could not for a moment cause the slightest offence in any quarter were I to say that had Mr. Justice McPhillips continued as a Member in this Legislature, we would have heard from him long before this. As Member for the Islands district, he was always actively engaged in the advancement of his constituents, admirable and patient to a degree, sincere and candid, and he will be remembered by all of us as a man who retained the esteem and affection of every Member of the House. I think, that on behalf of the Legislature of this Province, it would be a graceful thing to wish him a long, successful and brilliant career as a member of the highest court of British Columbia.

Business Conditions

"I propose now, sir, in a very few words to deal generally with some items of interest referred to by the honorable Member for Newcastle. If we were to print a Hansard of this House and we were able to review the speeches made by him, what conclusion do you think we would come to? That never at any time in the history of the Province, when business was active and there was abounding prosperity, would he be able to regard such conditions as satisfactory. He has told us frankly that that is the principle of his work. In dealing with his attitude as leader of the Opposition I feel that it is my duty to draw the attention of the House to two or three things which he brought up, in order that there may be no misconception as to the true state of affairs. In the first place, I wish to speak of his reference to the Labor and Agricultural Commissions. He asked us, in that positive fashion which is peculiarly his own, not to believe that these commissions are substantial and equal to the very high duties that have been imposed upon them.

"How does he dispose of the Labor Commission? He tells us that it is a body of men, scarcely worthy of notice, and he wants his constituents to believe that it was formed for the purpose of appeasing certain disappointed politicians. Mr. Speaker, the selection made by the Government of the five commissioners sitting on the board as labor investigators was very carefully made. We tried to find representative men, who were both active and capable, and I am told that in every quarter to which their inquiry led them, representatives of the labor organizations of the country seized the opportunity to come before them and offer their testimony and assistance. I have read in the press of the participation in the work of this commission by labor men throughout the country. Now it is almost offensive according to my ideas of these organizations and labor leaders that yesterday afternoon they should be told by the Leader of the Opposition that their time had been wasted and that they had gone before what in his opinion was practically a fool concern.

Labor Commission

"The report of that Labor Commission will probably be presented in two or three weeks. When it is brought down I shall take special care that my friend the honorable Member for Newcastle is supplied with copies, so that he will have an early opportunity of studying the findings of the commissioners. The proposal of the Government is that they shall be carefully studied, and that insofar as in the wisdom of the Government it is competent for the administration and the Legislature to import into the law the results of this commission's inquiry, to place ourselves in the position as that at the next session of Parliament we shall be able to bring down a comprehensive labor bill that will fully meet the requirements of the prevailing circumstances.

"My friend and his colleague may be very useful in this connection. I honestly and candidly believe that despite his references yesterday, which may have been a little more emphatic than he intended, he appreciates in some measure at least the work we have undertaken. He has a filing also at the Agricultural Commission. This body was disposed of by him in two or three words; and he also took occasion to state his objections to the presence in

the House of the Members who worked upon the Agricultural Commission. However, the bill as carried has now been given the Royal assent and these gentlemen are now in their seats, and I feel sure that the Leader of the Opposition joins with me in welcoming them back to the House. What is the position in regard to these Members. Here it is in a nutshell. The Member for Yale and the Member for Cowichan, have been giving weeks and months of their time toward the advancement of the commission's inquiry. They are both Members of Parliament, representing large farming constituencies, and they are both vitally interested in the agricultural industry of the country. If you look at the question of their right to sit in this assembly in a cold-blooded manner you might come to the conclusion that two others should be sitting here in their place, but then you would have been obliged to pay them their full allowance. Of course that is a rather mean and narrow way to look at the question. But Mr. Speaker, that does not represent the true facts of the case.

Mr. Parker Williams interrupted to say that his opposition had not received the welcome the Premier referred to.

"Perpetual Criticism"

The Premier: "My honorable friend cannot blame me because he suffered a setback at the election and found himself with a meagre majority of 11 or so instead of 110. If his majority shrunk from 110 to 11 I think he has himself to blame. But to go back to the question of the land policy. I sometimes hear good Conservatives and Liberals alike expressing their wonder as to whether there can be anything in the perpetual criticism. I am sure of this, however, that if they knew their authorities as well as I do they would take very little stock in that kind of criticism. If there is anything in their criticism why is it that this Government has not been swept down from power and a Government controlled by Mr. Brewster and Mr. Macdonald elected in its place? Would such a Government as that continue the policy of public works that we have laid the foundations for, involving as it does millions of dollars, and if they would where would they find the money, since they deny the methods we have adopted?

"I want the House to understand that in our adjustment of the fiscal affairs of the Province our consideration involved the education of the youth of the Province, the development of railways, the building of trunk roads, and the placing upon our rural lands of a desirable class of settlers. To this end, for a period of over ten years, we have most carefully studied the economy of the Province so that no mistake would be made in our development measures, and in that study we have felt it sound and wholesome business to sell here and there blocks of Crown lands at fair and honorable prices. It has never been our policy to attempt to get the better of a bargain, but simply to strike a fair balance, leaving a margin of profit to the purchaser. Honorable gentlemen well know that the policy of this Government will make for the end of direct taxation. We hope by closely conserving the industries of the country to carry out the policy that was outlined in the Assessment Act of last year, and year after year to prune and pare down objectionable direct taxation until we have arrived at the point where all the revenue necessary to carry on the business of the Province is secured from the natural resources of the country. I make this statement deliberately, with a full knowledge of the facts involved.

Financial Position

"But, speaking of our present financial position, it is true that we have for the most part expended the balance we had. No one can argue that it is the safest policy for a Government to carry a surplus. Governments are not expected to, and we never had any disposition to do so. But what are the facts, Mr. Speaker? The people throughout Canada, in the United States and the Mother Country had such confidence in this Province before the money stringency as to bring their wealth here and invest it in the purchase of Crown lands and timber lands wherever desirable permits could be obtained. The money derived from these sources was paid into the bank. In that way we were enabled to carry a surplus for years. We did not spend it because our public works were not sufficiently advanced. By the year 1913, however, we had an appreciable knowledge of how we should proceed, and it was proposed to spend the large surplus which was referred to yesterday, upon the construction of roads, trails and bridges.

Wisely Expended

"Now I dare to state, and conditions in British Columbia will bear me out when I say that this money was well and wisely expended. It has not been distributed by any political machine, despite the reference of the Leader of the Opposition.

"Money spent on public works is well spent and I may say in passing that our policy has earned the commendation of other Provinces. I have it from the Liberals of the Maritime Provinces who have gone over our roads that we have the best roads in the entire Dominion. I believe that at this moment the Hon. Mr. Taylor's department is caring for upwards of 20,000 miles of standard roads. But here are a few

interesting figures regarding the finances of the Province.

"Ten and a half years ago, when this Government came into office, the Provincial debt approximated \$11,500,000. The Provincial income was approximately \$2,000,000. Today the entire Provincial debt, inclusive of the \$1,500,000 treasury loan is under \$9,000,000, and our income is over \$10,000,000. That will give the honorable gentlemen some idea of how the treasury of the country stands with regard to this criticism. I may further inform the House that on the 31st March, 1913, the public debt of the Province stood at \$10,752,100. Against the public debt the following sinking fund has been established to the same date \$2,375,216. And you must add to that the sum of \$18,000 as a contribution to the sinking fund this year, and that gives us over \$2,500,000; which leaves the public debt at the 31st March, 1913, at approximately \$8,000,000.

Treasury Loan

"Now, sir, with regard to the Treasury loan of \$1,500,000, which was secured in London some few weeks ago. It was not absolutely necessary that that loan should be contracted. It was a question of expediency, a question of being able to proceed with the affairs of the country without regard to immediate conditions. When we did go to the money market, despite the fact of the general stringency, we experienced no difficulty in securing what we wanted, and I take it that that was an excellent testimony of the high standing which this Province continues to occupy in the financial circles of the world. We have it all in the bank today towards of \$2,000,000. That, I think, should set at rest any criticisms of my honorable friends from Newcastle and Nanaimo regarding our fiscal affairs. The interest paid by the Bank of Commerce is 3 1/2 per cent, and we borrowed the money at 5 per cent. It is a fact that the money is drawing less than the Province paid for it, but that is a small item. Indeed when compared with the ease with which we were able to secure the loan at this time. We have ample funds in the bank to meet any and every emergency. I may inform the House at this time that negotiations are proceeding between the bankers and ourselves concerning certain proposals relative to the rate of interest. We want to save every dollar possible, for while we have \$2,000,000 in the bank, we never know the day or hour when we shall be called upon for it, and it is quite possible that the balance may be entirely gone before the House rises.

"I have been asked the question in this House relative to the money received by the Government for the sale of land, and I will take this opportunity of replying. The approximate amount of money received from land sales is \$9,864,000, and the approximate amount received in connection with townsite and suburban land sales is \$3,133,000, which gives a total sum due the Province on account of land sales of approximately \$12,997,000, bearing interest at 6 per cent. The great bulk of that can be collected without question, so that there can be no loss. In these hard times I do not think it would be a wise policy to press for payment, for that process immediately runs through the entire community, and the people of the country are affected as well.

Cost of Living

"I am not going to deal with the high cost of living, as that subject is being discussed in a higher tribunal, but it is probable, after the agricultural commissioners' report is tabled, that we may have some considerable discussion upon this interesting topic.

"I am not going to deal at any length with the Provincial outlook, but I must say that the reports of the various Government departments never indicated better prospects. I cannot recall a single year that promised more in a mining sense. The Coast section is advancing rapidly and away north at Observatory Inlet splendid results are being achieved. The operations of the Granby Company involve a tremendous sum of money, mostly connected with the construction and operation of a new smelter. The Skeena country, the Portland Canal properties, and the stilt holdings are making very satisfactory progress, and at Howe Sound and on Vancouver Island splendid advances are being made. Already the Kootenay and Boundary properties are producing splendidly and the year is full of promise for them. We have no reason to hesitate in comparing our prospects with those of Ontario and Alaska in this respect.

Fisheries

"With respect to fisheries we have the same attractive outlook. The industry is only at its beginning, but already it is promising the very best attainments. Our fish product is the wonder of the country and in the next few years I am sure it will be the wonder of the world. With respect to timber, conditions have not been so favorable during the past year, but that was due to the general business depression. Immediately things improve the industry is bound to come into its own, because we have the material here in its best and noblest forms. There can be no question of the future of the industry.

"There is one more point I would like to touch upon, Mr. Speaker. Canadians right in their heart of hearts are sensible of the fact that London is still to be looked to for the funds essential to the development of this great land. Political exigencies may appear to say that so far the Canadian people are not ready to show Britain and the world her true attitude in regard to national defence, that if they would receive from the treasury of the Motherland they are willing to give back in duty and in interest. Speaking for the Legislature, and for the people of British Columbia, I would like to say that we are, and always have been, prepared to see Canada do her part in regard to the great and growing problem of national defence. Nothing has yet been proposed in this regard that has been beyond the ambition of the Canadians of British Columbia.

"As I take my seat I would like my remarks to be placed on record with respect to 1914 and what we may look for in the Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter that we are about to approach."

Nanaimo visitors at the Dominion include: Mr. G. E. Harris, Mr. R. R. Hindmarch, Mr. J. R. McKinnell, Mr. E. G. Cardesby, Mr. Jas. Crossan, Mr. Jas. Pender and Mr. Cox.

New Westminster visitors at the Dominion include: Mr. D. E. Mackenzie, Mr. I. J. Sullivan, Mr. C. D. Putler, Mr. G. S. Blackely, Mr. Geo. Cunningham, Mr. E. Wade, Mr. R. S. Ingles, Mr. J. A. McGowan, Mr. G. B. Code and Mr. N. J. Marsh.

Mr. and Mrs. L. Chester Young, of Nanaimo, and Mr. and Mrs. H. Medley Harper, of Victoria, left yesterday afternoon on an extended trip through Southern California.

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LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR'S SPEECH

The speech with which the Lieutenant-Governor opened the Legislature yesterday afternoon mentioned a few matters not included in our review of the probable business of the session. His Honor spoke of the conclusion of the arrangements for the site of the British Columbia building in London and the erection of the mental hospital at Essonville. The London building is one that will reflect credit upon the Province and will prove a valuable asset, both directly and indirectly. It is evident that such a country as British Columbia ought to have its representative properly housed in the capital of the Empire, and that, with the great extent and variety of resources, it ought to occupy a place by itself and not lose its identity by being associated with others parts of the British Dominions. In making arrangements for Provincial offices in London, regard must be paid to the fact that the great mass of people outside of Canada are not readily able to differentiate between the various Provinces, and many of them find it difficult to do so between different parts of the Empire. By having a building of its own, British Columbia is not likely to be confounded with other places.

The new Mental Hospital, which is the happily chosen term employed in the speech, is an institution of which the Province may well be proud. No effort has been spared to make it what it ought to be, and we are confident that the work of the Government in this behalf will command universal approval as well outside the Province as within it.

It is gratifying to know that the prospects of increased mining development are so good that reference has been made to them in the speech. Our own advice fully warrant this. We do not suggest that the Province is on the eve of a mining boom, but, undoubtedly, unless all signs fail, a period of accelerated activity is at hand.

Promise is made in the speech of new legislation in regard to land registration; some amendments to the School Act are foreshadowed, and in the new Municipal Act there will be a provision for the establishment of a municipal department. The latter step is one very generally admitted to be necessary, although there may arise differences of opinion on matters of detail.

OPENING OF PARLIAMENT

The session at Ottawa, which opened yesterday, will undoubtedly prove an important one in the development of the country. The speech from the Throne, while not foreshadowing any unexpected legislation, is notable for the optimistic tone with which it deals with matters affecting our progress. The great expansion of trade and the bountiful crops of the past year, are two features for national congratulation, and both fittingly found a place in the speech. It was generally anticipated that a Redistribution Bill would be forthcoming during the present session. We have already dealt with this matter on a number of occasions, and until the details of the readjustment of representation are published we will withhold any further comment. Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia are to have increased representation in the Senate, and the necessary legislation to provide for this will be brought down this session. In the matter of transportation, the allusion in the speech to the progress of work on the Transcontinental will be gratifying, as well as that to the advance of work on the new Hudson's Bay railway. Only yesterday we spoke of

the programme of providing terminal facilities at the different ports and that this great work continues to enlist the hearty sympathy of the Government will be a matter of very profound satisfaction to the whole country.

Although perhaps not as strenuous as the session which concluded last Summer, that which has just opened promises to be fraught with much interesting legislation that will have an important bearing on our future. The prospects of still further trade development are excellent. Whatever way we look at the future it appears rich with promise, and in making that promise more certain the people can rely with the utmost confidence on the wisdom of the administration now in power.

Editorial Jan 24 1914.

A MAIDEN SPEECH

It is not often that a member of the Legislature leaves such a favorable impression after his maiden speech as Mr. W. W. Foster was able to do yesterday. His effort easily ranks among the best deliveries of new members and proves conclusively that, excellent as he was as Deputy Minister of Public Works, in political life he has found his milieu. It was very proper that much of his speech should have related to matters of Provincial development with which he has been intimately connected, but, as well, he found time to give a brief review of existing conditions from a general standpoint, which showed a grasp that was as pleasing as it was unusual in a member speaking for the first time on the floor of the House. He gives great promise of proving an undoubted acquisition to the strength of the Legislature. With youth, energy, ability and an excellent knowledge of British Columbia and its requirements, the Islands will find in him an able representative and one who is sure to command success.

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Able Review o
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The pomp and ceremony of the inauguration Thursday, was yesterday the routine of business that characterizes the session. The House is a well-dressed and comfortable assemblage of gentlemen in the garb of the leg for another twelve months has replaced familiar scenes of again be re-enacted already beginning volumes at the side of the pages hurry to a notes or carrying letters.

The feature of the session was undoubtedly made by Mr. W. W. Foster, the Islands division of the House by his address at the close of the session. Speaking somewhat nervously, a few preliminary remarks on the subject of life study and work, and his tenure of the Minister of Public Works. Good roads are to the Province, of produce to the prime inducement with its advantage of the traffic of the States, he was quick to read his address within thirty minutes.

He was preceded by Mr. D. J. MacPhail, suffering from a cold. The member for the Islands division, after a short speech, hour and a quarter, with the development of resources and since 1903, first assumed the seat.

After Mr. MacPhail, Mr. D. J. MacPhail, suffering from a cold, rose to the chair. When he rose to the chair, he delivered a speech from the Islands division. Before entering the House, he made a graceful reference to the honor of the constituents in the reply. He then, which was a fine example of the House.

LEGISLATURE IN SESSION'S WORK

Pomp and Ceremony Which
Marked Inaugural Function
Replaced Yesterday by the
Routine of Business.

BRILLIANT SPEECH BY MR. W. W. FOSTER

Able Review of Conditions in
Province by Member for
Islands—Promising Outlook
for Mining Industry.

The pomp and ceremony which marked the inauguration of the session on Thursday, was yesterday replaced by the routine of business which will characterize the legislative chamber during the next two months. As far as the House is concerned, the scarlet uniforms and gold lace, the brilliant assemblage of guests and the Sunday clothes of the legislators, are banished for another twelve months. Business garb has replaced frock coats and the familiar scenes of former sessions will again be re-enacted. Legislators are already beginning to collect reference volumes at the sides of their desks and Pages hurry to and fro bearing myrtle notes or carrying portfolios to the Ministers.

The feature of yesterday's session was undoubtedly the brilliant speech made by Mr. W. W. Foster, member for the Islands division. Mr. Foster surprised many of the older members of the House by his rhetorical efforts, and at the close of his speech he was the recipient of many warm congratulations from personal friends in the House. Speaking somewhat rapidly but without a trace of nervousness, Mr. Foster, after a few preliminaries, launched into the subject of which he has made a life study and with which he has been intimately connected during his three years' tenure of the office of Deputy Minister of Public Works.

Good roads as an economical asset to the Province, in the transportation of produce to the market, and as the prime inducement to settlers, coupled with its advantage in the development of the traffic in visitors, which the sister States below the line have been so quick to realize, was the theme of his address which lasted for little under thirty minutes.

Mr. Manson

He was preceded by Mr. W. M. Manson, of Dewdney, who was obviously suffering from extreme nervousness. The member for Dewdney, in a closely reasoned speech which lasted for one hour and a quarter, dealt step by step with the development of the natural resources and industries of the Province since 1903, when Premier McBride first assumed the reins of Government.

After Mr. Speaker had taken the chair, Down Doull, in his academic robes, and wearing the scarlet hood of his old university, read the prayers from the liturgy of the Church of England. When he had retired, Mr. Manson rose to propose the reply to the address from the throne, which was delivered at Thursday's session by Lieutenant-Governor Paterson.

Before entering on his subject he made a graceful acknowledgment of the honor done to himself and to his constituents in being privileged to move the reply. He spoke feelingly of the loss which the Legislature had sustained through the elevation of Mr. Justice McPhillips.

"We have lost one of the best and most generous men who ever sat in this House," said Mr. Manson, "but our loss has been the judiciary's gain. He has been succeeded by Mr. W. W. Foster, a man of proven talents and exceptional executive ability. And with all humility I would add my voice of congratulation to the constituents of the Islands division in the wisdom of their choice."

Mr. Manson referred briefly to the election in the Islands division and spoke in strong terms of the attempt made by certain men in the Province who went into the district to seek to influence the electors as to the action they should take with reference to their selection of a representative in the House.

Review of Conditions

The member for Dewdney reviewed the history of the Province since 1903. He said that previous to that time there had been a general depression in Canada and in the United States, and that while conditions had already considerably improved before 1903, industrial enterprise in British Columbia had gone from bad to worse and was at a very low ebb.

"Sir Richard McBride put his hand to the plough, determined to give a stable government to this Province, and resolved to resuscitate the industrial standing of British Columbia," said Mr. Manson. "Few men in public life have taken a greater task upon their shoulders. Few men have had a greater breadth of vision or displayed a higher courage than our Premier did when he took steps to bring order out of chaos. And the high position in which British Columbia stands today is due to the splendid services of the Premier and those men who have so ably supported him in his task."

Dealing first with the mining industry, Mr. Manson pointed out that the revenue obtained from the mines in 1903 was \$17,000,000 while last year it amounted approximately to \$32,000,000. The cost of education, he said, had risen in the same period, from \$415,000 to \$944,000; and the splendid results brought about by the Department of Education was, he said, directly attributable to Hon. Dr. Young and his staff.

Department of Lands

In speaking of the Department of Lands the member upbraided those slanderers of the Government who, he said, had circulated the rumor among new settlers of the Province that the reason why they could not get crown lands near the congested centres of population was due to the Government. He pointed to the splendid agricultural land in the lower Fraser Valley, through the railway belt, which he declared were alienated by other powers long before the present Government took office.

"The acreage of land surveyed today is enough to give every British subject who is a bona fide settler a homestead twice over," said Mr. Manson.

In referring to the amount of land recently surveyed he said that in 1903, 214,247 acres of lands and timber were surveyed as compared with 2,854,857 acres surveyed during last year. Out of this amount surveyed in 1903, 128,000 acres was timber land and practically only about 1,000 acres of settlers' land was surveyed during that year. In comparison with these figures he said that during last year no less than 1,015,000 acres of land, apart from timber land, were surveyed by the Lands Department.

"The Minister of Lands has been active in the development of a policy which in spite of criticism, who do not see eye to eye with us, must tend for the eventual welfare for the people of this Province."

In conclusion he dealt briefly with the increase in the fisheries and the enormous amount expended last year on public works in addition to the efforts to aid the farmer, the fruit growers, and general settlers.

Mr. Foster

In rising to second the reply, Mr. W. W. Foster, who was received with loud cheers, urged that in matters pertaining to the general welfare and prosperity of the country political affiliations should be forgotten in the common desire to utilize to their best advantage the potentialities of the Province.

"It is an especial honor and pleasure to me to second the motion," said Mr. Foster, "because the constituency I have the honor to represent has recently and in no uncertain terms expressed its confidence in Premier McBride and the administration."

In dealing with the reports of the labor and agricultural commissions, he said that as they were based upon impartial and exhaustive investigation they must prove useful in the enactment of future legislation. In dealing with new legislation he predicted that the establishment of a municipal department would be of the greatest value, affording as it would, a safeguard against injudicious financing, and providing stability for municipal bonds.

In connection with legislation affecting railroad construction, he said the Minister of Railways would doubtless very shortly detail what has been accomplished since March 1, 1910, when the Province entered upon its great railway program. In considering the question of railroad construction in the Province, he said that the average cost per mile of a roadbed by a transcontinental company was \$25,000, while the railroads on the Mainland, he said, were in many sections costing over \$130,000 per mile, and even on Vancouver Island the cost was about \$45,000 per mile.

Mining Outlook

After dealing briefly with the question of better terms, Mr. Foster referred to the mining outlook.

"There has been evidence of financial depression throughout the world," said Mr. Foster, "and British Columbia has felt it particularly in her larger cities in a lessening demand for real estate."

and perhaps to some degree in the curtailment of money available from the old land for investment, but with a people such as British Columbia possesses and with her unlimited and practically undeveloped resources it needs no prophet to foresee that abundant and permanent prosperity must always be hers.

"In spite of this so-called depression, the mining industry has never been on a better footing or given greater promise, and the increased production in the Cariboo, the splendid showing throughout the Kootenays and other sections is not only a tribute to the stability of the industry, but is a striking testimony of the fortunate position British Columbia holds in the diversity of her resources."

In a brief reference to the disagreement between owners and employees in the coal districts of Vancouver Island, Mr. Foster was outspoken in saying that, no matter what may have taken place previously, every right-thinking man was bound to support the officers of the Crown in the enforcement of the law.

Passing on to the general policy of public works, he coupled with it the finances of the Province on the ground that, on account of the comprehensive policy of public works, it would be necessary to some extent to adopt a new policy of finance.

"It is quite apparent that the time has arrived when extraordinary means must be adopted to provide funds for such a purpose. Up to the present time considerably over half the revenue of the Province has been obtained from its timber and land, but year by year, while pre-emption becomes easier, the possibility of obtaining land by purchase has been made more difficult, and land sales cannot be looked to in the future as a large source of revenue. The alternative, which should certainly suit those opposed to any form of land alienation, is a Provincial loan, and there has never been a time in the history of the Province when we stood higher in the commercial markets of the world."

Road Question

In dealing with the road question, the member for the Islands spoke of the value of good roads to develop and enhance the value of holdings, to facilitate travel for business and pleasure, to permit school facilities, to reduce the cost of marketing and decrease living expenses, and in general to render country life more attractive. He quoted figures to show the economic side of the good roads question, and pointed out that every mile of road constructed involved the responsibility of maintenance.

"To provide a skeleton trunk road system for this Province would involve an outlay of not less than \$50,000,000," Mr. Foster said, "so that it can readily be seen that generous as the appropriations have been in the past there is every incentive to keep up the aggressive road policy initiated by the present Government."

In conclusion, he spoke of the potentialities of the roads of the Province as an asset in the attractions of tourists and visitors, and said that every road in British Columbia, whether it followed the mountain side, through the forest, crossed the lowlands, or followed the coastline, was a scenic road, and as such could be made revenue-producing.

"In many matters our views necessarily differ, but we all share a common desire to build up and develop our Province along the lines commensurate with the advantage nature has showered upon us."

Payment of Commissioners

At the conclusion of Mr. Foster's speech, Mr. Place moved the adjournment.

Sir Richard McBride thereupon presented to Mr. Speaker a message from His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor transmitting a bill to authorize the payment of certain expenses in connection with commissions issued under the Great Seal.

Behind the title of this bill lies the important constitutional question of the payment of Commissioners serving while they are Members of the Legislative Assembly. Mr. Hayward, M. P., is a member of the Royal Agricultural Commission, and Mr. J. P. Shaw is a member of the Indian Commission, and, since no Member of the Legislature is permitted to receive any emolument for services under such Commissions, it has been necessary to enact an empowering bill that they may be reimbursed for their traveling and necessary expenses.

The said bill, on the motion of the Premier, was referred to a committee of the whole House. Mr. Speaker left the house, and, with Mr. Ernest Miller as chairman of committee, the bill was introduced and read a first time, and the second hearing was fixed for Monday next.

The following papers were introduced by Dr. Young: The annual report of the Provincial Museum of Natural History for the year 1912, the forty-second report of the Hospital for the Insane for 1912 and the sixteenth report of the Provincial Board of Health for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1912.

An Important Motion

An important motion has been set down by Mr. Williams for Monday next providing for an amendment to the House rules, by which the present rule providing that a division shall only be entered on the journals of the House if it is demanded by three Members, shall be changed so that such an entry on the journal can be made on the motion of two Members. The passage of such an amendment would mean that the present Socialist party would be able to record a division on every matter before the Legislature.

Mr. Williams has also given notice of motion for the granting of an order of the House for a return showing the total sums overdue the Treasury from the sale of townsites, the sale of agricultural lands, the sale of timber licenses, from timber royalties and from the purchase, lease and rental of petroleum lands.

Mr. Place gave notice that he will ask the Attorney-General next Monday how many special constables are employed at Nanaimo, Ladysmith, Cumberland, Extension and South Wellington.

A bill to extend the franchise to women will also be introduced by Mr. Place if his motion for leave is granted next Monday.

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

Opposition in Legislature Held Floor for Two Hours at Yesterday's Session — Attack on Government's Policy.

The Member for Nauslimo, after carefully reiterating two or three times that he was not vitally interested in the wasting of the natural resources of the Province, rather spoiled the force of his argument by concluding his speech with: "The resources of the Province have been wasted with such a prodigal hand, especially in the alienation of Crown lands, that we shall be forced to inquire into the matter."

Opened the Debate

He said that information had come to him to the effect that some little time ago a number of boys had got into trouble with a Chinaman at Nahanago. Two special constables were sent to the scene, and the boys, naturally, made an attempt to get away, whereupon one of the constables whipped out his gun and fired, hitting one of the lads, so that he was now laid up in hospital. Mr. Place stated that he had argued against the use of weapons by the police in the past, and he contended that there was no possible justification for the use of the gun on the occasion in question.

Natural Resources

Going on to speak in reply to the address, Mr. Placé said that, as a Socialist, it did not profit him anything to criticize the administration of the Government in regard to natural resources. He was there as the representation of labor, and idle criticism of matters like that did him cause no good. As regard to the claims that had been made in behalf of the Mining Department of the Province, namely, that it had produced a record output, he said it might as well also be claimed that it had created the highest death rate in the world in mining.

"There will be no peace in the mining districts until the men are organized. No matter what the outcome of the present struggle may be, it will not be final. Take the history of any country, and you will observe that there is no industrial peace until the workers are in a position to fight their case without actually going to war. In the mining districts of this Province the men are satisfied that individually they have no chance whatever, and that collectively, while they may not succeed, they will, at all events, stand a better chance of having their demands listened to."

Mr. J. C. Wood, Member for Alberni, moved the adjournment of the debate.

Mr. Speaker called upon Mr. Wil-

Premier Sir Richard McBride rose to oppose the resolution. "The position," he said, "in this matter is just the same as it was last year, and there is no logical reason for changing it. To do with considerable difficulty that I can recall any occasion on which my honorable friends, the Members for New castle and Nanaimo, have found any thing good in the works of the administration, and I think, therefore, that I may be taken for granted that they will very quickly oppose any measure."

might bring in, be it good, bad, or different. As before, however, I am sure that no one on this side of the House will raise any objection should the Members of the Opposition desire the names at any time. There are only two or three occasions on which divisions are likely to be called, and therefore, I cannot see any reason for altering the rules of the House for the convenience of the Opposition.

In the division being taken, the resolution was lost by twenty-eight to twenty-five, whereupon Mr. Williams promptly called upon the Premier to implement his promise by conceding a record of the names. This was done.

Payment of Commissioners

The discussion on the second reading of the bill to authorize the payment of certain expenses in connection with commissions issued under the great seal was introduced by the Premier.

Speaking with reference to the members for Cowichan and Yale, Sir Richard said that on his own personal solicitation they consented to take positions on the agricultural commission. He spoke with pride of the great work the commission had undertaken, not only in the Provincial field, but in other lands as well.

Opposes Second Reading

"The fight put up for the chairmanship of the commission by two leading Conservatives, does not incline me to appreciate their plea of self-sacrifice. In fact, I have it on excellent authority that in order to avoid being importuned to death on this topic, the Premier had to leave a room by the window." (Laughter.)

Mr. Williams stated that section 28 of the constitution was most emphatic on the subject of commissioners. He quoted it to the House and maintained that it rendered the Members in question ineligible to sit in the House. "If their position demands a remedy at all, it is proof that they are beyond the remedy of the constitution," he said.

The bill then passed its second reading, and will be brought up for its third and final reading today.

Mr. Williams asked the Hon. Acting Minister of Finance what sum was paid for expenses in connection with the Premier's visit to the Fort George locality in the financial year 1912-13.

Hon. W. J. Bowser, Attorney-General, promptly replied that the Premier had not visited Fort George since August, 1910. The expenses at that time for himself and party amounted to \$1,617.

Mr. Williams then asked what sums had been paid, and to whom, on behalf of the cost of the commission to inquire into matters relating to Indians and Indian reserves.

The Attorney-General replied that no sums had been paid.

The second question relating to the period of payment was covered by the same answer.

The House stood adjourned till this afternoon, on the motion of the Premier.

**BUSY SESSION
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The debate in reply was productive of speeches, the first by Member for Alberni, Mr. W. R. McLean. Both speakers advancement that had been made in their respective territories and expressed their views on the future of the territories.

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Mr. J. G. C. Woodburn, continued the reply to the address, remarks by expressing extremely low conditions, who, he said, for the advancement of the world, and of Britain. He also re- spective terms to the Members for Dewdney.

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BUSY SESSION OF LEGISLATURE

Bill Authorizing Payments to Members of Royal Commis- sions Passes Third Reading —Two Interesting Speeches

At the Provincial Legislature yesterday the bill authorizing the payment of expenses and traveling incidentals to Members of the House engaged upon Royal Commissions passed its third reading. At the close of the debate, Mr. Parker Williams, Member for Newcastle, demonstrated the half-hearted spirit of the Opposition's attack, by saying "pass" when the Speaker put the motion to the House.

The debate in reply to the address was productive of two interesting speeches, the first by Mr. J. G. C. Wood, Member for Alberni, and the other by Mr. W. R. McLean, Member for Nelson. Both speakers dealt with the advancement that had been made in their respective territories during the past year and expressed their confidence in the future.

Hon. W. J. Bowser took the fire out of the attack of Mr. Williams in regard to the money paid as expenses to the Members for Cowichan and Yale in their capacity as members of the commission on agriculture, by frankly submitting a statement of the same with the various dates fixed opposite the payments.

Mr. J. G. C. Wood, Member for Alberni, continued the debate on the reply to the address. He prefaced his remarks by expressing his regret at the extremely low condition of Lord Strathcona, who, he said, had done so much for the advancement of Canada throughout the world, and particularly in Great Britain. He also referred in appreciative terms to the speeches made by the Members for Dewdney and the Islands. In regard to the latter, he emphasized the necessity for good roads in this Province, asserting that they were essential to settlement. British Columbia had held the proud position of leadership in respect of road building, he said, and now its policy was being emulated by other States to the South.

Going on to speak of the work of the year, Mr. Wood took up the education department, and said that so far as his district was concerned, and he believed that it applied generally throughout the Province, the Government had kept faith. Seven new schools had been erected in the district during the past year. From education Mr. Wood turned to the fishing industry of the Province.

"The fisheries of British Columbia again head the list of fishing products of the Dominion," said the Member for Alberni, "and in this regard I want to state that this result has been largely brought about by the estuary and river fishing. Deep sea fishing on the West Coast is an unknown quality, and I would suggest, if it is possible, that the Provincial authorities should co-operate with the Dominion Government in having an expert survey made of the value of the deep sea food fishes on the West Coast. I think if this work was taken up at Nanaimo, instead of the scientific work now being done, much better commercial value would be forthcoming than from the work carried on there at present. It may be very interesting to read that a piece of seaweed that looks just like seaweed, is not really seaweed, but a mass of animalcules, but it has little commercial use."

Progress in Mining

In discussing the progress that has been made in mining, Mr. Wood stated that in his district the prospects had never been brighter, and he hoped, that before the end of next year, they would be shipping copper from at least two prominent properties. He criticized the statement made by the Member for Nanaimo, to the effect that the Government must take credit for the highest death-rate in the world of mining, as well as the highest production, and demonstrated that this was not the case. He deprecated the making of such statements, and did not believe that the Member in question would care to have them sent broadcast.

"I have here some returns in this regard affecting the States to the South of us," he said. "I find that the death-rate in British Columbia during the years under review, 1902 to 1912, was 4.87. In the State of Washington, during the same period, the death-rate from mining was 4.98, in West Virginia 5.54, in Colorado 10.46; in Alabama, 6.70; in Oklahoma, 5.21, and in New Mexico, 5.16. I think these figures will go some way toward disproving the statements of the Member for Nanaimo that British Columbia has the highest death-rate in the mining districts in the world."

Taking up the question of agriculture, Mr. Wood expressed his gratification at the action of the department in bringing to this Province thoroughbred and grade dairy stock. He hoped that this policy would be continued during the year, as it gave a splendid stimulus to the agricultural industry in the Province. He was sure that every Member of the House was looking forward with interest to the report of the Royal Commission on Agriculture, and he was sorry that circumstances made it impossible for them to have legislation based on this report, introduced during the present session of the Legislature.

In conclusion he referred to the enfranchisement of women, saying he had been hopeful that some measure with that end in view would be introduced at this session. Failing that, he thought it might be possible to make some amendment in the existing laws that would give married women a better legal standing than they have today.

Prosperity in the Interior

Mr. W. R. McLean, Member for Nelson, was the next speaker, and after referring to the seriousness which impressed him in addressing the House, he said, that as far as Nelson and the Interior districts generally were concerned, he heartily endorsed the tenor of the speech of the Lieutenant-Governor, saying that the prosperity in the Interior had been very marked. In referring to the speech delivered the previous day by the Member for Nanaimo, Mr. McLean said that he was glad that the combined force of the Opposition directed undoubtedly by the leader, had found nothing serious to criticize about the British Columbia Government.

"It would be idle to say," said the Member for Nelson, "that the world-wide financial depression has not been felt in British Columbia, but at the same time it has not been sufficiently severe in this Province to interfere in any way with the real development of this section of the Dominion."

He said that one of the strongest factors towards this satisfactory condition of affairs was the immense amount of railway building which had been carried on throughout the year, and that the prosecution of the work had been made possible through the railway policy of the McBride Government.

After referring to the progress made in railroad construction, and especially on the Kettle Valley road, he declared that the opening of this new line would shorten the route between Winnipeg and Vancouver by 290 miles, and at the same time would afford easy and cheap communication between the Kootenay and Boundary countries, and the Coast. He referred briefly to the comprehensive scheme of development undertaken by the Dominion Government in the natural harbors of Victoria, New Westminster and Vancouver, and said that the advent of the powerful shipbuilding firm of Yarrow, to Esquimalt, was an indication of the importance of the Pacific Coast of Canada.

The Mineral Output

"In the matter of production the past year has been an important one to British Columbia. In minerals alone the output has been not less than \$39,000,000," said Mr. McLean. "It is true this is smaller than the output of last year, but this falling off was due to decreased coal production on this Island, and the output would have been much smaller had it not been for the increased production of Kootenay and the Boundary."

"The total output of these two districts," he said, "was over \$20,000,000, which \$14,000,000 represented the output of the metalliferous mines. In referring to the lower prices which prevailed for copper, silver, and zinc, he said there had been an increase of \$10,908 in the actual sale value of the metal production of the Kootenay and Boundary districts. Referring to the coal production of the district, he said that it showed an increase over the previous year of nearly fifty per cent., which constituted a record in the history of the district."

"As an evidence that mining in the Kootenay and Boundary was on a substantial basis I would point out that last year the total distribution in dividends by the metalliferous mines totaled \$2,273,950.90, of which the Granby Consolidated had paid \$899,901.90, and the Standard mine \$650,000."

He said that dividends for last year were more than \$1,000,000 greater than those of 1912, and he predicted that the dividends of the Granby Company would be twice as large in 1914, as the company had been put on an eight per cent. basis.

After referring to the prosperity of the fruit industry in the Kootenay district he dealt with lumbering, and said that owing to a slackness of the building trade, the market for lumber in that district had been greatly curtailed, a condition which had been aggravated through the lumbermen having to face unfair competition in the markets of Alberta and Saskatchewan from the lumbermen South of the line, who, he said, for the past two years had been making the Canadian prairies a dumping ground for their cheaper grades of lumber.

In reference to the Donkhorst question, he said, that community was still refusing to obey the laws of the land so far as the registration of births and deaths are concerned. They would not allow their children to be educated, nor would they pay any attention to the provisions of the Health Act. After referring to the mission of the commissioner to that district during the past summer, he said he was glad to learn that the Attorney-General intended to bring down legislation, during the session, with the object of taking effective steps to secure an unconditional compliance with the laws of the land in that community.

On the motion of Mr. Parker Williams the debate was adjourned.

Questions Answered

Mr. Williams then asked that an order of the House be granted for a return showing the total sums overdue the treasury department from the following sources: The sale of townsite lots, sale of agricultural land, timber licences, timber royalties, purchase, lease and rental of coal and petroleum lands.

The Premier replied that there was no objection to the question. Most of the answers had been sent already and statements regarding the others would be ready in a day or two.

Mr. Williams asked the acting Minister of Finance, what sum, if any, had been paid the Members for Cowichan and Yale as expenses or traveling incidentals while engaged in the work of the Royal Commission on Agriculture.

Hon. W. J. Bowser replied by submitting a statement showing that the Member for Cowichan had received \$1,362.96, and the Member for Yale, \$1,063.75. He also quoted the dates on which the payments were made.

The House then went into committee upon the third reading of the bill "to authorize the payment of certain expenses in connection with commissions issued under the great seal," with Mr. A. H. B. McGowan, fourth Member for Vancouver, in the chair.

Before the final section passed Mr. Williams rose.

"If the Members have lost their seats, where do we get the power by any retroactive measure to reseat them?"

He also reiterated his statement that if the Members were in need of remedy they were beyond the remedy of the House.

The Attorney-General replied that there was no question of the Members having forfeited their seats. He went on to state that the Legislature was all powerful and could reseat them, if necessary. If there is any question of penalties the Legislature can relieve them of the penalties.

Mr. Williams contended that the Legislature was not all powerful, and rather than store up future trouble he suggested that the bill should be held up for some time in order that a complete investigation of the public accounts could be made.

Premier Replies

The Premier rose and took issue with the leader of the Opposition. "There can be no question," he said, "that it is competent for Members of this House to be interested in limited liability corporations who may have business engagements with the Government. If Members are to be disqualified because they hold stock in such companies it is carrying things to the extreme."

He proceeded to say that there was nothing very unusual in the bill before the House, in proof of which he recalled the fact that some fifteen years ago a measure was submitted that went the length of taking out of the hands of the court, certain election trials, at all events during the period of the Legislature, and giving seats in the House to the Members whose election was being contested. That was done on the ground of public policy, and he maintained that the argument held in regard to the bill before the House.

"As a matter of fact," he said, "the question of disqualification was not raised by the Opposition. It was raised by the Members themselves, who desired that some such expression of the House, as was contained in the bill, should be passed. The Members for Newcastle and Nanaimo have had a long time to think about the matter, but they have never said a word until now, although they must have known, and in fact did know, what had been done. I am convinced that it will be in the general public interest to have this bill pass. We make no excuse for the bill. We simply ask its adoption by the House, to remove any doubts expressed by the chairman of the commission."

The committee then rose and reported progress, on the motion of the Premier. The Premier then moved the third reading of the bill, and on the motion being put by the Speaker, Mr. Williams audibly remarked "pass."

Mr. H. H. Watson, Member for Vancouver, presented a petition from North Vancouver for leave to introduce a private bill to validate certain by-laws.

Mr. A. H. B. McGowan, Member for Vancouver, asked leave to introduce a private bill to amend the "Chartered Accounts Act, 1905." This petition is from the Institute of Chartered Accountants of British Columbia.

Mr. W. W. Foster gave notice of motion that he would introduce a bill entitled "An Act respecting the B. C. Association of Architects."

Sir Richard McBride in the Legislature Makes Impressive Speech on the Death of Lord Strathcona.

Traces Very Fully Remarkable
Career of Greatest Pioneer
in the Annals of Canadian
History.

Sir Richard McBride has for many years been a close personal friend of the late High Commissioner for Canada, and in dignity of expression and warmth of utterance he rose to a height worthy of the praise of one of the greatest Canadians of the century.

In recording the resolution of condolence to his family, Mr. Parker Williams spoke of Lord Strathcona as a man born of the multitude, a man who retained his faculties unimpaired to the end, a man of high character and great resource.

Moves Resolution

"That this House has learned with deep regret of the death of the Right Honorable Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal, High Commissioner for Canada, and desires to express its high appreciation of the great services he rendered, during a long and honored career, to the Dominion and to the Empire.

"And that His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor be requested to forward through the proper channels, to His Royal Highness the Governor-General of Canada and to the Honorable Margaret Howard, copies of this resolution.

His Wonderful Career

"Mr. Speaker, it is not an idle task in this hour to speak of the interest which Lord Strathcona took in the work of advancing education, in the construction of highways and in the largest sphere of the building of railroads in this country, more especially through the Prairie Provinces. Lord Strathcona confined his activities to no one particular section of this great Dominion and to no one branch of its development. He was one of the leaders connected with the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway across our Continent, and great credit is due to him for having pressed forward that great undertaking until it finally stretched from ocean to ocean.

There are many accounts given of the struggles that attended the pioneer development of this transcontinental line. Those of us who lived in British Columbia at that time know that there was a subdued impatience here because of the delay on the part of the Government at Ottawa in forwarding the work of construction; but we have a deeper knowledge now of the obstacles which appeared almost insurmountable at times, arising from day to day and month to month in the path of the constructors and promoters. We are able to gauge now the determination and almost limitless courage which surmounted these troubles and made the building of this magnificent road an accomplished fact.

National Undertaking

The pages of Hansard which deal with the debates in the Dominion House of Commons when Sir John A. Macdonald, with the able assistance of Sir Charles Tupper, announced the policy of forcing the Canadian Pacific Railway through to the Pacific seaboard form interesting reading for the student of this Province. One cannot read these pages without realising at the same time that behind the strenuous efforts of the Federal Government was the solid and unwavering loyalty of Donald A. Smith and his colleagues in the achievement of this national undertaking. When the obstacles impeding their path are taken into consideration, especially in so far as they concern the meagre knowledge prevailing at that time in the East of our Western conditions, such as the scarcity of population from the Great Lakes to the seaboard, the lack of money and the discouraging outlook — I say, Mr. Speaker, when we consider all these things in the great perspective of history, one cannot for a moment doubt the unflinching courage, the splendid faith and the unbounded optimism that this man had in the Dominion of Canada, his country he loved so well.

"Lord Strathcona received the crowning honor of his great career when he was honored by his King with the position of High Commissioner of Canada, a post which he filled efficiently and with a high appreciation of the responsibilities which it involved, for many years. It was my pleasant task as a representative from this Province to meet his Lordship on several occasions while visiting the City of London on Government business. He was always anxious, so far as his office was concerned, that nothing should be left undone to aid and implement any business in which British Columbia was concerned. No matter how pressing his other engagements, Lord Strathcona never hesitated in advancing the work in hand, and was always willing to place his time and his long experience at our disposal.

Interest in Province

"Lord Strathcona took a deep and a special interest in the affairs of British Columbia, and a pride in the advancement of the Province, and many times he went out of his way to show some special mark of favor towards this section of the Dominion of Canada. I do not wish to insinuate that he neglected any portion of the country, but he always felt that being so far removed from the central Government as we were, he should devote special attention to the business of this Province. Only a few years ago, when he was in his nineteenth year, in order to acquaint himself with the growth of the country through personal knowledge, he informed me that he intended to make a trip from Montreal to Victoria. I was greatly surprised with the knowledge he exhibited of what had been transpiring in British Columbia. He seemed to follow the expansion of this Province very closely indeed, and knew almost in detail the magnitude of our public works, the advancement of our educational institutions and the general improvement that have been carried out here. At that time there was some doubt expressed as to His Lordship being able to come here, but all this was set at rest in the Summer of 1909, when we were privileged to receive him in this City of Victoria, and to entertain him for two days before he turned his step eastward on his return journey to London. Lord Strathcona was not content at that time with a trip along the main line of the C. P. R., but journeyed through the Okanagan Valley and other sections of the Province so that he might inform himself at first hand of the development of the Province.

Strathcona Park

"I may say to you, Mr. Speaker, and to the members of this House, that Lord Strathcona was deeply sensitive of the recognition of the Province in calling this magnificent park after him and that on many occasions he spoke to me on the matter. Only four months ago through the kindness of the Minister of Public Works, and of Colonel Thomson, I was enabled to deliver personally to him a volume of views of Strathcona Park, and I can speak with personal knowledge of the keen interest with which he turned over the pages of the book and how much pride he felt in the fact that his name would be forever associated with the coastline of the Province of British Columbia.

"Mr. Speaker, I will delay the House no longer, but will rest content with the presentation of the resolution which after approval by the House will be followed by a motion for adjournment out of respect to the memory of this great Canadian."

In seconding the resolution, Mr. Williams, Member for Newcastle, said that he had only a few words to add to the eulogy spoken by the Premier.

Of Immense Energy

"An old man has passed away," said Mr. Williams, "and from the brief attention I have paid to his history learn that he was born of the multitude and of democracy, which perhaps was the basis of that strength which carried him to the wonderful age of 100. He was a man of immense energy, of sober cast of mind, and so we must conclude of careful habits, because character in the last analysis is merely the structure that is built upon habits and experience.

"The fates were kind to Lord Stratford. Wealth and all that wealth can bring were his, together with an abundance of honors. But in addition to these things he enjoyed what is perhaps the greatest prize that any man can have, especially a man of his extreme age, in that to the last his faculties appeared to have remained unimpaired. And again the fates were kind when the final summons came else-
hid from his vision the dread reaper whose advent men so much fear.

"Wealth and position were his in the highest degree. Lord Strathcona possessed much that was not attributable to these material sources, and for this reason, Mr. Speaker, we are glad of the opportunity of paying tribute to his memory."

The resolution was passed in silence and the Premier moved the adjournment of the House.

Editorial

SUPREMACY OF THE LEGISLATURE

Exception has been taken to the statement that the Provincial Legislature is supreme within its jurisdiction. We had not supposed that any person was so absurd as to question this statement. The legislature can pass any law within the class of subjects assigned to it by the British North America Act, subject only to disallowance by the Governor-General. Disallowance by the Lieutenant-Governor need not be considered in this connection, because until that official has given his assent, a bill has not become a law.

It is suggested by a contemporary that if the Legislature is supreme it can pass an act declaring that members of the Legislature shall be appointed by the Government. As such an enactment would be contrary to the British North America Act, the suggestion is not worthy of serious consideration.

There is, however, no limit to the powers which the Legislature may do in its constitution provided it does not exceed the powers conferred by the Constitution. It is just as well that the public should be generally understood that there is no prevalence of a contrary opinion to lead to misunderstanding.

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time it was not an unusual
England for Parliament to

certain measures should be repealed, but the fallacy under a provision soon became apparent. Many years have passed—many languages have appeared in Parliament. And so in Brazil. The Legislature may repeal today and repeal it tomorrow, or next year, or next week, or next month.

And this power of repeal lies with the Attorney General, namely, that which asserts, namely, that will repeal the Legislature's decision.

We had supposed that already knew these elements but apparently there are not, or at least who are not, effort to make the public they do not. If

lature has incurred penalty within the power of the which imposed the penalty bend them. The fact that British Columbia what is Constitution Act" which

Constitution Act," mislead people. That act is only a Preamble of just exactly the nature as an act imposing a bounty or fixing liquor licenses. The Legislature can change it at any time when an election comes round. The people can elect a Legislature to change the change and re-enact the provision.

There is, however, no limitation to what the Legislature may do in respect to its constitution provided it does not exceed the powers conferred upon it by that act. It is just as well that this should be generally understood, as the prevalence of a contrary idea is likely to lead to misunderstandings.

But we are told that the Legislature is not supreme because it is answerable to the people. Of course the Legislature is answerable to the people, who may at a general election, if they see fit, turn every one of its members out and elect others in their place, who may rescind any legislation which their predecessors may have passed. No Legislature can bind its successor. At one time it was not an unusual practice in England for Parliament to enact that certain measures should never be repeated, but the fallacy underlying such a provision soon became apparent and many years have passed since such language has appeared in an Act of Parliament. And so in British Columbia. The Legislature may pass an act today and repeal it tomorrow, or next week, or next year, or at any time. And this power of repeal only establishes what the Attorney-General has asserted, namely, that within its jurisdiction the Legislature is supreme.

We had supposed that most persons already knew these elementary things, but apparently there are some who do not, or at least who are not above the effort to make the public believe that they do not. If a member of the Legislature has incurred penalties it is quite within the power of the Legislature, which imposed the penalties, to suspend them. The fact that we have in British Columbia what is called "The Constitution Act," misleads some people. That act is only a Provincial statute of just exactly the same standing as an act imposing a bounty on coyotes or fixing liquor licenses. The Legislature can change it at any time, and when an election comes round, the people can elect a Legislature that will repeal the change and re-enact the original provision.

SOCIALIST MEMBER IN HIS USUAL ROLE

Mr. Parker Williams, Member
for Newcastle, Indulges in
Attack on Government—
Standing Committees.

Mr. Parker Williams, the Socialist Member for Newcastle, occupied the floor for two hours at yesterday's sitting of the Legislature with a speech which for the most part consisted of a personal attack on the members of the present Ministry. The Premier smiled at some of his diatribes. His remarks failed to draw a single word of protest, and his attacks on those whom he accused of raiding the treasury was listened to with a far more impressive silence than similar accusations uttered by Mr. Place a few days previously.

Mr. Williams, who poses as a Socialist, did not utter a single word of constructive policy throughout the two hours during which he occupied the attention of the House; but for the most part his address consisted of a direct attack on the personal character of those who are at present administering the Government. Even the press came in for a portion of his recriminations, and he devoted the greater part of his address to a direct attack on the land policy of the Government, using the arguments that the Liberals are proclaiming throughout the Province. No one seemed to take Mr. Williams seriously.

In his opening remarks he referred to the death of a boy in Burnaby, connecting it by some analogy, that was not clear to the members, with the death of Lord Strathcona.

In speaking of the disturbances of last Summer on Vancouver Island, he said that they were of no magnitude whatever, and inferred that the punishments meted out to the offenders were entirely disproportionate to the crimes committed. Referring further to the trouble at Nanaimo, he said that the root of the evil was the incapacity and inactivity of the Government. "In view of the experience of the last few months," said Mr. Williams, "I would today go on record as favoring the popular election and recall of judges, in accordance with the practice of the majority of American States."

Before Mr. Williams spoke on the reply to the address, Mr. Watson, Member for Vancouver, asked leave to introduce a private bill to amend the Corporate Act of the Dominion Trust Company.

The following petitions were also received: From the City of North Vancouver for leave to introduce a private bill validating certain by-laws; and from the Institute of Chartered Accountants of British Columbia, for leave to introduce a private bill to amend the Chartered Accountants' Act of 1905.

Standing Committees

At the conclusion of Mr. Williams' speech the Premier announced the appointment of the following standing committees of the session:

Private Bills and Standing Orders—Messrs. Miller, Campbell, Shatford, Shaw, Tiedall and Place.

Mining—Messrs. Campbell, Mackay, MacLean, Fraser, McDonald, Wood, Hunter and Place.

Railways—Messrs. Schofield, Caven, Callanan, Watson, Jackson, Manson (Comox), Forster (Columbia), Hunter and Place.

Public Accounts—Messrs. Manson (Dewdney), Lucas, Forster (Columbia), Fraser, Shatford, Williams and Place.

Municipal Matters—Messrs. Manson (Skeena), Davey, Pooley, Gifford, Cawley, MacKenzie, MacLean, Schofield, Foster (Islands), and Williams.

Agriculture—Messrs. Lucas, Cawley, Jackson, Wood, Manson (Comox), and Williams.

Printing—Messrs. McGuire, Behnen and Foster (Islands).

Mr. Bowser presented to the Speaker a message from the Lieutenant-Governor transmitting a bill entitled "An Act to Amend the Benevolent Societies Act," and it was ordered that the message, with the accompanying bill, be referred to a committee of the whole House.

On the departure of the Speaker, the House went into committee and immediately resolved to recommend the introduction of the bill. The bill was introduced and read for the first time and the second reading was set for tomorrow.

The Attorney-General presented a second message from the Lieutenant-Governor transmitting a bill entitled "An Act to Amend the Charitable Associations Act." Again the House went into committee and the bill was introduced and read for the first time, the second reading being set for tomorrow.

A similar proceeding was taken with a bill amending the Industrial Communities Act, the Industrial and Provident Societies Act, the Literary Societies Act, and the Mutual Fire Insurance Company's Act.

Mr. W. H. Hayward, Member for Cowichan, was appointed Deputy Speaker of the House, and after the introduction of the report of the Auditor-General by the Attorney-General, the House adjourned the sitting until two o'clock today.

Notices of Motion

Among the notices of motion which are on the paper for today are the following:

By Mr. Williams—On Friday next—Questions of the Hon. the Attorney-General:

1. Did the Hon. Mr. Justice Morrison, during 1913, deliver a judgment dealing with the filing of subdivision maps?

2. How many maps were held up or awaiting action at the date of judgment?

3. How many subdivision maps were held for action on December 31, 1913?

By Mr. Williams—On Friday next—Questions of the Hon. the Attorney-General:

1. How many applications to register (a) absolute fees, (b) indefeasible fees, (c) mortgages, were received at the Land Registry Offices at Victoria and Vancouver in 1913?

2. How many written notices with objections to register titles or charges were issued by the Land Registry Offices in Victoria and Vancouver in 1913?

By Mr. Williams—On Friday Next—Questions of the Hon. the Attorney-General:

1. Are the rules prepared by the Inspector of Legal Offices, and enforced in the Land Registry Offices of the Province, printed or published in any and what manner?

2. How do the people transacting business at the Land Registry Offices find out what rules are in force?

3. If said rules are changed or repealed, what notice (if any) is given or published?

4. How are the public to learn of any such alteration or repeal of said rules?

By Mr. Williams—On Friday next—Question of the Hon. the Attorney-General:

How many postcards were issued by the Land Registry Offices of Victoria and Vancouver during 1913, as the sole evidence of the registration of titles or charges?

Editorial Jan 23rd 14.

DAYLIGHT SAVING BILL

It is intimated that there is a probability of a Daylight Saving Bill being introduced during the present session of the Legislature. The proposal that has been put forward is, that the standard time in the Province should be advanced one hour from April 1 until the third Sunday in October. The object of such legislation is presumably to allow of the day's work being commenced an hour earlier so that there will be so much more time left for recreation while the sun is above the horizon. The end in view is one praiseworthy enough, but it seems to us that the method proposed to achieve it is in the nature of self-deception. This is by no means the only objection to such legislation. It is very certain that the Dominion Meteorological Department, which fixes the standard time for the Province, would refuse to be bound by any such arrangement as is proposed. Then, taking the case of railroad companies and steamship lines operating to and from points in British Columbia, we hardly suppose it will be suggested with any seriousness that they will disorganize their schedules just because this Province might seek to have different time to that prevailing in other parts of the Dominion and in the United States. Unless the transportation companies and the Federal authorities fell into line with the suggestion it would be difficult to carry it out successfully, and we see no reason to believe that they would even entertain the proposal. The object sought may be a laudable one, but surely there must be some other means to effect it without altering the hands of the clock to a fictitious time and hoodwinking ourselves into the belief that we are extending the hours of sunshine. If it is possible to legislate so that the time for commencing work can be made one hour earlier and the business day be brought to an end sixty minutes sooner than at present, why, do so by all means, if public opinion is found to support such a change. To bring about such a reform by putting forward the hands of the clock is both impracticable and undesirable.

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**STRIKING SPEECH
BY THE PREMIER**

Sir Richard McBride Deals Exhaustively With Criticisms Leveled Against Government of Which He Is Leader.

**ADMINISTRATION'S WISE
POLICY BEARS FRUIT**

**No Country on the Face of the
Globe Doing More Develop-
ment Work on Sound Busi-
nesslike Lines.**

Sir Richard McBride, at yesterday's sitting of the Legislature, proved the claim of his supporters that he is the ablest orator in the House, and, indeed, ranks as one of the great masters of the art in Canada today. In a closely-reasoned speech of nearly two hours' duration, he dealt with the criticisms leveled at the present Government by the Members of Newcastle and Nanaimo. Making only a passing, though dignified reference to the personalities which were a strong feature of Mr. Parker Williams' speech of the previous day, the Premier trenchantly analysed the arguments which had been used by the Opposition against the legislative and executive acts of the present Government.

There was a large attendance in the galleries in anticipation of the Premier's address, which was listened to throughout with marked attention. Speaking somewhat more slowly and deliberately than in his usual custom, after paying a grateful tribute to the speeches of the Members for Dewdney and the Islands, he launched at once into a defence of Judge Howay, and that part of his speech which dealt with the judicial acts of the man who presided at the trials at New Westminster had an added interest owing to the close personal friendship which has existed between the Premier and Judge Howay since the days of the former's boyhood.

Sir Richard's Speech

"Mr. Speaker, it is the custom in all Legislatures," said the Premier, "that the person occupying the position of Leader of the House should make a passing review on matters of public interest before the address in reply to the speech from the Throne has been adopted. In accordance with this practice, I hope therefore, this afternoon, to recall briefly, for the information of Parliament and of this Province some of our public business for which the administration must be held responsible."

"Let me first, however, congratulate the Member for Dewdney, who very ably and eloquently moved the resolution the other afternoon. Let me also congratulate the Member for the Islands constituency, who made his first appearance as a member of this Legislature. With regard to my honorable friend who represents Dewdney I would say that it was with an especial delight that I listened to his first effort in the House; and if he would permit me the personal reference, I would like to say that I think it would be an advantage to this House, if he could hereafter take a more prominent part in the debates. I think we have a very promising, and unquestionably a very able representative in the Member for Dewdney, and one whose contributions to our debates, from both an oratorical and businesslike standpoint, would be of benefit to the Parliament of this Province. The constituency from which my honorable friend comes was my old constituency, and I have always held a deep affection for the Dewdney riding. There were some troublesome times politically in that part of British Columbia history, but through all I was constantly successful in holding the confidence of the majority of the members of the district."

Member for the Islands

"The Member for the Islands district comes to the House with a very great reputation both as a man of public importance and as one who has played an important part in the development of British Columbia. Some time ago he was president of the Conservative Association, an organization of great influence in the Province, with all due deference to the observations made yesterday by the honorable member for Newcastle. He has also occupied a very responsible position in the Canadian Pacific Railway service, where, directly under his charge, were works of great magnitude pertaining to the maintenance and operation of one of the most important divisions of the line. Later on, through the recommendation of the Minister of Public Works, he became associated with the Government of the Province in the capacity of Deputy Minister of Public Works, where his energy, patience and tact quickly won for him the esteem and regard of the people of this Province. I venture to say that the speech delivered in this House by the honorable member for the Islands, stamps him at once as one of our great debaters, whose participation in the business of the House is bound to work for the general advantage of the Legislature."

"We have also listened to the speeches of our honorable friends from Newcastle and Nanaimo. It is but right, I suppose, under the peculiar order of things that obtains here to term my honorable friend from Newcastle the Leader of the Opposition. I would like to say that there has been a frankness with respect to the criticism of these honorable gentlemen that cannot be overlooked. They told us that they have views of their own which they propose to hold, come what may; and to sum up their political creed in a single sentence, they would have this Legislature and the Province believe that, no matter what the Government did, under no conceivable circumstances would it be able to bring down legislation, or perform any executive act that would meet with their commendation. Fundamentally, through and through, this Government, this Conservative administration, is wrong in their estimation. It has been conceived in all sorts of iniquity and is consequently impotent of any good results. This, to some extent, clears the way for the few words I propose to address to you this afternoon."

Replies to Criticism

"But may I pause for a moment, to call the attention of the House to one or two points which were emphasized by the honorable Member for Newcastle? In the first place he spoke of the very sad occurrences which took place the other day at Burnaby. One of the men sentenced from Nanaimo was suddenly called away, and he gave this House to understand that it was presumably through the neglect of the officials of the institution that this unfortunate occurrence happened. I would like it to be understood that if there has been any neglect on the part of the officials of the Burnaby jail against which the death of this man can be placed, this Government will leave nothing undone to ascertain upon whom the blame should rest, and will take every step necessary to mete out the punishment that may be deemed as fitting the offence. I am glad the honorable Member for Newcastle mentioned the matter, because it was his public duty to do so, and I will add this Legislature and this Province are indebted to him for the manner in which he brought it forward."

"The honorable Member for Newcastle also took it upon himself to refer to His Honor Judge Howay, who was the trial judge, sitting in Nanaimo, when several persons involved in law-breaking in that community, were sentenced to different terms of imprisonment. I have known Judge Howay from boyhood and have always found him to be an upright and honorable man. As a judge he has already, through his work on the County Court bench, earned the reputation of being one of our ablest jurists, and I cannot conceive of any order of things that would induce him to depart from the high traditions which pertain to his office. It seems that my honorable friend across the floor of this House has been informed that Judge Howay, in the course of his work, when sittings were being held at Nanaimo, took occasion to go to Lady Smith for the purpose of looking over

evidence on his own account, that is evidence connected with the trial of the men. Now it may be that Judge Howay did visit Lady Smith, but, sir, I am absolutely certain—and I know that my friend will take the statement from me—that if Judge Howay went to Lady Smith, he did not for one moment commit himself during his visit, to anything that would qualify his ability to carry through his work properly as trial judge. I do not believe that my honorable friend from Newcastle means to be unfair to Judge Howay. I prefer to believe that he has been wrongly informed as to the Judge's movements. I do hold no brief for His Honor Judge Howay, and I have never had an occasion, since this unfortunate occurrence took place, to discuss with him any of the details of the case, but I want to make it as clear and distinct as possible that, in so far as His Honor Judge Howay is concerned, I fully believe that he did nothing himself, and suffered nothing to take place in connection with the trials, which could be called in question, and that throughout the proceedings he conducted himself in accordance with the highest traditions of the courts of this country. For my own part I have always taken the position that, while we as a Legislature must be looked upon as the highest court in the land, at the same time, in the public interest it is our bounden duty to appreciate and strengthen our courts, until some matter of general public interest arises in which we may feel called upon to interfere. It is a dangerous precedent, and one that would unquestionably lead to the gravest consequences, if the time and attention of the Legislature is to be given over to a review of the work of our courts. So far as this Government is concerned, I think I may say that we have invariably discouraged discussion on the floor of this Legislature relative to the courts of the land."

Mr. Speaker: "It is contrary to the rules of the House."

The Premier: "It is not contrary to the rules of the House that if the proposals of a single Member are founded upon fact he should submit them."

Mr. Speaker: "That would be subject to resolution in the usual manner."

Attorney-General's Department

The Premier: "Yes, sir, there is a mode of procedure by which we can approach the matter. The honorable Member for Newcastle spoke of another prisoner in the jail at Burnaby whose health is in a precarious condition. I would like to say that if he would be good enough to bring the facts to the attention of the Attorney-General, the Government will be only too glad to give the matter its most earnest consideration. Personally I am only too pleased to listen to any matters that may be submitted, relative to the affairs of the Government. It is impossible for the Attorney-General to investigate the details of every case that is brought to his notice and at the same time efficiently administer the affairs of his department, but, at the same time, I am sure that any matter that is brought to his attention will be investigated and nothing will be left undone to have wrong righted. Our duty in the maintenance of prisons is to see that everything is conducted on humane and modern lines, and we do not propose to fail in the discharge of that obligation. Perhaps it would not be uninteresting to the House to know, in relation to the question of the upkeep of prisons, what the department of the Attorney-General has been doing. I know, of my own knowledge, that he has taken occasion to send officials of his department to the Eastern Provinces with a view to obtaining full information and advice as to modern prison methods. I know that this is scarcely a pleasant theme, but it may be valuable information for the House that, in the construction of the prison farm at Burnaby and also in the construction of the new prison on Vancouver Island, the most up-to-date methods have been adopted. I am convinced of the fact that the work of prison reform can be efficiently carried on in any section of our country. The difficulty is that it is so hard to arouse public interest in a question of this kind. In the Province of Ontario, until the Provincial Secretary took the matter in hand, little had been done in the way of improving the condition of the unfortunate prisoners. Under his regime, however, some sweeping changes were made, and it is claimed that the prison institutions in Ontario are now conducted on more humane lines than ever before. Prisons are not so much for the purpose of providing an asylum for un-

fortunates as to serve as a warning to society that misdeeds against the law are punishable, but when people have the misfortune to be sentenced to confinement there is undoubtedly a public duty upon the Government to see that the conditions of that confinement are as humane as possible."

His Personal Record

"A great deal was said by my friends the honorable Members for Newcastle and Nanaimo of a more or less personal nature. Insofar as I am concerned, I would prefer to leave to the Legislature and to the people of this Province the decision as to whether I deserve the references that were thrown at me across the floor of this House. I find no fault with these gentlemen for a single utterance, and although it is never pleasing to hear matters of a personal character directed towards anyone in this Assembly, yet, Mr. Speaker, for upwards of eleven sessions, year after year, I have listened to these indictments from Members sitting on the left of your chair. If the participation I have had in the business of the country counts for anything at all, I would prefer to leave any actions of mine, or of others for which I may be held accountable as leader of the Government, to the great jury of this country, rather than leave myself in the hands of those gentlemen from Newcastle and Nanaimo. I have listened, session after session, to the pleas of the Opposition, both in and out of this House, and especially those of the Socialist party of British Columbia, but I would like to impress on the Socialist party, and my statements are borne out by a study of the records of the House, if they accord the matter a fair and unprejudiced judgment that, in my humble capacity as leader of this Government, I have accomplished ten times, and even a hundred times more for the working classes than have either of my honorable friends across the floor of this House. I have never posed as a labor representative, nor have I attempted to hold myself as a representative of capital. I have been here principally because of the support given me by the Conservatives of the Province, but I have also always attempted, as far as my ability permits, to represent all classes of the community, and when I am unable to go further in that direction, then my period of usefulness has come to an end, and I shall step down from the position I now occupy."

Traveling Expenses

"Now, sir, with regard to the traveling expenses of ministers and officials, and with regard to the private affairs of the Members of this House, I do not propose to ask you to listen to me at any length. The honorable member for Newcastle has told you year after year that when I go to Ottawa and London the traveling expenses of myself and my secretary are charged against the treasury of British Columbia. That is true, Mr. Speaker, and whenever, in my judgment, I feel that I can serve my Province by going to Ottawa and London, I shall not hesitate to go, and charge the expenses against the treasury of this Province. If you think I am not entitled to do so, the remedy is in your hands. The people of this country can quickly displace me, and if it is their choice to do so, they can place my honorable friend from Newcastle in the position I now occupy."

"Mr. Speaker, I am always ready and willing to work with my friends from Newcastle and Nanaimo. If there is any public business arising in which the Government may co-operate with the honorable gentlemen opposite, we, on this side of the House, shall not hesitate to take counsel with them, and so far as we are able, facilitate the work. It is only fair that I should say that during the many sessions we have sat in this House I have accepted many amendments from the honorable Member from Newcastle, relative to acts of Parliament, and I give him credit for the interest he has always displayed in our measures. And especially now, when he is obliged, as leader of the Opposition, with but one follower, to fully check our actions and parse the bills that are presented for the consideration of this House, I would like the Members of this Government to be especially solicitous of any requests made by the leader of the Opposition and his colleagues from Nanaimo, so that they can bring to bear all the time and all the scrutiny possible upon the various bills presented in this House. There is one more reference I would like to make, before dealing with three or four items of public interest, and

that is to the absence of the late Member for the district, now the Honorable McPhillips. It could not cause the slightest of quarter were I to say Justice McPhillips continued in this Legislature, heard from him long a Member for the Islands, always actively engaged, ment of his constituent patient to a degree, sir, and he will be remembered as a man who retailed affection of every House. I think, that of Legislature of this Province a graceful thing to be successful and brilliant member of the highest of Columbia.

Business Conduct

"I propose now, sir, words to deal generally of interest referred to by Member for Newcastle. print a Hansard of this were able to review the by him, what conclusions we would come to? The time in the history of when business was act was abounding prosper able to regard such con factory. He has told that is the principle of dealing with his attitu the Opposition I feel th to draw the attention of two or three things w up, in order that there, conception as to the tr fails. In the first place, of his reference to the cultural Commissions, that positive fashion w his own, not to believe missions are substanti the very high duties imposed upon them."

"How does he dispo Commission? He tells body of men, scarcely and he wants his con lieve that it was form pose of appeasing cer politicians. Mr. Speak made by the Govern commissioners serving labor investigators wa made. We tried to fr men, who were both and I am told that in which their inquiry re natives of the labor the country seized th come before them and money and assistance. I press of the partide of this commission throughout the countr most offensive accord of these organizations that yesterday aftern he told by the Leader that their time had that they had gone b opinion was practical"

Labor Com

"The report of that will probably be pres three weeks. When it I shall take especial friend the honorable castle is supplied w he will have an ear studying the findings stoner. The proposa ment is that they at studied, and that in wisdom of the Gover petent for the admin Legislature to import results of this commu place ourselves in th at the next session, shall be able to bring hensive labor bill th the requirements of t circumstances."

"My friend and his very useful in this e sly, and candidly be his references yester have been a little m he intended, he appr measure at least the certain. He has a Agricultural Commi was disposed of by h words, and be also state his objections t the House of the Me tion the Agricultural ew, the bill as carry then the Royal assa tlemen are now in I feel sure that the Lea tion joins with me b back to the House, tion in regard to the

that is to the absence from this House of the late Member for the Islands district, now the Honorable Mr. Justice McPhillips. It could not for a moment cause the slightest offence in any quarter were I to say that had Mr. Justice McPhillips continued as a Member in this Legislature, we would have heard from him long before this. As Member for the Islands district, he was always actively engaged in the advancement of his constituents, admirable and patient to a degree, sincere and candid, and he will be remembered by all of us as a man who retained the esteem and affection of every Member of the House. I think that on behalf of the Legislature of this Province, it would be a graceful thing to wish him a long, successful and brilliant career as a member of the highest court of British Columbia.

Business Conditions

"I propose now, sir, in a very few words to deal generally with some items of interest referred to by the honorable Member for Newcastle. If we were to print a Hansard of this House and we were able to review the speeches made by him, what conclusion do you think we would come to? That never at any time in the history of the Province, when business was active and there was abounding prosperity, would he be able to regard such conditions as satisfactory. He has told us frankly that that is the principle of his work. In dealing with his attitude as leader of the Opposition I feel that it is my duty to draw the attention of the House to two or three things which he brought up, in order that there may be no misconception as to the true state of affairs. In the first place, I wish to speak of his reference to the Labor and Agricultural Commissions. He asked us, in that positive fashion which is peculiarly his own, not to believe that these commissions are substantial and equal to the very high duties that have been imposed upon them.

"How does he dispose of the Labor Commission? He tells us that it is a body of men, scarcely worthy of notice, and he wants his constituents to believe that it was formed for the purpose of appeasing certain disappointed politicians. Mr. Speaker, the selection made by the Government of the five commissioners serving on the board as labor investigators was very carefully made. We tried to find representative men, who were both active and careful, and I am told that in every quarter to which their inquiry led them representatives of the labor organizations of the country seized the opportunity to come before them and offer their testimony and assistance. I have read in the press of the participation in the work of this commission by labor men throughout the country. Now, it is almost offensive according to my ideas of these organizations and labor leaders that yesterday afternoon they should be told by the Leader of the Opposition that their time had been wasted and that they had gone before what in his opinion was practically a fool concern.

Labor Commission

"The report of that Labor Commission will probably be presented in two or three weeks. When it is brought down I shall take especial care that my friend the honorable Member for Newcastle is supplied with copies so that he will have an early opportunity of studying the findings of the commissioners. The proposal of the Government is that they shall be carefully studied, and that insofar as in the wisdom of the Government it is competent for the administration and the Legislature to import into the law the results of this commission's inquiry, to place ourselves in the position so that at the next session of Parliament we shall be able to bring down a comprehensive labor bill that will fully meet the requirements of the prevailing circumstances.

"My friend and his colleague may be very useful in this connection. I honestly and candidly believe that despite his references yesterday, which may have been a little more emphatic than he intended, he appreciates in some measure at least the work we have undertaken. He has a bill also at the Agricultural Commission. This body was disposed of by him in two or three words, and he also took occasion to state his objections to the presence in the House of the Members who worked upon the Agricultural Commission. However, the bill as carried has now been given the Royal assent and these gentlemen are now in their seats, and I feel sure that the Leader of the Opposition joins with me in welcoming them back to the House. What is the position in regard to these Members. Here

it is in a nutshell. The Member for Yale and the Member for Cowichan have been giving weeks and months of their time toward the advancement of the commission's inquiry. They are both Members of Parliament, representing large farming constituencies, and they are both vitally interested in the agricultural industry of the country. If you look at the question of their right to sit in this assembly in a cold-blooded manner you might come to the conclusion that two others should be sitting here in their place, but then you would have been obliged to pay them their full allowance. Of course that is a rather mean and narrow way to look at the question. But Mr. Speaker, that does not represent the true facts of the case at all. The Members for Cowichan and Yale took positions on that board at my own personal request, and I had the approval of my colleagues, in advancing that request. It was with considerable hesitancy that they accepted the positions, after giving consideration to the amount of time which the undertaking would involve.

Agricultural Industry

Mr. Speaker, I make the statement that we have never, in all the years of office, approached a more serious work than that which is involved in the reforms relative to the agricultural industry in British Columbia. This is the beginning of the agricultural era in British Columbia. The industry has experienced a very gradual growth dating back into the early sixties. In a sense it has been accelerated by the activities of the local and Federal departments of agriculture. There is still a great work to be done, but we must not be unkindful of the fact that throughout the past years we have been progressing. In the past our agricultural development was necessarily curbed by the limitations of our facilities for handling and shipping produce, but now we have more railways, more trunk roads, and consequently we have more land under cultivation. It is absolutely essential for the economic advancement of this Province that the movement toward the land should be carried out in a most efficient and up to date manner.

"This Government has always taken the position that it would be practically criminal to encourage agricultural settlement until such time as there was a reasonable measure of railway construction, trunk roads, and other means whereby the markets for produce would be brought within measurable distance of the producers. To place people on sections of land located some twenty or forty miles away from any railway connection of any kind involves a very serious hardship and is productive of little or no profit. As a Government we have never countenanced a policy of that nature, believing that the natural and proper method to pursue in a country such as ours is to prepare the country for the advent of the settler. Presently we shall have what may be regarded as adequate transportation facilities in this country to justify a much larger measure of agricultural settlement than we have now. We feel that with the assistance of this commission and the report that will be forthcoming from it we shall be enabled to undertake in conjunction with the railway development the establishment of a large, prosperous and contented population of agriculturists. We are not approaching this question in any academic fashion. We are not trying to bring about a movement on the land in any indiscriminate or haphazard way that might bring about very questionable results and final defeat. What we do want to do deliberately, with the assurance, so far as possible, that any movement to which the Government gives its support must mean success.

The Land

"We hear from time to time of boards of trade, progressive clubs, and other public bodies, complaining about the poor movement in regard to the land and we even hear of the Liberals making statements upon the same subject. They have been doing this for years. There is little or nothing behind it, Mr. Speaker. I do not say that with any intent to reflect upon the criticism of many of these public bodies because their principal function must be to criticize, and to criticize is to help; but I do say that frequently observations are made that have absolutely no foundation in fact. With regard to the report of the Agricultural Commission we propose that it shall be printed and laid upon the table of the House. Copies will be distributed throughout the country so that the people

as well as the members will have an opportunity of according the theme a very careful study. And when we meet next year I hope that we shall be able to devise sound and useful legislation on the subject. In that regard we shall want the assistance of the leader of the Opposition and his colleagues.

Mr. Speaker, sometimes I have been somewhat confused in listening to the honorable member for Newcastle by the wonderful versatility of his poses. Sometimes we recognize him as a practical miner, and then we find him in the guise of a farmer, and so on from day to day. In fact, he exhibited considerable temerity when he told us in that quiet, modest fashion of his, how he found himself in Vancouver, near Point Grey, some years ago where he proposed locating a forty-acre homestead. If he had taken up that homestead today he would have been the proud possessor of forty acres of land in the heart of Vancouver. Consider what a great loss to the Socialist party was almost sustained at that critical moment of choice. Doubtless, however, if he had secured it the newspapers of the Socialist world would today ring with the announcement that he had turned a forty-acre gold mine into the party funds.

The Financial Position

"Just a word or two now in regard to the financial position of the country. My honorable friends from Newcastle and Nanaimo would have the House and the country believe that the bulk of the money expended by the Government has been spent upon the maintenance of what they term the party machine; and the climax was reached when they intimated that we had gone through a credit balance of millions and now had an overdraft. A year ago we did have a credit balance of several million dollars, which had accumulated through the careful work of the treasury and other Government departments, and also through the sale of crown lands in the interior sections of the Province. These lands were sold according to law, and brought the Government the market price. There were no lands given away. There were no lands alienated to colonization companies. Mr. Speaker, it has always occurred to me how very farcical the whole of the Liberal indictment is in this connection, because there is no single man of them who was not ready and willing, four or five years ago, when the question of the Saskatchewan Valley land deal was prominent in public affairs—I say there was not a single man of them who was not ready, and willing to stand up for Sir Wilfrid Laurier, who had been guilty of imposing upon the public in that deal, one of the greatest instances of neglect of Government ever placed on record. It is a most amusing thing to see them forwarding a propaganda and wasting hours in condemnation of the Provincial Government, when they know in their heart of hearts that the moment they have a chance at the lands department of British Columbia we will have a restoration of the old Liberal order of things, such another Saskatchewan Valley land trick, or something probably worse, will be perpetrated upon the people of this country. I have never listened to so much twaddle in regard to the management of lands as we have had in British Columbia lately, and especially during the election in the Islands riding. The lands we have sold brought their market value. They also brought many settlers to the country. The man looking for the homestead is not the only man who comes here. There are many who come with a sufficiency of wealth to enable them to buy crown lands. We hear a great deal about the poor homesteader and pre-emptor, just about election time. Our opponents make a point of elaborating that cry, particularly in the back parts of the country, but when we come to investigate the matter we find that it is so much idle talk. Suppose we have sold crown lands in blocks or groups, as the leader of the Opposition avers. We have required the purchase money, and where we have not secured it all a considerable portion has been advanced and the balance is drawing interest at the rate of six per cent. It is interesting to ask what has been done with the money. Every dollar of it has gone for education and public works. I regard it as the most fortunate thing in the world that we in British Columbia have sold blocks of crown land, especially at this time, because not only has this operation resulted in the centering of more attention than ever before upon the Province, but it has enabled us to build roads through new sections and

to generally link up the country so that settlement can be undertaken without any of the disadvantages that would inevitably have accrued to it under the original conditions. At the same time it must not be forgotten that through the agency of the land tax, fixed, as it is today, at four per cent, we have been able to secure from those crown lands a very appreciable portion of our revenue. Am I to understand, Mr. Speaker, that if the leader of the Opposition, or the Liberal party, assumed power in British Columbia tomorrow there would be no more sale of lands, that there would be a cancellation of sales reported, but not completed, and that there would still be a continuance of the policy of public works which have been inaugurated and carried through. I am anxious to see some party arise in opposition to this Government with a constructive policy. Its criticism would do us good. We are large, and we can stand criticism and opposition."

Mr. Parker Williams interrupted to say that his opposition had not received the welcome the Premier referred to.

"Perpetual Criticism"

The Premier: "My honorable friend cannot blame me because he suffered a setback at the election and found himself with a meagre majority of 11 or so instead of 110. If his majority shrunk from 110 to 11 I think he has himself to blame. But to go back to the question of the land policy, I sometimes hear good Conservatives and Liberals alike expressing their wonder as to whether there can be anything in the perpetual criticism. I am sure of this, however, that if they knew their authorities as well as I do they would take very little stock in that kind of criticism. If there is anything in their criticism why is it that this Government has not been swept down from power and a Government controlled by Mr. Brewster and Mr. MacDonald elected in its place? Would such a Government as that continue the policy of public works that we have laid the foundations for, involving as it does millions of dollars, and if they would where would they find the money, since they decry the methods we have adopted?"

"I want the House to understand that in our adjustment of the fiscal affairs of the Province our consideration involved the education of the youth of the Province, the development of railways, the building of trunk roads, and the placing upon our rural lands of a desirable class of settlers. To this end, for a period of over ten years, we have most carefully studied the economy of the Province so that no mistake would be made in our development measures, and in that study we have felt it sound and wholesome business to sell here and there blocks of crown lands at fair and honorable prices. It has never been our policy to attempt to get the better of a bargain, but simply to strike a fair balance, leaving a margin of profit to the purchaser. Honorable gentlemen well know that the policy of this Government will make for the end of direct taxation. We hope by closely conserving the industries of the country to carry out the policy that was outlined in the Assessment Act of last year, and year after year to prune and pare down objectionable direct taxation until we have arrived at the point where all the revenue necessary to carry on the business of the Province is secured from the natural resources of the country. I make this statement deliberately, with a full knowledge of the facts involved.

Financial Position

"But, speaking of our present financial position, it is true that we have for the most part expended the balance we had. No one can argue that it is the safest policy for a Government to carry a surplus. Governments are not expected to, and we never had any disposition to do so. But what are the facts, Mr. Speaker? The people throughout Canada, in the United States and the Mother Country had such confidence in this Province, before the money stringency, as to bring their wealth here and invest it in the purchase of Crown lands and timber lands wherever desirable permits could be obtained. The money derived from these sources was paid into the bank. In that way we were enabled to carry a surplus for years. We did not spend it because our public works were not sufficiently advanced. By the year 1913, however, we had an appreciable knowledge of how we should proceed, and it was proposed to spend the large surplus which was referred to yesterday, upon the construction of roads, trails and bridges.

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WANTS TAXATION TO BE REDUCED

Mr. H. E. Forster, M. P. P.,
Makes Plea for Lumber Industry—Delta's Claim as Model Farming Section

Yesterday was the sixth day of the present session which has been devoted to the debate on the reply to the address from the throne, and the end is apparently not yet in sight.

Mr. Forster resumed the debate and made a strong plea for a lessening of taxation in the lumber industry, which he said was already bearing too heavy a burden. He was followed by Mr. McKenzie, of Delta, who quoted figures showing the wonderful prosperity of the Fraser Valley during the last ten years.

Mr. Cawley, of Chilliwack, who was the third speaker, congratulated the Government on the splendid record of the past year, and broke a lance with the member for Nanaimo, whom he accused of representing only one section of his constituency, according to Mr. Place's own confession, made in the House last week.

The debate in reply to the address from the throne was continued by Mr. H. E. Forster, the Member for Columbia. Naturally Mr. Forster devoted a considerable part of his speech to a recital of conditions and development in his own district. After referring to the gratifying number of new settlers that had come to the district, Mr. Forster stated that the Kootenay Central Railway had made good progress in the building of its line, which, when completed, will give communication with both main lines of the C. P. R. Sixty miles were opened last Spring, he said, and since that time a further twenty-two miles has been laid, and by the end of the present year it is expected that the line will be complete and in operation throughout.

Bank-Windermere Road

Speaking with reference to road building, Mr. Forster stated that the Bank-Windermere road had been pushed ahead under the management of Mr. Hill. Considerable difficulty had been encountered in places, notably at the western end of the road, where the roadbed had to be blasted out of the perpendicular walls of the Canyon on Sinclair Creek.

"During the past year some ten miles were completed on the west end of the road, and seven and a half miles on the east end, in addition to which eight miles on the west end and twelve miles on the east end were prepared for grading," said Mr. Forster. "This leaves about twenty-five miles still untouched. The most difficult part of the road has been completed, however, and the remainder should be finished and open to traffic before the end of the year."

Proceeding to elaborate with regard to roads, Mr. Forster stated that some definite policy should be followed. He wanted to know what the policy was concerning the roads in townships. In some cases the Government was doing the work and in others the owners of the property were doing it. He considered that a fair proposal in this connection would be for the township owners to clear and rough grade their streets and the Government to finish them as their share for the quarter interest they appropriate in all the new townships. "There was also the case of the land and irrigation companies. In the event of it being necessary for the Government to expropriate some portion of the lands for roads which the land company had neglected to provide for, who was there to reimburse the unfortunate purchasers. He contended that the land company who sold the land should be held responsible in such an eventuality, but pointed out that there was no provision in the statute books for such cases.

Good Name of Province

"This leads to another matter which is of grave importance, in that it affects the good name of the Province," said Mr. Forster. "I refer to the need of some form of legislation to curb the unscrupulous propensities of the boomer and the wild-catter, and stop the gross misrepresentations that he so often utilizes to boom whatever he has to sell."

Mr. Forster then made a reference to the water department and expressed his appreciation of the announcement that the Water Act was to be consolidated this session.

Dealing with the lumber industry in the Province, Mr. Forster took up the question of taxation. He regretted that the poll tax had been rescinded, as it was the only means they had of making the transient pay his share in the upkeep of the country. While these were exempt the lumber industry was bearing a considerable burden, he said. The boast was made that the industry paid the largest proportion of taxes of any industry in the Province, and yet he contended that there was no justification for the burdens imposed. He ventured to say that the high rate and uneven way in which the lumber industry had been taxed was responsible for the great proportion of the loss of revenue to the Government last year, as the people concerned could not stand such taxation during a period of financial depression.

Plea for Lumber Industry

"When you realize these facts," said Mr. Forster, "you will see that the lumber industry is being rather hard hit, particularly in the interior of the Province. At the Coast, where there are many square miles of dense timber easy of access and of such splendid quality that it is famous the world over, perhaps the lumbermen can stand paying the present taxes, but the mountain lumberman has to be content with limits that generally contain a much smaller proportion of merchantable timber."

Mr. F. J. A. MacKenzie, Member for Delta, then took up the discussion. He opened with a reference to that part of the address relating to municipalities and the agricultural interests therein. He pointed out that the three municipalities comprising the Delta riding were of the food producing class, and held a high position as such in the Province. He referred briefly to the difficulties that faced the early settlers in his district, and stated that by a system of co-operation the lands had been dyked and reclaimed, and were now as productive, if not more so, than any in the Province. He claimed that in a single season the 30,000 acres comprising the riding had yielded as much in produce as represented a valuation of \$1,350,000.

Model Farming Section

"This municipality is a model farming section, and the Dominion Government would be well advised should the Provincial Agricultural Department induce it to spend some of the Dominion aid to agriculture in B. C. by establishing an experimental truck garden farm, so that the wants of the adjacent cities could be met," said Mr. MacKenzie.

He proceeded to say that if the Government's policy of expenditure was based along the lines of helping those who help themselves, the Delta riding would loom large in the Provincial estimates.

Referring to the question of land settlement, Mr. MacKenzie said he was heartily in accord with the policy of the Government, and congratulated the Minister of Lands upon the energetic manner of carrying out the duties of his office.

"Traveling in the interior of the Province," he said, "I was assured on every hand of the splendid treatment the new settler is getting from this Government, and it contrasted very favorably with that received in the U. S. where many of the settlers came from."

He contended that it was not right that agricultural aid should come from the sale of a portion of the crown lands. He understood the Government to be in the same position as the farmer with 150 acres of land and no money, who sold eighty acres to obtain money to develop the other eighty and make it productive. He did not consider it good business for the Government to realize on a portion of its land in order to give the settler schools, roads, and other assistance.

Administrative Record

In rising to continue the debate on the reply to the address from the throne, Mr. S. Cawley, of Chilliwack, paid a graceful tribute to Mr. Speaker Everts, expressing a hope that he might long be spared to preside over the Legislature. He congratulated the Government on the splendid showing made in the several departments during the past year, and said that in spite of the criticisms of the members for Nanaimo and Newcastle, the administration had made a record of which it might well be proud.

"Notwithstanding the money stringency and the falling off of revenue, British Columbia is still on the map," said Mr. Cawley, "and stands today in the money markets of the world second to no country or Province."

He said that he was glad to see that an act amending the present Registration Act was to be introduced, as he considered the question of land registration one of the burning issues of the Province. He strongly criticized the Land Registry Office at New Westminster, which he said was inadequately housed and which was so managed that in some cases title to property had not been given for three years after transfer. He complained also that the land office fees were, as a rule, too high, and he urged that this department should not be revenue producing but self-supporting.

"Paid Agitators"

In dealing with the recent labor disturbances on Vancouver Island he bitterly attacked the paid agitators, who he said, had been imported from other countries to stir up trouble.

"So long as the laboring men of the Province are guided by the counsel of these professional agitators—so long will there be trouble," said Mr. Cawley.

He twitted the Member for Nanaimo for saying on the floor of the House that he was not concerned with the land policies of the Government, but only represented the laboring classes. He said that he understood that a member of the Legislature was supposed to represent the entire constituency, and not merely one section or faction of it.

The Member for Chilliwack congratulated the Government on its recent importations of dairy stock and suggested that in future the cattle should be sold on time payments, in order to give the small farmer the same opportunity as his richer neighbor.

In dealing with the proposed loan act Mr. Cawley said that he hoped that appropriations for agriculture and mining would be made from this sum, as he considered them the two great industries of B. C. He urged the enforcement of the wild lands tax on those who held large sections of land, and, before concluding, outlined a suggestion for throwing open model tracts of land by the Government with roads cut through and built the whole area after subdivision being thrown open to the public by auction.

Mr. Tisdale, Member for Vancouver, moved the adjournment of the debate.

Petitions Presented

The following petitions were presented:

By Mr. Cawley—From J. L. Atkinson and others, commissioners of Sumas Dyking District, for leave to introduce a private bill to amend the "Sumas Development Company Act, 1905."

By Mr. Carter Cotton—From Francis W. Rounsefell and others, for leave to introduce a private bill to incorporate the Corporation of the District of Shuagheessy.

By Mr. W. Manson—From J. H. McCormick and others for leave to introduce a private bill to incorporate the Northern Telephone Company.

By Mr. W. Manson—From the Columbian Methodist College, for leave to introduce a private bill to amend the "Columbian Methodist College Act, 1893."

The first and second reports from the private bills committee were presented and it was agreed that the time be extended for presenting petitions to the House from January 28th till February 10th.

A petition from the Methodist Church in Canada for leave to introduce a private bill to apply to B. C., respecting the union of certain Methodist churches in the Province was received.

Special Constables

In reply to a question from Mr. Place, the Member for Nanaimo, the Attorney-General gave the number of special constables at present employed in the recent coal strike area. The figures were Nanaimo 81, Ladysmith 20, Cumberland 48, Extension 21, and South Wellington 21, making a total of 191.

In reply to a question by Mr. Hayward regarding an official report of the proceedings of the House, the Premier said that arrangements had been made with The Colonist to have a verbatim report made of the speech of any member who gave notice beforehand to the chief Government whip.

Mr. Parker Williams asked a question regarding the use of the Provincial Coat of Arms, alleging that it had appeared on the badges at the recent Conservative Convention. The Speaker ruled the question out of order, and Mr. Williams said that his purpose was merely to direct the attention of the Attorney-General to the matter.

Editorial Jan 28/14

MISREPRESENTATION CORRECTED

We are informed that Mr. Macdonald, the Liberal Lieutenant, disposed of the statement made by Sir Richard McBride, that the Province has \$2,000,000 to its credit, by pointing out that this "consisted of the treasury note loan of \$1,500,000." As Sir Richard explained this at the time he made the statement, Mr. Macdonald might have saved himself the trouble of "disposing" of it. There was no attempt to mislead the Legislature. The Premier stated in substance that the Province owed a certain sum of money, including an issue of treasury notes to the amount of \$1,500,000, and in speaking of the assets he said there were \$2,000,000 in the bank to the credit of the Province. He was particular to point out that the money was borrowed, so that there might be cash in the bank to meet any emergency that might arise. He made no claim and said nothing to lead anyone to suppose he intended to claim that the \$2,000,000 in the bank was over and above the \$1,500,000 borrowed. It ought

not to be unreasonable to expect Mr. Macdonald to avoid in his missionary tour anything savouring of misrepresentation of what his political opponents may say.

Mr. C. E. Tisdall, M. P. P.,
Comments on Misstatements
of Hon. R. Lemieux—Out-
look for Agriculture.

The prevailing tone of optimism which has marked the speeches of the Members throughout the debate, except in the speeches of the Members of the Opposition, again found expression when the Members for Vancouver and Kamloops spoke of the progress of development in their constituencies during the past year.

In dealing with the prosperity of the Fraser Valley, and the general improvement in the agricultural industry, Mr. Tisdall quoted figures to show the great increase in the fruit industry of recent years and predicted that with the opening of the railroad lines now under construction this advance would be even more marked.

"Unwarranted Pessimism"

Mr. C. E. Tisdall, Member for Vancouver, confined the debate, in reply to the address from the throne. He prefaced his remarks by saying that when the Province was experiencing a period of remarkable prosperity he refrained from expressing too much optimism, and he thought that now, when the period of depression existed in the Province it was only right and proper that he should discountenance the unwarranted pessimism that appeared to be the principal stock in trade of a number of people.

He criticised the statements made on the floor of the House of Commons, at Ottawa, by the Hon. Mr. Lemieux, to the effect that there were 17,000 unemployed in the City of Vancouver, and pointed out that as there were only 28,000 male adults on the voters roll it was scarcely likely that 17,000 of these were unemployed. As a matter of fact he was satisfied from his personal observation and investigation that 5,000 unemployed was much nearer the mark. Mr. Tisdall explained that a city like Vancouver, possessing a mild climate, was always subject to an influx of people from outlying districts especially during the winter months. He did not think it was much to the credit of Mr. Lemieux to make such unwarranted statements, and he felt that it was time reports of the kind were vigorously contradicted.

"In the first place it is a pity that gentlemen occupying the position of Mr. Lemieux in the Dominion House should lay himself open to criticism by making an attack on a city like Vancouver on the manner he has adopted," said Mr. Tisdall, "and in the second place it was doubly a pity that he should lend himself to the issuance of statements as obviously false to anyone who cared to give the matter a moment's consideration."

ditions he stated that during 1912 the building permits issued in the City of Vancouver amounted to \$18,000,000, whereas last year they dropped to something like \$10,000,00. While that condition prevailed in the building industry the commercial houses of the city continued to do a large amount of business and the returns from the banks, clearing house, and custom house were almost on a par with those of previous years. He referred to the establishment of the assayer's office in the city and expressed the view that it would be a material asset, as miners generally located themselves in the same town as the assay office, and spent their money there when on vacation. General merchandise conditions continued to be excellent, and there was no reason to suppose that the present conditions meant one fraction of the disaster that had been predicted in regard to them.

He briefly sketched the progress made in the leading industries of the Province. In regard to fruit culture he referred to his recent visit to the Okanagan, and spoke of the wonderful achievements that had been made in a few years. With the advent of railway development, now under way, he stated that the people of the City of Vancouver would be able to enjoy Okanagan fruit instead of having to send their money to Wenatchee. During the past year he said that 1,550 carloads of fruit and vegetables had been shipped out of the valley, and during the next few years, with a continuance of the present rate of settlement, the output would be enormously increased. He also laid stress upon the fact that with the completion of the railway system now in process of construction the Okanagan would be brought into closer touch with the great market offered by the prairie Provinces.

"In addition to fruit culture," said Mr. Tisdall, "canning had been successfully carried on during the year, and 800 cars have been used in removing the output to the markets."

Agricultural Development

Speaking with reference to the Fraser Valley and the development of agriculture generally, Mr. Tisdall said he believed this section would not be properly developed until the Government appointed a commissioner to go thoroughly into the question of settlement. He was glad to know that the settlement of the lands of railway belt in this section was one of the questions that had been referred to the Better Terms Commission, and he hoped that as a result of the deliberations of the commission a satisfactory method would be devised for settling the question.

Dealing with the mining development he expressed his satisfaction at the wonderful progress of the past year, and stated that considering the limited time during which the industry had been in existence remarkable results had been achieved. Large dividends had been declared by operating companies, but still it was impossible to do more than vaguely estimate the marvelous productivity of the mines of the Province.

Deep Sea Fisheries

The question of deep sea fishing then engaged the attention of the Members of Vancouver, who stated that the industry had been expanding rapidly, although little notice had been taken of it officially. He believed that there were great possibilities in the deep sea fishing on the West Coast, and as it was well known that there was an almost limitless market for such produce he considered that it would be a wise policy for the Government to give special attention to the question of developing this wonderful asset of the Province. The fishing industry also was well worth looking after, he said.

"In every inlet of the Coast there is a plentiful supply of this food fish," said Mr. Tisdall, and as yet the business has been practically unexploited. He expressed his appreciation of the Government's policy in regard to maintaining the fishing industry for the white people of the country. In regard to markets for British Columbia fish he quoted from The Daily Telegraph, London, to the effect that a consignment of British Columbia fish had met with a ready demand, and there was the certainty of a good trade in the Motherland immediately the industry gets on a position to handle it and supply the demand.

He looked to the opening of the Panama Canal to accomplish a great deal in establishing the necessary cheap connection between the fishing grounds of British Columbia and the European markets.

Mr. Tisall welcomed the announcement that the Government intended to provide for comprehensive Municipal Clauses Act, and in this connection he suggested that provision should be made for the Government to have some authority to supervise the borrowing powers of the municipalities, not only in the general interest of the Province, but in the interest of the municipalities themselves. Saskatchewan, he said, had legislation of that sort, and Alberta had adopted a similar policy.

Dry Farming
Mr. J. P. Shaw, Member for Kamloops, continued the debate on the address. In opening his remarks he referred to the construction work now in progress on the Parliament Buildings, and stated that by next year the congestion which so many of them had experienced in the offices during the past year or two would be greatly relieved.

Mr. Shaw then referred to the dry farming operations in his constituency, and commended them to the country at large.

"Eight years ago there were only two or three farmers in the district of Rosehill," he said, "and now there is quite a settlement, all engaged in the new business of dry-farming. I believe there are something like 140 families on the dry or arid belt of that country, and during last year they produced no less than 250,000 bushels of grain and 1,000 tons of hay. There are two or three dairies in the district now supplying milk to the City of Kamloops, and their operations will be extended immediately the railway facilities will permit."

He called the attention of the Minister of Railways to the fact that in the irrigated districts there was a fear expressed by farmers that their work might be interfered with by the construction of new lines, and asked that steps be taken to protect the interests of the farmers of the district by making such arrangements as would obviate any unnecessary interference with the irrigation scheme of the country.

In concluding, the Member for Kamloops called the attention of the Minister of Lands to the opposition of the farmers to the proposal to impose a tax for grazing privileges.

Trading Privileges

"In my district," he said, "there has been a great deal of discussion on this question because the Dominion Government has taken up the question of imposing a tax for trading. We have written to Ottawa asking that the regulation be not applied this year, in the hope that by next year better counsels will prevail at the Capital. I understand that similar regulations are proposed by the Provincial Government and I would ask that very careful consideration be given to this question before it is proceeded with. The farmers and ranchers have had the free use of the range from time immemorial, and it is not likely that they will take kindly to a new tax of this nature."

Mr. Bland criticized the Opposition for its allegations regarding the amount of available land for settlers, and said that their contentions in this respect were confused very emphatically all over the country by the greatly increased settlement. He did not know what the Opposition meant by prosperity when they claimed that British Columbia had not enjoyed it, but his understanding was that development and progress were its synonyms, and as such he was convinced that British Columbia was today enjoying such prosperity in a large measure.

Petitions Presented

Before continuing the debate on the reply, petitions were presented to the House by Mr. W. W. Foster, of the Islands, from the Municipality of San-
anich, for leave to introduce a private bill entitled the "Sanich Water and Sewer Act of 1914;" from Francis W. Rounsefell and others for leave to introduce a private bill incorporating the district of Shaghenewy Heights; from J. H. MacCormick and others for leave to introduce a bill incorporating the Northern Telephone Company, and from the Columbian Methodist College to introduce a private bill affecting that in-
stitution.

The third report of the committee on private bills was sent up to the Speaker and the report received, and following the formal suspension of the rules of the House was adopted.

Three bills were read a first time and ordered to be read a second time at today's session: The first, introduced by Mr. Williams, amending the Masters and Servants Act; the second by Mr. W. W. Foster respecting the British Columbia Association of Architects, and the third by Mr. MacKenzie amending the Dentistry Act.

In reply to a question asked by Mr. Place as to the amount of land staked by agents during the last five years, Hon. W. R. Ross, Minister of Lands, said that no records are kept of land staking effected by agents, as the custom had always obtained and there appeared to be no reason for keeping such a record.

In reply to Mr. Parker Williams, as to the amount paid to certain printing and publishing companies, the Minister of Finance said that during the past year \$28,378.12 had been paid to The Colonist Printing and Publishing Company, \$397.56 had been paid to The Herald Publishing Company, of Nanaimo and \$7,857.15 to the News-Advertiser Company, of Vancouver.

Must Be British Subjects

Mr. Place asked the Attorney-General what proof of citizenship is required of special constables, and in reply Mr. Bowser said:

"Instructions are given to all Chief Constables that all specials, as well as regulars, must be British subjects, and when sworn in must take the oath of allegiance."

The Minister of Lands presented a return to an order of the House showing the following sums overdue the treasury from the sale of townsite lots, \$3,127,695.47; from the sale of agricultural land, \$9,897,617.62; from timber licenses, none; from timber royalty \$187,665.84, and from the purchase, lease and rental of coal and petroleum lands \$16,784.31.

Hon. Dr. H. E. Young presented the report of the Commissioner on the Coal Commission under "The Public Inquiries Act."

A private bill conferring certain additional powers on the City of Victoria was brought in by Mr H. B. Thomson and read a first time.

The House adjourned at 4:50 p. m.

MINING SHO
HEALTHY

**Members for R
Slocan Deal Wi
in the Industry-
Advances Rout**

A pungent attack of the Liberal party in for the misrepresentation of the Liberal press of the present tour of his party throughout an encouraging report of the present state of the country and prosperity of Roseland districts, was the subject of yesterday's session.

Mr. William MacSkeena, who opened the Liberal party with a constructive policy, and saying that the number who had settled on the land the past year was less than those who entered in the previous year followed by Mr. Lorne MacSkeena, who said that the land had been sold for a large amount of ore than in the previous year, and that the profits made in Roscommon had also given a brief review of the cultural development of the county.

In opening the debate for Skeena said that Opposition seemed to be in favor of any report being made, and the present Administration was in the standing and the position throughout the Province affected by broad government, which was up by specific figures. The Government had an overwhelming majority in recent years, and in the last few months the constituency became a conservative candidate, a magnificent majority. The fact that the Liberals took the field and did so for the return of the

Campaign
In dealing with
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"If the Liberals criticize the police administration, they cannot enunciate a policy instead of a policy of general destruction or dictate," said Mr. Hanson. "It is my belief to see some of the members of the House instead of being wiped out."

In dealing with land policy of the province, Mr. Hanson said that the matter was a violation, after a claim as it affected the policy is a subject. He paid a tribute to the Minister of Lands and Forestry, and fair administration of the Water Act. He said that he had done so much in this Province, and that he would like to look at the provincial expenditure standpoint, so that he could stand how the work provided for had been paid for lands, which he made such permeable, but had a table area, which during the past

MINING SHOWS HEALTHY GROWTH

Members for Rossland and
Slocan Deal With Conditions
in the Industry—Legislature
Advances Routine Work.

A pungent attack on the leaders of the Liberal party in British Columbia for the misrepresentations reported in the Liberal press of the meetings of the present tour of Mr. Brewster and his party throughout the Province, and an encouraging report of the development and prosperity of the Slocan and Rossland districts, were the features of yesterday's session of the Legislature.

Mr. William Manson, Member for Skeena, who opened the debate, taunted the Liberal party with its lack of constructive policy, and gave figures showing that the number of pre-emptors who had settled on Crown lands during the past year was in excess of those who entered in 1912. He was followed by Mr. Lorne Campbell, of Rossland, who dealt minutely with the amount of ore handled and the net profits made in Rossland district, and also gave a brief review of the agricultural development of that district. In opening the debate, the member for Skeena said that the Leader of the Opposition seemed to be very jealous of any report being made public that was favorable to the Government. The standing and the policies of the present Administration were too well known throughout the Province to be materially affected by broad charges of misgovernment, which were not backed up by specific figures. He said that the Government had been endorsed by overwhelming majorities at the polls in recent years, and that even within the last few months, when the Island constituency became vacant, the Conservative candidate was returned by a magnificent majority, in spite of the fact that the Liberal leaders personally took the field and did all in their power for the return of their nominee.

Campaign of Liberals

In dealing with the published reports of what the Liberal papers termed the triumphal march of their leaders, he said that it had been stated that in some places 700 people were present in the halls to listen to their addresses. Anyone who is acquainted with the district knew that the maximum capacity of these halls did not exceed 200.

"If the Liberals are so ready to criticize the policies of the present Administration, it is unfortunate that they cannot enunciate some constructive policy instead of the policy of general destruction which they so freely dictate," said Mr. Manson. "Had such a course been taken some years ago, it is my belief that we should today see some of the Liberal members in the House instead of the entire party being wiped out from this Legislature."

In dealing with the question of the land policy of the Government, Mr. Manson said that in his district this matter was a vital issue, and he believed, after a close study of the problem as it affected his constituency, that the policy is a safe and sane one. He paid a tribute to the Hon. W. R. Ross, the Minister of Lands, for his honest and fair administration, and congratulated him especially on the workings of the Water Act, which he said had done so much to advance agriculture in this Province. He urged the Opposition to look at the matter of Provincial expenditure from the business standpoint, so that they might understand how the large amount of public work provided for during the past year had been paid for by the sale of Crown lands, which, he said, had not only made such permanent improvement possible, but had also added a large taxable area which could be revenue-producing to the public treasury.

Money for Land Sales

In dealing with the matter of the amounts outstanding to the Province from the sale of land, he said that he realized the difficulty of collecting many of these sums without disturbing the balance of trade, but he hoped that some definite arrangement would be made by which outstanding debts could be realized within a stated period.

Turning to the progress in the Skeena District, which he called the new British Columbia, he said that, owing to the widely scattered nature of settlement in that area, there was an enormous demand for a system of roads which would require a large amount of money in their construction. In dealing with this settlement he said that the number of pre-emptors who located in Prince George during the past year was 442; in Hazelton, 167; in Fort George, 581; and in Fort Fraser, 490.

"The total number of pre-emptors in British Columbia during last year was 3,855," said the Member for Skeena, "covering an approximate area of 510,000 acres, as compared with 3,665 settlers during the previous year, covering an approximate 500,000 acres."

Ore Ready for Shipment

In reviewing mining conditions in the northern part of the Province, he said that the conditions of the industry were satisfactory; that the smelter at Granby Bay was already completed and would be in operation within a few days; that the Portland Canal tunnel had been pierced for a distance of 2,600 feet, and that there was a large amount of ore ready for shipment as soon as the Grand Trunk Pacific was in operation, which, he predicted, would be next June.

"The mining output for last year was far in excess of any previous year, with the exception of the record year of 1912, and aggregated \$30,153,000."

With regard to the fisheries, he said that both the Dominion and the Provincial Departments were doing all they could to encourage white fishermen in Pacific waters, and he predicted that within five years the Japanese fishermen would be a thing of the past so far as British Columbia is concerned.

"Business conditions at Prince Rupert are most satisfactory, and the depression of which we have heard so much during the past few months, has not been felt to any extent in that city. We have under construction a drydock that will cost \$3,500,000 before completion, work has begun on the Grand Trunk Pacific terminus, and the excavations have also been begun for a hotel which will cost \$2,000,000; and altogether the outlook in this district has never been more favorable than it is today."

Outlook in Rossland

That Rossland looks forward also to an increased prosperity with the opening of the Kettle Valley line, which will give the people of that district communication with the Coast, was the statement made by Mr. Lorne Campbell, Member for Rossland, who continued the debate.

"In the past we have felt isolated from our neighbors on the Coast," said Mr. Campbell, "and our only outlet has been through our neighboring state in the South, but with the coming of the new line we shall be able to take a night train and be in Vancouver or Victoria early on the following day."

In continuing, he said that mining had played a prominent part in the prosperity of their district, and that in the past year there had been a net profit of \$1,500,000 in an area of 300 acres. He said that not so long ago it used to be the current belief, and the statement was backed up by the Administration, that there was no payable ore lower than 600 feet below the surface of this Province, and that today in Rossland they were taking ore from the 2,500 feet level and that they had five years' supply of ore in sight at the present rate of shipment.

Plea for Prospector

He made a strong plea for the mining prospector, who he said had been driven out of the country, and urged the Government to devise some measures for his relief. He eulogized the work of the geological survey by the Dominion Government, and hoped that the work would be extended and developed during the coming Summer. He said that agriculture used to be considered as something quite foreign to Rossland, but that today within three and a half miles of the city 1,500 acres were under cultivation, in spite of the fact that it cost \$125 to clear a single acre of land. In giving an example of the fertility of the soil in that region, he said that two tons of timothy hay had been harvested during the Summer off an acre of brushed out land. He urged the Provincial Government to recommend settlers to turn their attention to mixed farming, and said there was a splendid prospect for the fruit industry in that district.

In dealing with the fruit of the Province generally, he said that if all the trees in British Columbia orchards were bearing they would have enough to supply the entire population of British Columbia, Alberta and Saskatchewan, and he ventured the opinion that in some districts the fruit industry was being overdone.

Workmen's Compensation

In bringing forward the question of the Workmen's Compensation Act, he recommended that an amendment should be added to the present bill, which would cover Sunday labor, as anyone who had experience in mining camps knew that it was impossible to shut down all work on Sunday, and that under the present Act if a workman was injured on that day he was debarred from claiming compensation. He also recommended the extension of the Provincial police system, which he believed, could, in addition to its regular duties, do a large amount of work done by the fire rangers and game wardens.

In dealing with the question of the Doukhobor colony, he congratulated the Government on its intention to bring down legislation during the present session, but was not very sanguine as to the results.

"It is not a difficult matter to bring down legislation," said the Member for Rossland, "but knowing these men as I do think it will be exceedingly difficult to enforce any act after it has been placed on the statute book. It seems to me that the proper way to handle the situation would be by the appointment of a resident agent, and if this was done, I believe that the complex problem would very quickly be solved."

Before resuming his seat he made a strong plea for the extension of the road system in Rossland. He said that \$37,000,000 had been taken out of the Rossland mines, and that for this reason he thought it only just that the wagon roads of this section should be extended on a large scale.

Conditions in the Slocan

Mr. Hunter, Slocan, continued the debate. He devoted his remarks entirely to a statement of the conditions in his district, and said that but for the slight depression that had been experienced in the lumber industry no one in the Slocan territory would have known that there was such a thing as a financial stringency.

"I have the honor of representing the 'Silver Slocan,'" said Mr. Hunter, "and it is a signal honor indeed, for not only is the constituency one of the most thriving in the Province, but it is at the same time vitally wrapped up in affairs of the outside world on account of its mining production. We have passed through three stages in mining development in the Slocan. The first was negligible from the productive point of view, and the second was, in the light of comparison, not particularly great, but the stage we are entering upon now is the greatest and the most promising, and I venture the opinion that within the next year more silver will be produced from the Slocan mines than ever before."

Mr. Hunter reviewed the work of the past year and intimated that the production had touched high-water mark, with the exception of one single year, but now the development was no longer uncertain or spasmodic but assured all the time, and that, he said, was better than a fat period one year followed by a lean period.

Dealing with the marking of claims, which has occasioned some discussion and dissatisfaction in his district, Mr. Hunter suggested that some change might be made in the regulations so as to meet the requirements of the miners.

Appreciates Coming of Yarrow

Mr. R. H. Pooley, Member for Esquimalt, continued the debate on the address. He referred in appreciative terms to the establishment of Yarrow's shipbuilding firm at Esquimalt, which he said must, in the nature of things, prove exceedingly beneficial not only to his constituency but to the City of Victoria, and the whole Province.

In regard to the question of agriculture, Mr. Pooley expressed the hope that the report of the Royal Commission on this subject, would contain some improved ideas upon the methods of clearing land. In his constituency, he said, the question of land clearing was a very important one and stumping powder and other methods had not proved as effective as was expected.

Mr. Pooley criticized the Liberals for their present agitation throughout the country, and accused them of being without any constructive policy to substitute for that of the Government.

Mr. Nell McKay, Member for Kaslo, moved the adjournment of the debate.

Mr. M. Manson, Member for Comox, presented a petition from the Corporation of the District of Penticton, asking leave to introduce a private bill giving increased corporate powers.

A petition was received from the Municipality of Saanich for leave to introduce a private bill entitled the "Saanich Water and Sewer Act, 1914."

The private bills and standing orders committee reported that the petition of the Columbian Methodist College complied with the regulations of the House. The report was received.

The Hon. Dr. Young, Minister of Education, presented a return under the "Probates Recognition Act."

Trunk Sewer Scheme

On the motion of the Premier a bill intended to ratify an agreement made between the City of Victoria and the Municipality of Esquimalt, respecting the construction and maintenance of a joint sewer, was introduced and read a first time. The second reading will be given today.

The bill represents the wishes of the city and the municipality respecting the trunk sewer scheme which was agreed to last Fall.

In reply to Mr. Williams, Member for Newcastle, Hon. Thomas Taylor, Minister of Public Works, stated that the "Jack of Clubs" road was constructed by Mr. John Hopp at a cost of \$3,922, the Government paying \$2,000. Other questions put by the same member relative to the matter were also answered.

In reply to the same member, Hon. Thomas Taylor informed the House that during the past four years twenty-one miles of the Pacific Highway had been constructed between Westminster and Blaine. The total expenditure for the same was \$121,372.

On the second reading of the act respecting the British Columbia Association of Architects, which was introduced by Mr. W. W. Foster, Member for the Islands, the debate was adjourned by Mr. Williams.

Protection for Buildings

Mr. Foster argued strongly in favor of the bill and showed that its provisions would not work any hardship upon qualified architects. The object of the bill was to protect citizens from the dangers of badly constructed buildings, and in order that engineers might not suffer in their building operations provision had been made to exclude engineers from the restrictions of the act. Mr. Foster said that the bill would not apply to buildings costing less than \$10,000.

The Premier moved the adjournment of the debate on the second reading of the bill to amend the Dentistry Act, which was introduced by Mr. MacKenzie, Member for Delta.

Hon. W. J. Bowser, Attorney-General, gave notice of motion that he would introduce amendments to the Industrial Communities Act in its relation to the registration of joint stock companies. He also gave notice of his intention to introduce an amendment to the Industrial and Provident Societies' Act.

Mr. Parker Williams, Member for Newcastle, gave notice that he will introduce a resolution on Monday urging upon the Government that action be taken immediately to bring about a termination of the strike situation on Vancouver Island.

ENLARGES SCOPE OF EDUCATION

Public Schools to Be Supplemented by Technical Courses—Government's Programme for Increasing Facilities.

HON. DR. YOUNG GIVES
INTERESTING DETAILS

Tells of Varied Work of His
Department—Messrs. N. McKay and E. Miller Deal
With Their Constituencies.

The argument known in the Aristotelian school of logic as the "defence by inference," has seldom found a clearer exposition in the Legislative Hall than that propounded by the Hon. Dr. H. E. Young, in closing the debate on the reply to the address from the Throne yesterday.

Having his desiderata of proof on the premises that his department was essentially an expending, and not a revenue producing part of the Government, by close reasoning and the introduction of an array of figures he carried the Members step by step in his speech, until he showed that not only had such expenditure been carefully conceived and efficiently carried on, but he proved conclusively that such diversion of public funds had tended towards the efficient administration and material prosperity of the Province.

Dr. Young has long been regarded as one of the most able and eloquent speakers in the Legislature, but it is probable that in the presentation of the records of the several divisions of the work of the Government, under his control, he eclipsed all previous efforts. Dealing first of all with the record of the civil service, he passed to the work of the Board of Health during the year. Following this, he gave a review of the work of the Archives Department, and thereafter spoke at considerable length on the splendid record of the Colony Farm and the Mental Hospital at Coquitlam. Following this he launched into an analysis of the report of the expert on technical education, passing to a review of the progress made in the University of British Columbia. The attacks recently made on Dr. Westbrook for his alleged advocacy of a utilitarian course of study were warmly rebutted by the Minister, and in his closing words he pleaded for a broader spirit of optimism throughout the Province, condemning the cry of "blue rule" which of late had been freely circulated by the leaders of the Liberal party and their press.

Member for Kaloos Speaks

The debate in reply to the address from the Throne was continued by Mr. Neil Mackay, Member for Kaloos. He referred to the optimistic speeches that had been delivered the previous day by the Members for Rossland and Skeena, and said he was pleased to offer his own contribution regarding the prosperity of the mining industry in his constituency.

"I am glad to be able to say to the Members of this House that all is well with us in the mining world. We have had a series of disappointing years. With the ore first discovered it was necessary to drive long tunnels and that required a heavy expenditure of money, but today the industry is working on a firm basis and prospects for the future are exceedingly bright."

Mr. Mackay referred to the work which the C. P. R. is doing at Kaslo, and stated that the residents were looking forward to a period of great prosperity with the final railroad connection to the larger centres of the Province. Plans have been completed, he said, for the erection of extensive terminals at Kaslo, and it was generally expected that these developments would materialize in benefits to the entire district. Since the mining industry had come into its own, he said, it had been found possible to develop the old mines which had been discarded for a time, and now production was being carried on in practically all the properties.

Agricultural Development

"But mining is not our only asset," said the Member for Kaslo. "During the past year we had a considerable development in agriculture. New communities have sprung up and new territory has been brought under cultivation. I do not pretend that we are as productive in this regard as some of the more favored districts of the Province, but in point of quality we can easily hold our own with the best land in British Columbia."

Mr. Mackay dealt with the question of roads in his constituency, and admitted that the Government had been most generous in that regard. With the increasing settlement, however, and the ever-growing production, more roads were necessary, and he asked the Government to consider the requirements of the district in connection with the year's estimates.

"Dry-farming is one of the features of the year's work in the constituency which I have the honor to represent," continued Mr. Mackay. "The work is still in an experimental stage, but the results achieved so far are very hopeful and entirely worthy of the continued consideration of the Government. Should the experimental work prove an ultimate success, and we have every reason to think it will, thousands of acres of dry land can be brought under cultivation by the dry-farming method, land which under other circumstances would be altogether useless from an agricultural point of view."

Mr. Mackay concluded with a reference to the construction of a sailing ship on the Pitt River, and he predicted that with encouragement this industry might develop considerable strength, especially in view of the importance of sailing vessels in carrying the Province's timber to the markets of the world.

Deals With Doukhobors

Mr. E. Miller, Member for Grand Forks, continued the debate. He prefaced the subject matter of his address, which related to the Doukhobors, with a reference to the prosperous mining conditions in his constituency. He also referred to the agricultural industry and stated that during the year it had made rapid development.

The question of the Workmen's Compensation Act briefly engaged the attention of the Member. He pointed out that in many instances the object of the act, which he described as an economical method of settling disputes, had been defeated, and he cited a number of instances in which the costs had exceeded the amount of the claim. He suggested that the Government should adopt some legislation to relieve the condition of ill-feeling that existed between the employer and employee and referred to the act in operation in Oregon and Washington and commended it to their consideration.

"In regard to the Doukhobors," said Mr. Miller, "it has been said that some people appear to have the Doukhobor question on the brain. I, myself, have 'Doukhobor' on the brain, and practically everyone I have the honor to represent is in the same condition. I want to say in the first place that I am perfectly satisfied that the Provincial Government has done everything in its power to enforce the laws of the land, and in any criticism I have to offer I would like it to be understood that there is no intention on my part to reflect upon the administration. The difficulty is not one of inaction on the part of the Government but rather the lack of proper legislation, and I hope it will not be long before the Government will see its way to introduce a measure that will give the necessary power to handle this vexatious question."

Blames Peter Veregin

Mr. Miller proceeded to recount the complaints which the residents of Grand Forks have against the Doukhobors. They refused to recognize the laws of the land, he said, and, and openly boasted of their immunity. Not only had the Doukhobors created a feeling of dissatisfaction among the residents of Grand Forks, contended Mr. Miller, but they had been the means of affecting the land values of the district. That they affected settlement was one of the most unfortunate features of the situation, and he looked to the Government to go into the question thoroughly and see what could be done with a view to bringing the recalcitrants into line. He did not suggest that they should be driven out of the Province, but he maintained that any community that refused to abide by the laws of the land might as well pack up and go, and the sooner the better. He attributed the attitude of the Doukhobors to the personality of Peter Veregin, who, he said, controlled them absolutely.

Mr. Miller then took up the report of the Commissioner on the subject and commended the thorough manner in which the task had been handled by Mr. W. Blakemore. He drew attention to one part of the report, however, in which it was stated that a telegram from himself had been construed as meaning that the presence of the Doukhobors had had no ill effects upon the land values and that they were as high as ever. He desired to correct this view and expressed his surprise that it should ever have been made.

Where the Onus Rests

"But there is one phase of this question that has never been touched upon," continued Mr. Miller, "and to my mind it is of considerable importance. We find in the Liberal press of today a great deal of criticism of the present administration in regard to the Doukhobors, and I think it is only right that the blame should be placed where it belongs. The Doukhobors came into Canada through an agreement made by the Liberal administration at Ottawa. They came over the country to Saskatchewan and when they migrated into British Columbia we had no power to stop them because there is no provision in the statutes to deal with such a problem."

The Liberal Government at Ottawa sent out a commissioner to inquire into the question of the Doukhobors, proposed immigration to this country, and it must be presumed that the commissioner was aware of their habits and modes of thought, but in spite of that the agreement was ratified by the Government and the Doukhobors came to this country. I understand also that the sum of \$5 a head was paid for their immigration and an extra \$1.50 was paid them to assist in their transportation. I would like to bring these facts before the attention of our Liberal friends in this Province when they are criticizing this administration in regard to the Doukhobors."

Mr. Miller briefly described the difficulties that had been encountered in securing evidence from the Doukhobors. One of them had been asked the question if he would report to the authorities any case of murder that might occur, and he replied in the negative. As to whether they would punish the criminal, the answer again came in the negative, and finally it was stated that the murderer would be punished "in his own conscience."

Speaks of Dr. Westbrook

The debate was brought to a conclusion by Dr. H. E. Young, who in a spirited defence of Dr. Westbrook, the chosen head of the new University of British Columbia, took issue with his opponents on the subject of the newspaper criticism, which, he said, had recently circulated to the effect that Dr. Westbrook intended to subordinate the humanities to purely utilitarian subjects.

Leaving the question of the University, he outlined the reports submitted by Mr. G. H. Dean, who was sent to Europe to inquire into the latest methods of technical education, and he intimated that proposals would be brought down involving a radical change in this branch of the work, which would enable every boy and girl in the Province to obtain the advantages of technical instruction.

With reference to the Provincial University, Dr. Young spoke of the progress that had been made since the question was mooted in 1907. He referred to the appointment of Dr. Westbrook as president, to the selection of a board of governors, the completion of a group plan for the buildings, and the present tour of the president in search of material for the University staff.

"I confidently expect that when the University opens its doors in 1915 we will have fully 1,000 students enrolled," said Dr. Young. "That figure may appear somewhat optimistic, but I can inform you that it is based on the number of students doing University work at the present time. In this connection I may say that we have arranged with the Royal Institution at Vancouver for an extension of their course, so that students attending that institution and being desirous of graduating may complete their course with the Province."

Comments on Criticism

Commenting upon the criticism which had been leveled against Dr. Westbrook since his address at the Canadian Club in the City of Victoria, Dr. Young stated that there was no reason in the world to suppose that the president had any intention of subordinating the humanities to the material side of the University, and quoted at length an address delivered by Dr. Westbrook in Winnipeg on the occasion of the investiture of the new president of the Manitoba University to demonstrate the true attitude of Dr. Westbrook.

"We feel that in Dr. Westbrook we have a man to whom we may readily commit the responsibility of our University," said Dr. Young. "His association with this department and with the board of governors has already proved entirely satisfactory, and we are looking forward to his work in the administration of the University with the greatest of confidence. He is now engaged on the important work of selecting the deans of faculty, and upon his return, we expect to take up the task of organizing courses."

Best Educational Efforts

Continuing, Dr. Young said: "Any school system that becomes satisfied with its own accomplishment, and neglects to consider both the general educational movement of the times, and the specific educational problems of other communities, will of necessity tend to deteriorate. It is very important that the department become informed as to the best educational efforts that are being put forward elsewhere."

It was for this reason, said Dr. Young, that the Department authorized Mr. Dean, Assistant Superintendent of Education, to investigate more particularly the schemes of technical education in vogue in the United States, England, Germany and Switzerland. He said that in his report Mr. Dean stated that he was satisfied that our elementary schools provide good preparatory training along broad cultural lines, which

are not excelled anywhere else in the world.

In dealing with the question of the enlargement of the scope of technical education, Dr. Young said that it would be the aim of the department to extend the manual training and domestic science work to districts which do not at present benefit from this important branch of education, and to revise the nature study courses so as to give rural districts an opportunity of emphasizing on elementary agriculture in connection with school gardens.

Secondary Schools

"In this way," said the Minister, "our public schools will provide a good general education and a sound preparation for all classes of students." In dealing with the question of secondary schools, Dr. Young said that the present course provides a preparation with a distinct bias towards the professions, and that the aim of the department would be to enlarge the scope of secondary work so as to give boys and girls who are able to take a 3 or 4-year course in the high school a good grounding in the common essentials, and at the same time differentiating in special work so as to meet all classes.

In outlining the several classes of students for which such education would be provided, he mentioned university instruction courses, teachers' non-professional courses, special commercial training, technical training for those who enter applied science colleges or higher technical institutions, technical training for those entering agriculture or

Under these proposals Mr. Dean there would be a school for two years technical training to chosen vocations, to general training. It is to provide special instruction for girls who have fourteen, giving them the opportunity of attending a few continuation schools.

A special feature of the system of technical training is to provide for technical training for adults, in order to tend their knowledge vocational training, adapted to the particular community.

"At the present time only provide for ten students," said Dr. Young, "and of their element must either go to work or be able to continue the university."

Small M

He made a reference in the House of Members for the Island, and Mr. Justice McPhillip represented the same then proceeded to read of Mr. Williams, Member in regard to expenditure that the objectionable Member were concerned indeed.

Dealing with the been made in the during the past few indicated that stillments were in contemplation. "Several years ago, hold of the civil service very unsatisfactory. Men were not inclined best because the few commensurate with measure which was myself was put into, then the service has an increase in pay the whole service working basis, and service that compensates many others. In gold men realized that and they were prepared best because the brought up to a commensurate with

Printing D

Dr. Young referred printing and muse the Government, and both as spending stated that the principle of the best in on account of the they had about reached capacity for production the museum he provided accommodation was that many of the means had to be negotiated with the completion he said.

Proceeding to the Health Department, said that it was being ant every day.

"The board of health being re-organized, my mind, is the department in our jurisdiction as it relates to the municipality of the Province of sanitation, and important questions referred to the new been established, mentioning the in camps, the supervisory and the medical schools.

Original

Dr. Young also referred to the archivist, stating that this building a very interesting study of the old maps were being made that the future of the would be in the hands of the searchlight. He regarded the with the hospital home as one of the most interesting of the year the upon his report, Mr. Justice McPhillip, he said, Provincial Hospital and related out that had been acquired with that in

Under these proposals suggested by Mr. Dean there would be classes for boys who can only remain in high school for two years, with special technical training to fit them for their chosen vocations, together with good general training. It was also proposed to provide special instruction for boys and girls who have to leave school at fourteen, giving them an opportunity of attending a few hours each week at continuation schools.

A special feature of the proposed system of technical education would provide for technical evening classes for adults, in order that they may extend their knowledge by a system of vocational training, such work being adapted to the particular needs of the community.

"At the present time our high schools only provide for ten per cent of our students," said Dr. Young, "and at the end of their elementary training they must either go to work or be financially able to continue their studies at the university."

"Small Matters"

He made a reference to the presence in the House of Mr. W. W. Foster, Member for the Islands, whom he welcomed cordially, and to the absence of Mr. Justice McPhillips, who formerly represented the same constituency. He then proceeded to rebut the criticism of Mr. Williams, Member for Newcastle, in regard to expenditure, and pointed out that the objections of that honorable Member were confined to very small matters indeed.

Dealing with the advance that had been made in the civil service system during the past few years, Dr. Young indicated that still further improvements were in contemplation.

"Several years ago, when we first took hold of the civil service, it was in a very unsatisfactory condition," he said. "Men were not inclined to give of their best because the rewards did not appear commensurate with the effort. The measure which was brought down by myself was put into operation, and since then the service has greatly improved. An increase in pay was granted and the whole service was placed upon a working basis, and now we have a service that compares favorably with many others. In going into it nowadays men realized that it was a lifework, and they were prepared to give of their best because the rewards had been brought up to a point that appeared commensurate with the work."

Printing Department

Dr. Young referred briefly to the printing and museum departments of the Government, and characterized them both as spending departments. He stated that the printing department was one of the best in the Dominion, but on account of the increasing business they had about reached the limit of their capacity for production. In regard to the museum he pointed out that the accommodation was inadequate, and that many of the most valuable specimens had to be stored. That difficulty would be negotiated shortly, however, with the completion of the new museum, he said.

Proceeding to discuss the Board of Health Department, Dr. Young emphasized that it was becoming more important every day.

"The board of health department is being re-organized," he said. "This, to my mind, is the most important department in our jurisdiction, in as much as it relates to the health of the community of the Province, to the question of sanitation, and the many other important questions related to health." He referred to the new branches that had been established by the department, mentioning the inspection of logging camps, the supervision of hospitals, and the medical inspection of the schools.

Original Documents

Dr. Young also made a passing reference to the archives department, and stated that this branch was rapidly assuming a very important aspect. He stated that the original documents relating to the early history of the Province were being gathered together so that the future historian of the Province would be in possession of the necessary data without having to go to the trouble of searching for them.

He regarded the department connected with the hospitals, charities, and asylums as one of the most important connected with the administration. During last year the sum of \$750,000 was spent upon hospitals, charities and asylums, he said. He referred to the Provincial Sanatorium at Kamloops, and pointed out the development work that had been accomplished in connection with that institution.

Dealing with the question of caring for the insane, which he described as an obligation resting upon the Province, he said that the percentage of insane people in the population of the country was rapidly increasing, or rather that the number of them cared for in this manner was greatly increasing. He said that it had been necessary to add two storeys to the institution at New Westminster to cope with the increased admissions.

Increasing Needs

Dr. Young then entered upon a discussion upon the education system of the Province and showed how the increasing needs of the growing population were being met.

"The educational system of the Province has made greater progress than any other department of the Government," he said. "It has been most difficult for the Province to keep pace with

the abnormal growth of the population. The number of school attendants had increased enormously during the past year, and when the reports come in again in June I expect them to show another increase of from 15,000 to 20,000. We have been criticized in some quarters for building ahead of time, but although we honestly attempted to build ahead of time very considerably, we have failed. In Kaslo we have built a magnificent school, which, when completed, was understood to provide for the growth of a number of years, and already we are informed that it is too small and it has not been opened yet. That is the sort of thing we have to contend with all over the Province.

"In this connection I would like to issue a slight note of warning to municipalities and school boards. While the Government has been very generous in the matter of assistance for the construction of new schools I cannot promise that this procedure will be continued. It is time for us to go a little slower in this regard. It must not be understood that the Government is not in accord with the educational advancement of the Province, but simply that in this particular matter it has been decided to pursue a more moderate policy than has been pursued during the past two or three years.

New Normal School

"We are not curtailing our expenditure upon education. That is best evidenced by the vast sums we propose spending upon the new University and upon the new normal school. In regard to the normal school, when the necessity for it was fully realized, it was decided that it would be better to have it established in the Capital, as its administration is directly responsible to the Education Department of the Province. I may say that it is the intention of the department to inaugurate several new features in the normal school. These may be described generally as manual training, domestic science and technical work.

"In our consideration of this question of the normal school we were impressed with the facts that very few students take advantage of any classes above the secondary or public school grade that only about 10 per cent graduated to the high school, and that probably not more than 50 per cent of that number completed their courses at the high school. It was felt that the State, generous as it was, should not allow such discrimination to go on. It was felt that if the majority of the pupils could not go to the large centres and complete their courses it was necessary for the department to adopt such methods as would make possible the dissemination of a high educational standard throughout the country by means of the normal school teacher. We wish to establish our faculties in connection with the normal school, so that our teachers going to other cities or to rural places will be able to train their scholars along the lines laid down at the central teaching institution, namely, the normal school.

"It is the desire of the department, through the normal school, to afford guidance to the young boys and girls of the country as to what vocation they shall follow in after life, instead of leaving them, as at present, to take up the first thing that comes along."

Dr. Young concluded his remarks with a reference to his own constituency. He stated that in Atlin they did not know anything about the money stringency, except by hearsay, and he attributed that to the fact that they worked there for their money instead of waiting around the corner until the price of real estate went up.

His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor transmitted a bill to amend the Trust Deeds Act, and recommended it to the Legislature. After going into committee of the whole the question was reported and the bill read a first time. It will come up for second reading on Monday.

On the motion of the Hon. Price Ellison, Minister of Finance, it was resolved that the speech of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor at the opening of the session, be taken into consideration on Friday next.

A bill to validate an agreement between the district of Burnaby and the city of New Westminster for the building of a main trunk sewer was introduced by the Attorney-General, read a first time, and ordered to be placed on the order paper for a second reading on Monday.

Mr. Williams gave notice of his intention to ask when instructions were given to all chief constables that all special as well as regular constables must be British subjects, and when sworn in must take the oath of allegiance. Also what proof of citizenship is required of special constables.

Mr. Williams will also ask the cost of the new portion of the Victoria-Campbell River road built last season.

EDITORIAL

Jan 31st 1914

AN ABLE SPEECH

Dr. H. E. Young's contribution to the debate on the Address was a notable one, because of the close reasoning power he displayed and the lucid manner in which he covered the work of the various branches of the department over which he so ably presides. He spoke at greater length than is his habit, but we question if there was anything which those who heard him would have wished unsaid. He dealt with matters which are essential to all development that is conceived along rightly directed lines. His department is a spending one, and, in common with other branches of administrative activity, has been the subject of attack by the Liberal party and the Liberal papers in the Province. In many cases the Minister of Education did not reply directly to the vague criticisms that have been advanced. It would have been quite unnecessary for him to do so, for the record of achievement upon which he based his speech was in itself a conclusive rebuttal of the attacks that have been made by the opponents of the Government. Dr. Young's ability and his ready grasp of those matters which come within his purview have seldom been shown to greater advantage than in his effort of yesterday. He gave the Legislature an exhibition of his close knowledge of those matters with which he dealt, reflected the keen enthusiasm which marks his attention to his multifarious duties, and in addition proved beyond doubt that the expenditures of Provincial revenue for which his department is responsible have been so distributed as to produce the best results for the Province as a whole.