

J A N

1929

Cabinet Faces House for the First Time



—Photograph by Chapman.

L EFT to right, back row: Hon. J. Hinchliffe, Minister of Education; Hon. W. C. Shelly, Minister of Finance; Hon. N. S. Lougheed, Minister of Public Works; Hon. F. P. Burden, Minister of Lands. Left to right, front row: Hon. William Atkinson, Minister of Agriculture; Hon. W. A. McKenzie, Minister of Mines and Labor; Hon. R. H. Pooley, Attorney-General; Hon. S. F. Tolmie, Premier; Hon. S. L. Howe, Provincial Secretary and Commissioner of Fisheries, and Hon. R. W. Bruhn, President of the Council. Hon. R. L. Maitland, minister without portfolio, was not present when the picture was taken.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS SHOW DEFICIT IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

Figures Tabled in Legislature by Minister of Finance Foreshadow Retrenchment Period—
Education and Public Works Are Largest Outlays, Apart From Public Debt

Estimates Exceeded on Both Sides Of Ledger During Twelve Months

I N the Legislature yesterday afternoon the public accounts for the year ended March 31, 1928, were tabled by the Minister of Finance, Hon. W. C. Shelly. The record of the year indicates that there was a deficit of nearly three-quarters of a million dollars for the twelve months. The total revenue for the year was \$21,136,348.98. The expenditure for the same period totaled \$21,859,577.85, showing a deficit for the last complete year under the Liberal administration of \$723,228.87.

This ending up of the business of the year with a deficit was not an uncommon one under the late Government. As a matter of fact the record for the whole term of years from 1917-1918 until 1927-1928 under the Liberal party shows that only on two occasions was a surplus attained. These lucky years were 1919-1920, when there was a balance of \$351,351, and in the year 1925-1926 when the surplus of \$100,794 was reached.

In the total time from 1917 until 1928 there was shown a grand total revenue of \$189,779,302 with a total expenditure of \$203,098,183, the total deficit being \$13,318,879.

The showing year by year was as follows:

Fiscal Year	Total Revenue	Total Expenditure (Chargeable to Income)	Deficit (Surplus)
1917-18	\$ 8,822,846	\$ 9,349,350	\$ 526,504
1918-19	10,931,279	12,112,285	1,181,006
1919-20	13,861,602	13,510,271	351,331*
1920-21	15,219,264	19,626,690	4,407,426
1921-22	18,882,391	20,673,183	1,790,792
1922-23	19,618,904	20,799,467	1,180,563
1923-24	19,621,208	21,476,272	1,855,064
1924-25	19,381,511	21,227,916	1,846,405
1925-26	21,775,869	21,675,075	100,794*
1926-27	20,528,080	20,788,095	260,015
1927-28	21,136,348	21,859,577	723,229
Totals	\$189,779,302	\$203,098,181	\$13,318,879

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Public Accounts Show Deficit in British Columbia

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The details of the revenue and expenditures for the year ended March 31, 1928, show the following under the different departments, both with respect to the estimated figures and the actual ones:

REVENUE		
Current Account—	Estimated	Actual
Department of Agriculture	\$ 33,000.00	\$ 33,389.78
Department of Attorney-General	3,733,000.00	5,543,642.70
Department of Education	15,000.00	14,154.25
Department of Finance	10,742,296.66	10,766,018.21
Department of Fisheries	38,000.00	54,673.09
Department of Labor	1,000.00	570.00
Department of Lands	4,232,000.00	4,676,169.76
Legislation (Private Bills Fees)	2,000.00	945.00
Department of Mines	182,000.00	183,593.21
Department of Provincial Secretary	69,000.00	73,482.51
Department of Public Works	16,000.00	10,561.62
Department of Railways	74,000.00	81,922.91
Total Current Account	\$19,137,296.66	\$20,939,123.04
Capital Account—		
Refunds of Capital Expenditures:		
Charged to Income	\$ 450,000.00	\$ 2,681.49
Charged to Loans	170,000.00	194,544.45
Total Capital Account	\$620,000.00	\$ 197,225.94
Total Revenue	\$19,757,296.66	\$21,136,348.98

EXPENDITURE		
Current Account—	Estimated	Actual
Public Debt	\$ 3,644,815.88	\$ 3,755,561.11
Legislation	127,500.00	128,858.36
Premier's Office	14,672.00	14,837.91
Department of Agriculture	483,190.00	472,951.98
Department of Attorney-General	1,314,788.00	1,957,117.80
Department of Education	3,446,977.00	3,477,391.28
Department of Finance	820,634.83	1,623,846.30
Department of Fisheries	18,030.00	16,482.75
Department of Labor	73,189.00	208,076.13
Department of Lands	1,338,131.00	1,274,375.73
Department of Mines	290,047.00	278,663.89
Department of Provincial Secretary	1,802,262.00	2,576,183.39
Department of Public Works	2,923,764.00	2,833,915.22
Department of Railways	61,760.00	71,745.13
Total Current Account	\$16,359,758.71	\$18,690,006.98
Capital Account (charged to Income)	3,143,048.11	3,169,570.87
Total Expenditure (To Income)	\$19,502,806.82	\$21,859,577.85

COUNTY OF COMOX IS WIPED OUT

Action Taken at Last Session to Create Third Judicial District Will Be Rescinded

B.C. LEGISLATURE ROLLS UP SLEEVES

Mr. J. W. Jones Elected Speaker and Speech From the Throne Is Read to House

It is not often that the opening sitting of the first session of a Parliament of the province witnesses a move made on the part of a new Government to reverse the policy of a former administration in matters of policy. This occurred yesterday when Hon. R. H. Pooley, Attorney-General, introduced bill number one of the session, which contains only eight lines, including the title, which sets out that it is "an act to amend the Counties Definition Act."

The bill passed its first reading, while the Attorney-General smiled, as did also one or two of the old members on the Government side, and Mr. T. D. Pattullo, Mr. A. M. Manson and M. Ian Mackenzie, on the Opposition side, as they realized that in the simple language of the bill the new Government was taking steps to wipe out the enactment of the Liberal Government last session, whereby there was created on Vancouver Island a new judicial county north of the Quallcum River, and which was associated at the time with a movement on the part of friends of Mr. P. P. Harrison, then member of the Legislature, to become a County Court judge.

The new bill will wipe out the constitution of a new county area there.

Just before the House rose, Mr. Pattullo, the new leader of the Opposition, asked the Minister of Finance when the House might expect the report of the auditors who were now engaged in examining the situation.

Hon. W. C. Shelly said the report would be filed in the House at the earliest possible moment, following its receipt.

ONE ABSENTEE

The only member absent when the House opened yesterday afternoon was Dr. W. H. Sutherland, the Minister of Public Works.

The proceedings at the opening yesterday afforded the opportunity for the first time of having the new Premier on the floor. Hon. S. F. Manning, in all he had to say at the opening, showed his training in the better field at Ottawa, and manifested a deliberate and dignified manner. The clearness with which his words were carried in the chamber served to indicate that the blame which is often attached to the acoustic properties of the room may be more fairly applied to the members themselves.

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There was more than the usual color to the opening this year. The attendance from outside points, including Vancouver, was more than usually large. Needless to say, Conservatives, rejoicing in a victory won at the polls, were in the ascendant as far as numbers went, while the Liberals perhaps not so happy, due to defeat, preferred in many cases to stay away.

Dr. R. E. McKechnie, chancellor of the University of British Columbia, who, with Mrs. McKechnie, was present, dated his connection with the Government of the province as Provincial Secretary back to a date anterior to all others present, who had been connected with the Government of this province.

The new sergeant-at-arms, Col. A. W. Woods, wearing his war decorations, made an excellent showing in his position. His handling of the situation, which is always somewhat trying on opening day, was all that could be desired.

MANY OFFICERS ATTEND

His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor was attended by a group of naval and military officers, which extended in two lines from the foot of the speaker's throne to the main entrance to the chamber. With Lieutenant Roy and Major Hennessey as special aides-de-camp, and his secretary, Mr. A. M. D. Fairbairn, he entered the chamber followed by the double line of officers.

Among them, in addition to the local men, were conspicuous Colonel Goodhue, assistant director of soldiers' graves in France, and Col. W. W. Foster, of Vancouver.

Entering the building to the booming of the saluting eighteen-pound field guns manned by a detachment from the Fifty-Eighth Battery, Fifth Brigade C. A., it was not long before the Lieutenant-Governor reached the chamber, and was escorted to the speaker's throne.

The guard of honor, furnished by the Sixteenth Canadian Scottish, presented a splendid appearance, under command of Major D. R. Sargent and Lieut. E. G. Christy, with Lieut. O. J. Weiler in command of the color party. The pipe band and the brass band of the regiment were in attendance.

Hon. S. L. Howe, Provincial Secretary, made it known that His Honor was not ready to convey the reasons for his calling the House together until a speaker was selected.

SPEAKER ELECTED

After the withdrawing of the Lieutenant-Governor, on motion of Premier Tolmie and Hon. N. S. Lougheed, the election of Mr. W. J. Jones was made unanimous as Speaker for the present Parliament. Escorted to the chair by the mover and seconder, Mr. Jones expressed his thanks for the high honor that had been done him. He said that he would endeavor to maintain the honor of the high office.

The selection of a speaker made the return of His Honor possible, and re-entering the chamber he was informed by the Speaker of his selection, and thereupon the address of His Honor was presented to the House.

The speech is as follows: "Mr. Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly:

"In welcoming you to the first session of the Seventeenth Parliament of British Columbia, it is with pleasure that I note the improvement in the condition of His Majesty the King. Throughout his serious illness his loyal subjects in this Province have followed with deep anxiety the reports upon His Majesty's condition, and we are all rejoiced to learn of his steady progress toward recovery. This trying period has served to bring out in a most striking manner the affection with which His Majesty is regarded by his subjects, and our prayer is that he may yet be spared to us for many years.

"Since the Legislature last met, the Province has suffered a severe loss in the death of the former Lieutenant-Governor, the Hon. W. C. Nichol. He was a generous and public-spirited citizen, who represented the Crown with honor and distinction, and his passing is sincerely mourned.

"Within the past year the Province has received visits from the Foreign Secretary in His Majesty's Imperial Government, the Under-Secretary for the Dominions, the leader of the British Labor Party, and the British Empire Parliamentary Association. These visits are very gratifying and should do much to create a better understanding between the different parts of the Empire.

OPTIMISM PREVAILS

"It is with pleasure that I observe that business conditions in the Province are showing rapid improvement. There are indications that the aggregate output of our basic industries in the present year will surpass all previous records. The bank clearings and building statistics of our leading centres also reflect the general prosperity.

"In harmony with the general advancement of the Province, the City of Vancouver and the municipalities of South Vancouver and Point Grey have been amalgamated into a Greater Vancouver, which takes a proud place among the leading cities of the Dominion.

"My Government, represented by the Premier and the Minister of Public Works, in conference with the Dominion Government, has succeeded in making further progress towards the restoration to the Province of the Railway Belt lands and the Peace River Block. Further conferences are to be held with a view to the completion of the transfer.

"The future of the Pacific Great Eastern Railway is receiving the earnest attention of my Government. Information as to the resources of the railway-grant lands is being collected and a thorough survey of the location and assets of the railway is being made.

"My Government is seriously considering the question of land settle-

ment, and, for the purpose of expediting the settlement of reclaimed and Government-owned lands, has appointed a Commissioner of Immigration and Colonization, whose duty it will be to inaugurate plans for the disposal of lands to suitable settlers in the best interest of the Province. In accordance with a plan so inaugurated, a portion of the reclaimed lands at Sumas has already been placed on the market by the Dyking Commissioner on terms that should encourage settlement and increase our agricultural production. Irrigation problems will be given careful consideration.

MARKETING BRANCH

"Recognizing that the success of agriculture largely depends upon the profitable marketing of the products of the land, my Government contemplates the immediate organization of a marketing branch in connection with the Department of Agriculture. Its purpose will be to co-operate wherever possible with existing agencies for the better marketing of farm products with a view to perfecting as nearly as possible the facilities for trade in these commodities. For this purpose you will be asked to vote an appropriation.

"An audit of the accounts of the Province is being made by a reputable firm of auditors for the purpose of clarifying our financial position, and their interim report will be placed before you.

"In view of the growing importance of public utilities, the question of the advisability of providing some measure of stricter control is receiving the consideration of the Government.

"Provision will be made to meet the Province's immediate needs in connection with highway facilities in such manner as to encourage the greater development of our natural resources, agricultural production, industrial undertakings, and tourist travel with a view to interesting capital and settlers of the best type.

"Arrangements are now being entered into between Canada and the United States for a conference concerning the conservation of the salmon, and it is earnestly hoped that lasting benefits to the industry will result therefrom.

NEW LEGISLATION

"My Government is diligently carrying out a thorough survey of the provisions of the Taxation Act to the end that the incidence of taxation may be modified.

"You will be asked to consider legislation intended:

(a) To extend exemptions under the "Succession Duties Act";

(b) To give assistance to the establishment of the iron and steel industry in this Province;

(c) To amend the "Male Minimum Wage Act," the "Game Act," the "Companies Act," the "Mineral Survey and Development Act," and the "Public Schools Act."

"The reports of the various departments of my Government will be laid before you.

"The Public Accounts and Estimates for the coming year will be submitted to you.

"I leave you in the hope that the first session of this new Parliament will, under the blessing of Providence, result in the enactment of such measures as will prove of benefit to all our people."

This done the House settled down to routine proceedings. Prayers were read by Rt. Rev. C. deV. Schofield, Bishop of Columbia. The election declarations were read by the clerk of the House, Major W. H. Langley.

On motion of the Premier, it was decided that the consideration of the speech of His Honor should have precedence of all other business except the introduction of bills until that item was disposed of.

Ministers of the Crown presented reports covering their departments for the year, and various other reports, after which the House adjourned until 2:30 this afternoon.

At today's sitting Mr. W. F. Kennedy, of North Okanagan, and Mr. G. K. MacNaughton, of Comox, will have right-of-way on moving and

seconding, respectively, the address in reply to the speech of His Honor. The further debate of the question will continue.

During the proceedings yesterday, the Provincial Police took charge of the maintenance of order in and about the building, while the city police performed a similar duty with regard to the approaches to the square.

MILK REPORT RECOMMENDS MANY CHANGES

Commission Suggests Methods to Stabilize Distribution of Product in More Uniform Manner

OVERHEAD COSTS MAY BE PRUNED

The findings of the Milk Enquiry Commission, which went into the question of the milk supply, especially as it affects the area known as Greater Vancouver and the Lower Mainland, was presented to the Legislature at the opening sitting of the session yesterday afternoon by Hon. W. Atkinson, Minister of Agriculture. The inquiry was conducted by a commission appointed under the Public Enquiries Act by the former Government but had not quite completed its work when the present administration took office.

The instructions of the present Government, following the taking of power, was that there should be as

expeditious a conclusion of the matter as possible.

PROCEDURE SUGGESTED

In brief, the report suggests the creation of a committee of equalization to be called the Committee of Direction.

It is further suggested that an advisory committee to the Committee of Direction shall consist of representatives of the producers, distributors and consumers, any one of which shall have right of appeal direct to the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council from any ruling of the Committee of Direction.

The financing of this Committee of Direction would be a direct charge on the industry benefiting, by making a direct assessment per pound milk fat, such charge to be collected through the distributing companies.

This charge, however, is not intended to apply to the producers-vendors at the present time, but all such would be licensed at a stated rate per producing cow.

The general recognition of the Fraser Valley Milk Producers' Association as wholesale and retail distributors of milk and cream in Vancouver and adjacent municipalities is encouraged by the report. This suggestion is made in view of its efforts to maintain an increasing milk supply, and to the manufacture of its surplus into milk products with development of foreign markets for the manufactured articles.

The Fraser Valley Milk Producers' Association is recognized by the commission as the basis for comparison in matters of efficiency and inefficiency.

BASIS OF ADJUSTMENT

All distributors now in business are conceded by the commission the right to continue and enjoy the same privileges, providing they accept the responsibility equal to that assumed by the farmers represented by the Fraser Valley Milk Producers' Association.

Dealing with the question of price to the consumers, the commission suggests that independent distributors buying direct from the country operate on the same spread, estimated monthly, as that on which the Fraser Valley Milk Producers' Association operates. The price would be set according to fat content and milk solids, and would vary according to season. In this way it is proposed by the commission that at the end of three years the co-operative shippers would be brought up gradually to a point where all would be on an equal basis through the operations of the Committee of Direction.

Encouragement of amalgamation is advocated as a means of reducing hauling costs, by consolidating existing distributing dairies to two or three large companies and a

Reorganization of milk routes suggested with competition on a service basis at fixed prices.

The commission suggests that a proportionate share of the fluid milk market be open to all producers inside and outside the T.B.-free area, who can produce standard quality milk and whose location will permit of delivery for sale in the fluid milk market.

Amendments to the Milk Act are suggested with a view to reducing the maximum bacterial count previous to pasteurization from 1,500,000 to 500,000 at end of third year after the regulations are brought into effect.

GOOD QUALITY ENCOURAGED

Competition among individual farmers is suggested in the report through placing of emphasis on quality production and uniform production, also by stressing lower production costs as a basis of costs.

The commission consisted of Dean F. M. Clement, B.S.A., M.A., of the Faculty of Agriculture, University of British Columbia, who acted as chairman; Dr. H. W. Hill, Director of Laboratories, University of British Columbia, and Mr. George E. Hancox, barrister-at-law, of Vancouver. It was named under order-in-council passed by the former Government of the province under date of May 19, 1928.

Seeks Information—Mr. Ian MacKenzie is the first member of the House to get himself on the order paper in the line of questions to be submitted to the ministers. He has given notices of motion addressed to the Minister of Public Works, to the Attorney-General and to the Minister of Lands, requesting information as to how many returned men were on the payroll in the Department of Public Works, of the Provincial Police and of the Lands Department, on August 20, 1928, and how many have been dismissed since then.

Caucuses Are Organized By Both Parties

The organization of the caucuses of both of the main parties in the House was carried out yesterday when on the Government side, Col. C. W. Peck, V.C., D.S.O., member for The Islands, was selected as chairman of the caucus with Mr. W. F. Kennedy of North Okanagan as senior whip, and Mr. J. W. Cornett of South Vancouver as junior whip.

On the Liberal side the chairman of the caucus will be Mr. J. A. Buckham of Columbia, ex-Speaker of the House. The senior whip will be Mr. H. F. Kergin of Atlin, while Mr. A. W. Gray of New Westminster will be junior whip.

Mr. T. Uphill, of Fernie, the sole Labor member, independent of the two main parties, will have no trouble organizing his caucus.

With the change of the parties in the House the rooms of the respective sides has been changed. The Conservatives take the rooms between those of the sergeant-at-arms and the press room, while the Liberals take up their quarters in the rooms where the old library used to be.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 23, 1929

OUTLINE OF LEGISLATION

Pride of place is given in the Speech from the Throne, which opened the first session of the seventeenth Legislature yesterday, to words of gratification on behalf of the people of British Columbia for the improvement in the condition of His Majesty in the course of his present illness. The much-lamented death of Mr. Walter Nichol, a former Lieutenant-Governor, is, as well, the subject of allusion. Pleasure is expressed at the general improvement being shown in business conditions and the hopeful outlook which maintains. As a part of the history of recent developments in the province mention is made of the coming into existence of Greater Vancouver and the progress indicated towards the restoration to provincial control of the Railway Belt lands and the Peace River Block.

There is no indication of any policy relating to the future of the Pacific Great Eastern Railway. This property is undergoing a survey for the information of the present Government, and until that survey is known it is unlikely that there will be any plans devised. The Government, as stated in the Speech, is interesting itself in immigration, a fact which has been announced so often by Dr. S. F. Tolmie, the Premier. The interest being displayed in agricultural development is noted by the intention to create a marketing branch in connection with the Department of Agriculture. As regards other natural resources and their development the Government proposes to give assistance to the establishment of an iron and steel industry and to amend the Mineral Survey and Development Act. Highway facilities are to be promoted to encourage the development of natural resources. In the matter of these natural resources however there is no mention of forest conservation, a subject which is of such vital importance that it should be considered during the present session of the Legislature and a constructive and cumulative programme devised.

As promised by Dr. Tolmie in the course of the late election campaign the exemptions are to be extended under the Succession Duties Act, presumably as a first instalment in the direction of doing away with this tax. There is no mention of reductions in the income tax, which have been promised also by the Premier, but as these are effected by amendments to the Taxation Act there is no necessity for a foreword in the Speech on what is proposed. As far as taxation generally is concerned a survey is now under way of the finances of the province with the object in view of bringing in recommendations on which the Government may be able to base legislation which will modify the incidence of taxation.

The Speech cannot be said to contain any surprises. One or other member of the Government, in advance, has, at one time or another, indicated practically all that is proposed in the way of new legislation. There is enough business in hand to insure an active session. The hope will be expressed generally, since business-like and economic administration has been promised, that the Legislature will get down to the facts of the session without undue loss of time.

LION'S SHARE OF PROFITS GO TO DOMINION

Large Proportion of Liquor Totals Pass to Federal Authorities in Duty, Excise and Sales Tax

REPORT TABLED IN LEGISLATURE

The seventh annual report of the Liquor Control Board of the province for the period extending from April 1, 1927, to March 31, 1928, was presented to the House by Attorney-General Pooley yesterday afternoon.

In the report reference is made to the inauguration of the system in January, 1928, of purchasing proof Scotch whiskies in bulk for bottling in three grades under the board's own label. These spirits, after being reduced, the report states, were placed in the Government Liquor Stores and sold under the labels—One Crown, Two Crowns and Three Crowns—at prices of \$2.25, \$2.35 and \$2.50 respectively for sixteen-ounce bottles; at \$3.50, \$3.75 and \$4 for twenty-six-ounce bottles, and \$5.25, \$5.50 and \$5.75 for forty-ounce bottles.

The sales for the first three months are given as 6,498 gallons, which is taken as indicating that the innovation was approved by the public, and that the quantity and the prices were satisfactory.

The amount paid to the Dominion Government for the period under review is given as \$3,311,161.27, which included \$2,621,470.20 in duty; \$376,966.91 in excise, and \$312,724.16 in sales tax.

In classifying the sales for the period the following facts are given: Wines and Spirits—Spirits, \$7,633,878.46; liqueurs, cocktails, etc., \$182,418.05; port, sherry, burgundy, claret and sauternes, \$332,963.37; champagnes and sparkling wines, \$148,429.50.

Native Wines—Ontario, \$41,425.95; British Columbia, \$173,089.65.

Oriental liquors, \$404,352.73.

Malt Liquor—British Columbia beer: Licensees, \$2,232,057.80; stores, \$2,613,263.83; imported ale and stout, \$195,059.33. A total of \$13,956,909.67.

On the subject of loganberry wine, it is stated that the popularity which loganberry wine is enjoying, as shown by the sales, augurs well for the extension of this commodity, the market for which is steadily broadening, and insures the development in British Columbia of an industry which will form an important and valuable adjunct to the resources of the small landowners who are engaged in intensive cultivation.

The act provides for the distribution of the profits, after making deduction for the requirements of the Mothers' Pensions Act and the board's reserve fund, in the following ratio:

Fifty per cent to the consolidated revenue fund for the public service of the province; 15 per cent to the consolidated revenue fund in aid of hospitals; 35 per cent to the municipalities; and, in accordance therewith, the distribution of the year's profit was placed as follows:

To the mothers' pensions fund, \$628,600 was transferred; \$1,051,802 to the municipalities; \$450,772 to the hospitals; \$1,502,575 to consolidated revenue fund, and reserve, \$135,962.

HIGHWAY TO NEW ISLAND PORT URGED

Dr. G. K. MacNaughton, in Initial Speech to House, Pleads for Extension of Island Trunk Road

SOUNDS APPEAL FOR COAL TRADE

Asks Government to Make Effort to Adjust Difficulties of Merville Settlement of Returned Men

THE need of highway connection with Nimpkish, where 1,000 men are now employed, and which is being developed along the line of making it a permanent industrial community, was stressed by Dr. G. K. MacNaughton, member for Comox, in seconding the address in reply to the speech of His Honor in the House yesterday. The people of that community had no way of reaching the outside at present. He hoped the Government would take steps to rectify the position of affairs there.

Incidentally in this connection he made a plea for the cause of the farmers of the Courtenay and Comox districts, who, he said, were cut off from an excellent market for their produce at this new centre which was being logged off, and created into a community which would be an attractive one on the Island.

MODERN COMMUNITY
The company, he explained, in the logging and milling at that part of the Island were inducing the best class of men to come in. There was a community hall there, and the place was being organized along the lines of a really modern settlement. This was something that should be encouraged, he said, for by the time the land was logged off there would be an excellent community already on the land.

Dealing with this matter of roads, Dr. MacNaughton said that roads were needed in this province and nowhere more than on Vancouver Island. He was pleased with the way in which the Island Highway had been looked after of late by the present Government and also by the late administration.

ROAD PROBLEMS
While roads were needed for tourists, he still felt that the pioneer farmers who went into the different parts of the province and proceeded to develop the country were entitled to a greater extent than the purely tourist trade to passable roads.

In spite of the announcement that the judicial county of Comox had been wiped out, he said that the Comox district was "still going strong" in an agricultural and an industrial way.

Referring to the high tariff, and the constantly increasing rates along this line, as far as the United States was concerned, it became necessary, Dr. MacNaughton said, that the attention of the Canadians should be turned more and more to the advantages of trade within the British Empire.

The prosperity of the province could not, he felt, be attributed to the late Government. In this connection he referred to the statements made that while the province was a very large producer there was too much unemployment in British Columbia. There was, said Dr. MacNaughton, too much raw material going out of the country at the present time to allow of congratulation as to conditions. There therefore arose the necessity of finding ways for the maintenance of greater production here, in order that more employment might be given to the native sons and daughters in the country.

Until something more were done to retain the native population of the country here, it would not be a wise policy to try to induce too many others to come in.

RAILWAY LANDS
The success which had attended the mission of the present Government at Ottawa looking to the carrying out of the return of the lands to the province was alluded to. In this connection he recalled that during the last election there had been representations made that if the Conservatives were elected there might be nothing expected from Ottawa. It was gratifying, he said, to see that the Ottawa Government had taken a different stand to that prophesied by some here, and had treated the Conservative Government delegation from British Columbia very favorably.

It was gratifying, however, Dr. MacNaughton said, to note that the Government was having a survey of the resources and the assets of the P.G.E. line, which would be of great benefit in carrying on any negotiations with respect to it.

With a land endowment, he was of the opinion that there might be a solution reached which would be gratifying to the taxpayers of the province.

MERVILLE SETTLEMENT
After congratulating the Government upon the policy of employing 100 per cent returned men on the legislative staff, he alluded to the fact that the sympathetic recognition of these men had not always been what it should have been. In this connection he referred to the Merville settlement. While the men on the improved land were getting along fairly well, those on the unimproved land were meeting with difficulties.

The member for Comox hoped the new Government would consider this matter, and have the Merville question settled once and for all.

He did not think that it was reasonable to expect that the same hard business-like methods should be adopted with the returned men as in other instances. These men had suffered, and they should be dealt with in a way that would afford the opportunity for them to get established again.

COAL VERSUS OIL
The coal competition with the new oil fuel is always a live matter with the residents of the coal areas of the Island, and Dr. MacNaughton dealt with this lightly. He said that while it might not be wise to increase the tax on American oil coming in, it was a lamentable situation that the coal producers had to face, and also from the standpoint of the communities affected.

He pointed to the communities that had been deserted in consequence. It was a sad sight, he said, to see these places with schools and houses nailed up, where formerly flourishing coal mining places existed. He praised the action of the present Minister of Mines, as well as the former occupant of the office, in trying to do something for "Old King Coal." He had no doubt but that the minister was keeping well informed upon what was being done in England and elsewhere in the line of research along the line of bringing coal back into increased use.

The needs of game law amendments was alluded to by the member, who said that there were instances where farmers had had their crops almost completely destroyed by game, and it was complained that little consideration was given them by the game authorities. How far the department was to blame he could not say, but if there were ways of rectifying the trouble complained of he hoped it would be carried out.

LIMITATION OF SAANICH PROBE ASKED

Petitioners for Disincorporation Want Inquiry Held to Matters Complain Of in Petition

COST OF EXPERT WITNESSES AIRED

That the inquiry into Saanich affairs be restricted to matters complained of in the petition for disincorporation, which was presented to the Provincial Government recently by 753 farmers in Wards Five and Six and part of Ward Four, and that the expense of an independent expert witness, to be brought by his clients, be considered an expense of the commission, was sought by Mr. C. H. O'Halloran, counsel with Mr. Arthur J. Patton for the petitioners for disincorporation, at the opening yesterday of the inquiry which His Honor Judge P. S. Lampman is conducting as commissioner at the Court House here.

Mr. O'Halloran informed the commissioner that the petitioners would take no part in the investigation unless guaranteed against expense for witnesses.

Following argument by counsel, the hearing was adjourned until tomorrow morning at 11 o'clock, when the commissioner will give his ruling, and the view of the Government submitted on the question of expense involved by the introduction of evidence by expert witnesses.

Mr. Ernest L. Tait appeared as counsel for Saanich Municipal Council, and Mr. Harry J. Davis as counsel for the commission.

THE COMMISSION
Judge Lampman, at the opening of the inquiry, read his commission, which, in part, states he is appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council as sole commissioner to:

1. Investigate the matters complained of in the said petition.
2. To inquire into any matters of administration in Saanich municipality which in his judgment may be connected with the complaints contained in the said petition, or in any way connected with the remedy suggested in the prayer of the petition.
3. To inquire into the valuation of agricultural holdings for taxation purposes, bearing in mind the quality and situation of the land, its income-producing power with relation to the quality of the said land and the market offering or available for its produce.
4. To inquire into the question whether a separate municipality of Wards Five and Six would be more economical to administer than at present, taking into account the services now being received.
5. To inquire into the advisability of dividing the municipality into three wards, as follows: North Ward, all of the present Wards Five and Six; Central Ward, comprising the north part of Ward One and all of Wards Three and Four; South Ward comprising all of Wards Two and Seven and the south part of Ward One.

WATER SUPPLY
6. To inquire into the question of water supply, what profits are derived therefrom, and in what areas; and also the distribution of expense of supply and administration.

7. To inquire into the feasibility of financing a sewer system when installed at the expense of the locality benefited, and without expense to localities not included.

(8) To inquire generally as to the cost of local and other improvements and the maintenance of same, and to report as to whether such cost and maintenance should not be borne by the sections or localities specially benefited therefrom.

(9) To report upon the advisability of the granting of the prayer of the petition.

(10) On all of the above points and any others which may arise during the investigation pertaining to the subjects herein referred, and to recommend any measures which in his judgment should be adopted either as supplementary or alternative to the granting of the prayer of the petition.

SEEKS ADJOURNMENT

Mr. C. H. O'Halloran, who with Mr. Arthur J. Patton, appeared as counsel for 753 Saanich farmers who petitioned the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council for disincorporation of Wards 5 and 6 and part of Ward 4, Saanich, on the grounds that the incidence of taxation had fallen for many years past and continued to fall most heavily and unequally upon the rural wards of Saanich, sought an adjournment of the hearing for one week.

"I make this request on two grounds: firstly, I wish leave to apply for restriction of the commission in so far as we are concerned to matters complained of in the disincorporation petition, and also I wish to request that the expense of an expert witness, to be brought by my clients, be considered an expense of the commission," Mr. O'Halloran said.

Counsel stated that the 753 farmers who petitioned the disincorporation petition owned lands and improvements to the assessed value of \$2,759,276. They had shouldered the expense of lengthy proceedings prior to the inquiry, including the securing of the passage of legislation.

MAY WITHDRAW

"The nature of the commission may cause proceedings lasting three weeks. There are many matters included which are valuable in the general interest, and expert witnesses may be required on many points. I would urge that matters regarding the petition be cleared up first, and then other matters, in which we will not appear, be considered," he said.

Mr. O'Halloran informed the commissioner he had been instructed by his clients to state that if they were forced to face the full burden of three weeks of proceedings here, and also provide expensive witnesses, they would have to throw up their hands.

Mr. Ernest L. Tait, appearing for Saanich Municipal Council, opposed Mr. O'Halloran's request that the powers of the commissioner be restricted.

THE BASIC QUESTION

"The basic question is," said Mr. Tait, "whether one section of the community has been persistently subjected to unfair charges? Your hands should not be fettered in proposing any remedy for the general benefit of the community."

Mr. Tait said that the municipality was ready to proceed forthwith with the inquiry, and was interested to have the facts placed in a true light. That was the whole of his interest, he commented.

"My friend finds himself on the horns of a dilemma, he has started

something which he cannot finish," said Mr. Tait.

Stoutly protesting, Mr. O'Halloran replied: "We can finish what we started, that was the plea for disincorporation, which we believe is the remedy. The basis of our contention is that we are unfairly taxed."

CAN GIVE EVIDENCE

Mr. Gerald H. Sedger informed the commissioner that he appeared as counsel for Mr. J. W. Rowlands, a large landowner in the municipality.

Mr. H. H. Grist, of Ward Seven, said he could inform the commissioner of over assessment of farm land in urban wards, and asked if he could present evidence during the inquiry.

"You certainly can give evidence," Judge Lammman told him.

His Honor then adjourned the inquiry until tomorrow morning, at 11 o'clock.

B. C. Cabinet Appointees In Future Will Take Seats Without Usual By-Election

THE Government of the Province has turned its face against the practice which is recognized now as being antiquated and serving no good purpose of having members of the Government who have been selected for office go back again to the electorate of their riding for re-election.

This new rule is made effective in an amendment to the Constitution Act, which was brought into the House by message yesterday afternoon in the name of the Attorney-General and passed its first reading. The effect of the amendment will be that not only will the cabinet ministers selected immediately after a general election be excused from going back at once to meet a by-election with the necessary cost that the country was thereby put to, but a by-election will not be necessary at any time that a minister who has a seat in the House is selected for the position. Another feature of the amending

bill reveals the startling fact that the Speakers in the House have been drawing down an extra indemnity for the filling of that office without having any legal claim to it. Moreover, they have been violating the rule of the House which forbids the taking of any salary or remuneration under the gift of the Government.

The amending section will rectify this, and legalize the intention of the Legislature that there should be an extra allowance for the office of Speaker. It will, moreover, be retroactive, inasmuch as all previous Speakers' actions in violation of the rule will be legalized by the present act.

Steel Bounties Are Planned to Start Industry

Bounties on steel manufactured from scrap iron are planned by the Government as one of the chief features of its present legislative programme, members of the Legislature understood following the brief announcement in the Speech from the Throne yesterday, that the Ministry planned assistance to a steel industry.

The Government's reported plan to institute a system of bounties foreshadows the establishment somewhere near Vancouver of a plant which would use scrap iron for the manufacture of steel. It is said among private members of the House that the new bounty will amount to something between \$1 and \$1.50 per ton.

Qualification To Be Validated By Enactment

Captain James Fitzsimmons, member for Kaslo-Slocan, in order to qualify as a candidate, cancelled his contract with the Government of the day for the operation of a ferry, and assigned to a limited liability company all interest in the ferry. The Ferries Act, in the opinion of the Minister of Public Works, was not clear as to whether this was possible, and a doubt was cast on the qualification of the member-elect.

A bill is before the Legislature to declare the member qualified, and relieved from any possible penalty.

At the same time Hon. N. S. Lougheed, Minister of Public Works, has introduced a bill to clarify the position with regard to ferry contracts.

Censors to Be Given Power to Halt Publicity

MOTION picture censors will be given power to supervise billboard showings and newspaper advertising of motion pictures, if a bill which Hon. R. H. Pooley, Attorney-General, will introduce into the House on Friday, should become law.

Where necessary, power is to be given to censors to order discontinuance of posters and advertisements already in use.

Enforcement of Game Laws Will Be Taken From Present Board

Continuing Interest in Trapping Lines Will Be Established, and They Will Be Transferable by Widow in Event of Holder's Death

Farms for Rearing of Game Birds Are to Be Operated Under Licence

GAME enforcement in this province will be taken out of the hands of the Provincial Police and placed in those of a new organization which will have at its an officer known as the game commissioner. This is one of the main features of the bill to amend the Game Act, as introduced by Attorney-General Pooley, by message of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, yesterday afternoon in the House. This is a feature that was expected. The existing game board will be eliminated if the bill passes.

The Cabinet takes the power to create also various game districts in the province so as to facilitate the carrying out of the game laws in a satisfactory way. The organization of the province under these subdivisions will be carried out by the game commissioner.

Other amendments in the bill brought down include provisions affecting the trap-line system now in force, which will make these more acceptable to the legitimate trappers, and will have the effect of protecting the fur-bearing animals of the province so that this line of enterprise may be made more productive for British Columbia.

TRAP-LINE RIGHTS

It is proposed that the licence issued to a trapper shall be extended so as to cover a term of five years, instead of one year, as at present. In addition to this the operator of a trap line will be afforded the right to renewal for further terms upon the expiry of the time, provided his conduct of the line has been satisfactory. In short, the trapper will be given something of a vested right in the line, which will have the effect, it is contended, that he will use all diligence to make the line remunerative.

He will be interested directly in seeing that the animals are not exterminated along his line, but on the contrary he will have an interest in maintaining the line in as productive a shape from year to year as possible.

In the old days the Indians had a sort of unwritten law in this respect, and were careful to see that the game was not exterminated, but was fostered. The new rule introduced will have the effect, it is contended by the best informed on the subject, of restoring some of the areas of the province and of making them again remunerative.

It is provided that the widow of a trapper on the death of her husband will have a vested right remaining in the trap line, which she may transfer to another under proper conditions.

GAME FARMS

Another matter that is dealt with in the amending bill is that of the establishment of game farms which will allow of the creation of them in the country under proper restrictions. The owner of a farm who wishes to carry out this arrangement will have to obtain a licence allowing him to do so. He will be able under it to breed game birds and dispose of them as he would domestic fowls.

This action, it is felt, will be of special benefit to many farmers who will be glad to take advantage of it, and at the same time will make for the increasing of the game possibilities of the province.

Seating of Members in House Is Now Assigned

Owing to Three-Quarters of Personnel Being of Government Party, Ten Conservatives Will Sit on Opposition Side in Chamber

In seating the members of the Legislature this session it has become necessary, in view of the disparity of members representing the two political parties, that ten Conservatives have to find places on the Opposition side usually assigned to the Government.

The seating of the members has been arranged as follows: Front row, Government side, commencing from the front of the Speaker's chair—Hon. J. Hinchliffe, Minister of Education, Victoria; Hon. R. H. Pooley, Attorney-General, Esquimalt; Hon. F. Tolmie, Minister of Railways, Vancouver; Hon. W. C. Shelly, Minister of Finance, Vancouver; Hon. S. L. Howe, Provincial Secretary, Richmond-Point Grey; Hon. R. L. Maitland, minister without portfolio, Vancouver; Mr. H. D. Twigg, Victoria; Mr. Reg. Hayward, Victoria; Hon. W. C. Peck, V.C., D.S.O., Islands; Mr. George Walkem, Vancouver; Col. Nelson Spencer, Vancouver; Mr. J. H. Beatty, Victoria.

Rear row on Government side, from Speaker's chair—Hon. W. A. McKenzie, Minister of Mines and Labor, Similkameen; Hon. N. S. Laughhead, Minister of Public Works, Cowichan; Hon. W. Atkinson, Minister of Agriculture, Chilliwack; Hon. F. P. Burden, Minister of Lands, Port George; Hon. Rolf W. Bruhn, President of the Council, Salmon Arm; Mr. C. F. Davie, Cowichan-Newcastle; Mr. W. F. Kennedy, North Okanagan; Mr. James H.

Schofield, Rossland-Trail; Mr. M. Manson, Mackenzie; Dr. G. K. McNaughton, Comox; Mr. William Dick, Vancouver; Mr. J. R. Mitchell, Kamloops.

Front row, Opposition side—Mr. J. A. Buckham, Golden; Mr. A. M. Manson, Omineca; Mr. T. D. Pattullo, leader of the Opposition, Prince Rupert; Dr. W. H. Sutherland, Revelstoke; Mr. Ian A. Mackenzie, North Vancouver; Mr. H. F. Kergin, Atlin; Col. Fred Lister, Creston; Mr. T. A. Kirk, Vancouver; Dr. L. E. Borden, Nelson; Mr. J. W. Berry, Delta; Dr. C. M. Kingston, Grand Forks-Greenwood; Mr. J. W. Cornett, South Vancouver.

Rear row, Opposition side—Mr. A. W. Gray, New Westminster; Dr. H. C. Wrinch, Skeena; Dr. J. J. Gillis, Yale; Mr. F. M. MacPherson, Cranbrook; Mr. G. S. Pearson, Nanaimo; Mr. L. A. Hanna, Alberni; Mr. Thomas Uphill, Fernie; Mr. E. C. Carson, Lillooet; Capt. James Fitzsimmons, Kaslo-Slocan; Mr. W. R. Rutledge, Burnaby; Mr. R. MacKenzie, Cariboo.

FRUITGROWERS LOOK TO HOUSE FOR DIRECTION

Mr. W. F. Kennedy Moves Address in Reply to Speech—Stresses Importance of Marketing

FINDS PLEASURE IN B.C.'S ADVANCE

Getting down to the actual business of the session yesterday the honor fell to Mr. W. F. Kennedy, Conservative member for North Okanagan, of moving the Address in reply to that of the Lieutenant-Governor presented to the House the day previous.

The member from the Interior riding, representing as he does one of the principal producers of fruit in British Columbia, paid special attention to this industry which is passing through strenuous times in the marketing of produce.

Paying his compliments to the Premier, and the members of the Government, Mr. Kennedy also had congratulations for the leader of the Opposition, Mr. T. D. Pattullo, for whom he wished that he might be regarded as a ripe old age to continue in the position he now occupies.

The member was loudly applauded by the Government supporters when he referred to the distinguished service which Premier Tolmie had rendered in another field as a member of the Dominion Government—"a service which gained him the distinction of having been the best Minister of Agriculture of the Dominion of Canada has

"It is a source of satisfaction to all members to see by the Speech from the Throne that our Province is enjoying a great period of advancement and prosperity, and to learn that during the present year the aggregate output of our basic industries will surpass all previous years. That this statement is justified is proven by the fact that in the year just closed British Columbia had a revenue from her productive industries which gives our province the lead in all Canada in per capita income.

MINERAL DEVELOPMENT

"At the present time, the eyes of the entire world are watching our Province in connection with our mineral production, and we may look into the future with great confidence as far as our mineral development is concerned. During the year 1928, our mineral production shows an increase of nearly four million dollars over the previous year, and that which possibly best proves the healthy condition of this industry is the fact that during the year just closed the mines had the largest distribution of dividends on record, this being a point which will appeal to the investing public, and I feel satisfied our Province in the future will have even a far greater amount of capital offering in this connection.

"Our fisheries have shown a most satisfactory gain during the year under review, the value of this industry showing an increase of well over \$1,000,000.

LUMBER SITUATION

"While many looked with grave concern upon our lumber industry during the early months of the year it is pleasing to note the very marked improvement during the last part of 1928, which will, I am satisfied, show a very healthy increase over the year 1927. Our timber industry at the present time has its problems, and it will be the duty of this Legislature to consider them very carefully in order to maintain this huge business for British Columbia.

"One of the most notable signs of advancement is the unequalled hydro-electrical development during 1928. As a Province we are indeed fortunate in having available the great water power which is ours, and which in the future will play such an important part in the development of our natural resources."

Mr. Kennedy paid a tribute to the growth of Vancouver, and pro-

GROWTH OF AGRICULTURE

"Coming as I do from an agricultural district, it is only natural that I should be keenly interested in this part of our production, and I am more than pleased to note its most remarkable strides during the past year. The production figures this year will show a total increase of nearly \$4,000,000 and places agriculture well in advance of mining, only lumbering showing a greater volume of production. We find our livestock industry has an increase of something over \$1,000,000, and also our poultry production. Fruit production, that industry in which the people of my riding are so deeply interested, is responsible for another \$1,000,000 increase, while meats and dairy products are each responsible for \$300,000 expansion. These figures are very interesting, but the best sign of all is the fact that during the past year our agricultural imports have decreased by approximately one-quarter of a million dollars. This is indeed very satisfactory, and I am sure under our present administration these figures will continue to improve during the next few years. In numbers, we find our livestock has increased by over 34,000 head, sheep by 40,000 head, swine 4,000 head, and poultry over 500,000.

"I mention these figures because they will demonstrate to the honorable members of this House that we are fast becoming a mixed farming Province, and in this I am satisfied we will find a solution for many of our difficulties in this industry. We have many parts of our province well suited for mixed farming. If given the opportunity to develop along the proper lines, it will greatly increase our population.

The people of the Okanagan are

greatly interested in the fruit industry, and I believe, with the information I have here, I can convince the members of this House that our interest is your interest, and our problems your problems. May I say first that the British Columbia apple crop alone is nearly as large as the rest of all Canada's. This industry each year is responsible for a large volume of business in the handling of the crop, and the figures I will quote do not include any charges for interest or taxation. This year the different expenses in handling our fruit and vegetable crop, under control of the Committee of Direction, are as follows:

Freight charges	\$2,626,000
Box material	837,000
Paper	269,000
Nails	25,000
Sprays	50,000
Fertilizer	75,000
Irrigation, water	321,000
Picking, hauling, packing, handling, selling, etc.	4,939,000
	\$9,142,000
Add small fruits, say	125,000
Total	\$9,267,000

PROBLEMS OF FRUIT BUSINESS

All of these expenses must be met before the producer gets his returns, and it is unfortunate that, up to the present time, no system has been found which will insure to the grower even a reasonable return. Agriculture is entirely different to other lines of production, because we find in place of his produce being figured on a cost basis plus a reasonable profit, as is done in most commodities, his crop is sold and after all expenses are paid he is given that which is left, and with this in mind we are very pleased to learn from the Speech from the Throne that the Government intends at once to organize a marketing branch and this, I am sure, will prove a real assistance to the man on the land.

"The people of my district realize that, to be successful, they must give more thought to mixed farming, and with this in my mind may I mention here that the dairy industry in the Okanagan is growing very rapidly and today we are second only to the Fraser Valley in this province, and you will be surprised to learn that this year the Okanagan has produced well over a million pounds of butter, and I am happy to say they have had no difficulty in marketing their product, for which they have received approximately forty cents per pound butter fat. The farmers

share of the returns on butter in our district is very satisfactory indeed, as we find out of each dollar collected eighty cents is returned to the producer. We have a country well suited for dairying; we can produce feed there cheaper than most parts in Canada and our production per cow is well above the average.

TOBACCO

"This House will be interested to know the Okanagan is well suited for the growing of tobacco, and samples of our product have been proved as good as any grown in the Dominion. During the past four years the Experimental Farm at Summerland has been giving special attention to the culture of tobacco, and I hope our Department of Agriculture will follow this up very carefully, as we must not lose the ground we have gained, as this development is along the lines of variety production needed.

"One of our major problems is that of irrigation, and while I do not intend to worry you now with this matter, I wish to say I am very glad to learn from the Speech from the Throne that this matter will be given careful consideration during this session. I need only say that it is an utter impossibility for the farmer in the Okanagan to carry on under the present charges for irrigation, and if this great volume of business coming from this fertile valley means anything to our province, then it will be necessary for our Government to come to their assistance by giving a measure of relief which will enable the farmer to remain on his land."

Telephone Bill Will Be Before Legislature

A petition was presented in the House yesterday by Colonel Nelson Spencer, of Vancouver, asking for leave to introduce a private bill to incorporate the Provincial Telephone Company.

The bill is one that has been before the public for some time, and is for the purpose of making it possible for the B.C. Telephone Company to utilize radio in the transfer commercially of messages, in cases where it is inexpedient to erect pole lines or where this would be physically impossible.

Mr. H. D. Twigg was elected Deputy Speaker on motion of Attorney-General Pooley and Hon. W. C. Shelly.

Mr. A. M. Manson gives notice of a motion to appoint a committee of the Legislature to inquire into the workings of the amendments of last session to the Provincial Elections Act.

Dr. H. C. Wrinch on Friday will inquire into the causes for the dispensing of the services of Dr. D. Warnock as Deputy Minister of Agriculture.

Mr. Ian A. Mackenzie wants further information relative to returned men who have been relieved of positions in the Liquor Control Board.

GOVERNMENT BOND SALES QUESTIONED

Mr. T. D. Pattullo Moves Amendment to Address in Reply, Challenging Appointment of Fiscal Agents

DOUBTS VALUE OF NEW SYSTEM

Opposition Leader Inquires Whether Pre-election Promises Are to Be Translated Into Legislation

A want of confidence vote in the Government was moved in the Legislature yesterday by the leader of the Opposition, Mr. T. D. Pattullo. This followed the speech of the former Minister of Lands, which he concluded by moving, to add to the address in reply to that of His Honor, a sweeping condemnation of the Government with respect to its financial policy of placing its securities through agencies embracing some of the larger financial institutions in the Dominion and in the United States, instead of conducting the sales in the open market.

The proposed addition to the address reads as follows:

This House strongly disapproves of administrative policy and action in connection with a recent sale of provincial securities, in that sale was made privately, impropiously and contrary to sound public policy. "It was always the practice of our administration to dispose of the securities of the province in open market and I see nothing whatever in the financial situation as to why exclusive control of the sale of long-term issues should have been placed in the hands of a private syndicate rather than retained by the Government," said Mr. Pattullo.

"Right at this very moment the Government is in the humiliating position of not being in control of its own finances. It cannot go into the market today nor tomorrow to borrow money on securities of the province without consulting with and selling its securities through the syndicate to which I have referred.

"The Government is not master in its own house, but is subject to its financial agent. Until February 28 next, no matter how favorable the market may be, the Government cannot take advantage of the opportunity to place long-term issues except through this syndicate. And I am advised that at the time it disposed of the first issue of \$6,000,000, that had it gone to the open market it could have obtained a considerably better price than was obtained."

THE ORDER-IN-COUNCIL
Mr. Pattullo gave the form of the order-in-council, dated September 13, 1928, as follows:

That in pursuance of Section 37 of the Revenue Act and of all other powers thereunto enabling, the following financial houses, namely, Canadian Bank of Commerce, Toronto, Ontario; Dominion Securities Corporation, Toronto, Ontario; A. E. Ames & Company, Limited, Toronto, Ontario; Wood, Gundy & Company, Toronto, Ontario; and Dillhoff, Reid & Company, New York, in the State of New York (hereinafter referred to as the agents), be appointed the exclusive financial agents of the

province of the period beginning on the date of the execution of an agreement with the agents in terms of the draft agreement herewith and ending on February 28, 1929, for the sale of all securities issued and sold by the province during that period, other than Treasury bills or notes given to the bankers of the province to secure temporary borrowings; but subject to the terms and conditions herein and in the said agreement contained; and

That for the purposes aforesaid the Minister of Finance be authorized to execute on behalf of the province an agreement with the agents in terms of the draft agreement herewith.

BASIS OF COMMISSION

He quoted from the agreement the following as to commission:

That for their services in advising the province as to all matters connected with the issue of securities as herein mentioned, and for acting as fiscal agents in connection with the sale of securities as aforesaid, the agents shall be paid or allowed from the proceeds of the sales a commission equal to 1 per centum of the face value of the securities so sold.

"It will be observed," said Mr. Pattullo, that the syndicate is to be paid a commission for tendering advice to the Government. We were in office twelve years, and we never paid a single dollar of commission to anybody. We sold the issues of the province upon as favorable a basis as obtained by any other province in the Dominion of Canada or the Dominion of Canada itself, and it did not cost us a single dollar for advice. We considered that we were able ourselves to judge of the time and the opportunity for the disposal of the securities of the province to the best advantage, and the success which we obtained in the disposal of our securities is ample attestation of the solidity of our judgment.

"Paragraph Six, of the Order-in-Council anticipates that borrowings may be required up to \$20,000,000, and under the agreement the sum of \$12,000,000 has already been sold and the agreement is still in force until February 28, next. If the whole amount of \$20,000,000 is sold, the syndicate will have been paid \$200,000 for its fiscal advice, in addition to the profits it may make in connection with the sale of securities.

"On a forty-year issue \$200,000 amounts to a tremendous sum and this one transaction on this single item will cost the people of this province during the next forty years the sum of \$1,400,000, and on amount of \$12,000,000 already sold on which \$120,000 must be paid the sum of \$830,000.

"It is plain that no advantage whatever has accrued to the province through this arrangement, and that on the contrary it is going to cost the people of the province a very large sum of money. But even if that were not so, the principle of private sale of bonds is so contrary to sound public policy that it calls for the severest condemnation."

TURNING TO B.C. AFFAIRS

The defeat of the Liberal administration was regretted by the leader. That administration, he said, came into office at an exceedingly difficult period. There was the war period and the immediate postwar period with all their attendant problems, and in addition the province was in the midst of a devastating deflation process, consequent upon a period of imprudent speculation in the natural resources of the province and a premature expansion of Governmental activities.

"When our administration took office, it was necessary to at once adopt the unpopular course of increasing taxation," he said. "Gradually, over a period of years, by prudent and careful administration, and the concurrent expansion of industrial activity throughout the province, our financial position was placed upon a basis second to no other province in Canada, while every line of industrial endeavor had increased from one hundred to several hundred per cent. So sound had become the position of the finances of the province that we were enabled during the latter years of

our administration to effect substantial reductions in taxation, and we had the satisfaction of retiring from office with the knowledge that the affairs of the province were never in better shape in all its history.

"The incoming administration entered upon its duties under exceptionally favorable circumstances. The industrial life of our people is in process of ever-increasing expansion, the provincial revenues have more than trebled, and instead of being faced with the necessity of increasing taxation, the administration will have the agreeable task of reducing it."

"APOSTLE OF RUIN"

After extending congratulations to the Premier and ministers, and outlining what he considered to be the functions of the Opposition, Mr. Pattullo proceeded:

"In the latter years of our administration, the chief apostle of ruin and pessimism was no less a person than the present Prime Minister of the province. How often did we hear from him that the whole province was in the doldrums, business was languishing, and the youth of our province was flocking to the United States, and this notwithstanding the fact that each year was showing a substantial improvement over the last, finally culminating in the year of grace, 1928, surpassing the records of all previous years."

Mr. Pattullo went on to say that now, as shown by the Speech of His Honor, the Conservative Government expressed its great satisfaction that all was well in the province. The expansion of the year 1928 is but the continuation of the expansion of preceding years, he stated.

The leader of the Opposition then called for the Government, and for the Premier particularly, to bring forth by action what had been promised in the pre-election speeches. He could not find anything in the speech of His Honor that would indicate that these promises were to be carried out.

"The Prime Minister told us that he was going to investigate every field of activity and take such measures as would rejuvenate the economic condition of the province, and would afford such opportunity as would keep our young people at home instead of flocking to the United States," said he.

WANTS INFORMATION

"Time and time again we were asked by the Prime Minister to consider why the states to the south of British Columbia were populous to the extent of several millions while in British Columbia we have only a few hundred thousand. Perhaps the Prime Minister when he is speaking will tell us why.

"Let us reflect for a moment. The Prime Minister was at one time a member of the Borden-Meighen administration at Ottawa. During the ten years of this administration no less than 750,000 Canadians went to the United States permanently to reside. I would feel more hopeful of some definite future action by the Prime Minister if he would enlighten us as to why measures were not taken to retain these 750,000 Canadians in Canada. Why was action not taken when the Prime Minister was Minister of Agriculture in Ottawa? If the Prime Minister has discovered some new economic nostrum, or if he has some new or miraculous device to remedy the ailments of the body politic, why not put them in tangible form without delay? Perhaps, also, he will amplify the programme as laid down in His Honor's speech, and let us into the secret of by what measures he proposes to accomplish our sudden translation into a state of unprecedented affluence.

"We have been repeatedly assured by the Prime Minister that under his administration everybody would get a square deal, and that everything would be done openly and above board. Contrary to this being the case, and notwithstanding the fact that that administration has been in office only a few months, there has been practised more partisanship than occurred during the whole twelve years of the Liberal administration."

The leader of the Opposition took

exception to the statements in the speech of His Honor with respect to the return of the railway lands and the Peace River block. The Premier had given credit to the late Premier Oliver for his part, but why should he forget the living? Mr. Pattullo then went on to tell of his own part with Mr. Oliver in the matter, before the provincial conference, and of the work of Dr. MacLean and Mr. Manson later.

On the matter of the P.G.E. he would like to know, he said, just what further information was being gathered with respect to the resources along the line, and what means was being taken to gain it. For a long time the former Government, by means of reconnaissance, had been gaining information there.

Mr. Pattullo said that this reference to the P.G.E. was put in the speech just to hold out hope. What was wanted was a statement as to what was to be done with it.

"You will not have to wait twelve years for the answer to that," said Attorney-General Pooley.

LAND SETTLEMENT

The reference to the land settlement in the speech, said Mr. Pattullo, when boiled down, meant only that another political appointment had been made. The new Commissioner of Colonization was to inaugurate plans for the disposal of Crown and Government lands. "Will the Government take the responsibility?" asked the leader of the Opposition.

The proposal of the Government to organize a marketing branch in connection with the Department of Agriculture would receive the support of the Opposition if it were based on sound foundations.

"Evidently the Government is well satisfied with the financial position of the province, for I notice that our new fiscal agents acclaim in advertisement the strong financial position of the province."

FINANCIAL SITUATION

"Here is a copy of an advertisement which states as follows: 'The provincial finances are in a satisfactory position and the province has established a sinking fund against all of its long-term bonds.'

"You will recall that members of the Opposition, in criticizing our administration, repeatedly stated that we were misrepresenting the financial position of the province. We now find that our own figures are accepted by the administration as indicated by the advertisement. Our friends opposite were either making misrepresentations to the public then, or they are getting money under false pretences now."

Dealing with the question of a Public Utilities Commission, Mr. Pattullo said it was one of many ramifications, and needless to say the Opposition would join with the Government in giving the matter the fullest possible consideration when the measure was submitted to the House.

On the subject of road policy, the leader of the Opposition wanted something more specific than was contained in the speech. If there were to be any new undertakings he wished to know where they were, and what they were.

He alluded to the statement in the speech that the attempt was to be made to modify the incidence of taxation. He said that he would be better pleased to learn that the taxation was to be reduced, instead as seemed to be implied that it would be shifted from one to another.

"I notice that assistance is to be given to the establishment of an iron and steel industry in the province," said the leader. "Everyone knows that the iron and steel industry is a basic industry of major importance, but I am very much of opinion that any move that will be made in the iron and steel industry will be made irrespective of any measure that may be submitted to this House."

MANY POINTS RAISED

The leader of the Opposition referred to the many omissions from the speech. Conservatives in opposition had been very critical of the administration of justice. Were they going to continue the systems in vogue? he asked. Were there to be amendments to the Liquor Act, which was an important matter?

...that in the manner of purchases party patronage was rampant as never before?

Mr. Pattullo wanted to know what was being done in the matter of timber policies, about which so much had been heard while the Conservatives were in opposition. Was any action being taken to offset the suggested tariff of the United States? What was being done in the matter of reforestation? What was being done to stop the export of raw logs?

What is to be the Government policy with respect to the mining industry? What is to be the measure of encouragement offered, and is it proposed to abolish the miners' license fee as promised in the Conservative platform? Does the Government propose to stand sponsor for every mining project?

What is the policy of the Government in the matter of public parks? There is no definite statement as to whether it is intended to purchase large stands of timber throughout the province for the purpose of maintaining natural scenic beauty. What does the Government propose to do in the matter of state health insurance and maternity benefits?

What is to be the policy of the Education Department? Is the youth of British Columbia to be educated solely in terms of British Columbia, or are they to be permitted to imbibe world knowledge and information? If the boy is the father of the man, the mental attitude of the youth of our province is to have a very important bearing upon the future of the province. Is loyalty to be encouraged through the inculcation of prejudices, or upon the broad basis of knowledge and information?

What action does the Government propose to take to keep in British Columbia the young men and the young women who year after year graduate from our schools and university?

Then we want to know what is to be done in the way of reducing taxation. We were told that the burdens from which the people were suffering were unbearable and that by the practice of economies sweeping reductions could be made. What economies have so far been effected, what do they amount to in dollars and cents, and what taxation reductions are proposed? Is any action to be taken with the so-called unearned increment tax? Is it proposed to further reduce the income tax?

Committees of House Named

The various standing committees of the Legislature were elected at yesterday afternoon's sitting. These are as follows:

Agriculture, fifteen members, as follows: Messrs. Berry, Kennedy, Lister, Kingston, Michell, Peck, MacNaughton, Carson, R. Mackenzie, Wrinch, A. M. Manson, Gillis, Gray, MacPherson and Hanna.

Municipal Matters, thirteen members, as follows: Messrs. Hayward, Cornett, Kirk, Peck, Kingston, Dick, Berry, Gray, Gillis, Hanna, MacPherson and Sutherland.

Standing Orders and Private Bills, eleven members, as follows: Messrs. Twigg, Davie, Beatty, Dick, Spencer, Kingston, M. Manson, I. A. Mackenzie, Kergin, MacPherson and A. M. Manson.

Forestry, eight members, as follows: Messrs. MacNaughton, M. Manson, Spencer, Lister, Fitzsimmons, Pattullo, Buckham and Hanna.

Railways, eight members, as follows: Messrs. Spencer, Carson, Cornett, Fitzsimmons, Schofield, A. M. Manson, I. A. Mackenzie and Kergin.

Printing, seven members, as follows: Messrs. Peck, R. Mackenzie, Michell, Twigg, Hanna, Buckham and Uphill.

Public Accounts, thirteen members, as follows: Messrs. Walkem, Berry, Beatty, Butledge, Fitzsimmons, M. Manson, Twigg, Hayward, Sutherland, A. M. Manson, I. A. Mackenzie, MacPherson and Pearson.

Printing, ten members, as follows: Messrs. Berden, Schofield, Lister, Carson, Fitzsimmons, Kingston, Kergin, Peck, Pearson and Uphill.

WOULD REGISTER ALL BEEKEEPERS IN B.C.

All beekeepers in British Columbia will be required to register with the Department of Agriculture, under an amendment to the Apiaries Act, to be introduced in the Legislature by Hon. William Atkinson, Minister of Agriculture. No fee will be charged for registration, which, in the opinion of the Government, is necessary, so that the operations for the apiaries may be kept under close review. The menace of foul broods, it is explained, cannot be met without some such arrangement.

PROCEDURE CHANGE IS RECOMMENDED

Motion Asks Orders-in-Council to Be Made Available for Reference

The Leader of the Opposition, Mr. T. D. Pattullo, is continuing his move to have all orders-in-council made available for perusal by anyone who desires to see them. This is following up the move he made to have the Government deviate from the general practice that has been followed of allowing access to them by the leader of the Opposition. He has given notice of motion as follows:

That an humble address be presented to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that he will cause all orders-in-council, or certified copies thereof, to be made available for perusal by anyone at any time during office hours within the general office of the Department of the Provincial Secretary.

Mr. Ian Mackenzie, Liberal member for North Vancouver, has given notice of motion that he will continue his series of questions relative to the employment of returned men in the remaining departments of the Government.

ROAD TO AREA CAN BE BUILT AT SMALL COST

Peace River Highway, Says Mr. G. A. Walkem, Would Entail Outlay of \$10,000 Per Mile

REPORTS ON RECENT VISIT

If the trade of the Peace River Block is to be held for the Province of British Columbia, instead of drifting away to Alberta, it is necessary, in the opinion of Mr. George A. Walkem, member for Vancouver, that a motor road be constructed from Prince George to Moberley Lake in that block. In his speech on the address of His Honor yesterday afternoon in the Legislature, Mr. Walkem told of his trip into the Peace River last Summer and the lessons which he had learned with respect to the needs of the district.

He favored the starting of the survey for this road this year. If the road were built, travelers could go from Prince George into the Peace River district in a day. It would mean that the trade of the North could be held in the province. Now it was all going to Alberta centres.

When he was in the district he saw thirty or forty Alberta cars, and none with British Columbia plates on them.

COST REASONABLE

The road would not be a heavy one to build, he said. It would not be nearly as heavy as the Fraser River Canyon. He was of the opinion that it could be constructed at about \$10,000 a mile.

On former occasions when he had visited the Peace River district, he had been informed that there was a large part of it that could not be brought under cultivation. After his last visit, when he had had better chances to inspect it, he had reached the conclusion that there was very little of it that could not be brought under cultivation. Some of it would cost from \$10 to \$25 an acre to clear off the brush.

As long as there was good arable land available upon which a farmer could go without the cost of clearing to this extent even, there would be a tendency to prefer it.

WATER PROBLEM

The question of water was somewhat serious in the district, but he felt that this could be rectified. The only water for domestic use was obtained from the rain that fell, and was retained as it ran off the roofs, or from small creeks that were available in a few places.

The solution, in his opinion, was in the direction of sinking wells. There had been a drill sent in by the late Government which was now lying at Pouce Coupe. It was in any event a worthless one, and was not put in charge of a trained man. It was to be loaned to anyone who wished to sink.

Mr. Walkem suggested that a real drill be sent in, and with it an experienced driller who would take charge.

GRAIN MOVEMENT

He was of the opinion that in time the C.P.R. and the C.N.R. would supply the necessary rail connection there. He had also been told that the United Grain Growers had promised that if the Hudson's Bay Company would put the necessary barges on the Peace River to take care of the hauling of grain, they would put in granaries along the river to take care of the grain from the farmers. This would help, as the matter of hauling from the farms to the river would all be down-grade.

Mr. Walkem thereupon suggested that the Government approach the C.P.R. and the C.N.R. looking to the getting of them to put in their connections. At the same time he wanted the Government to approach the Hudson's Bay Company on this matter of putting their barges on the run.

"Peace River is settling up just as fast as is good for it under present conditions," said Mr. Walkem.

He was not in favor of getting more settlers in until there were better transportation facilities. The settlers could not live alone on their farms under the present conditions. They had to get work on the roads. He believed that a policy of public works representing an expenditure of \$150,000 a year for the district would be a wise one to aid in this direction.

There was a lot of exaggerated talk of the Peace River Block. There was talk of it being another empire. This was not correct. It was only another very excellent farming country. It was better than many parts of Alberta. It was very productive and a desirable place to live.

BOILER INSPECTION

Mr. Walkem attacked the administration of the boiler inspection of the province. This work had been placed of late under the Workmen's Compensation Board with disastrous results. Until Mr. John Peck retired about a year ago, the work was carried out well under him. It had been unsatisfactory ever since that time.

It was very difficult to get a boiler passed upon expeditiously. It took weeks to have it done. The inspector was such only in name, it appeared. The Commissioner of the W.C.B. took the duty. The head office of the Workmen's Compensation Board was in Vancouver. The inspector of boilers' office was in New Westminster. Half a day was lost in traveling between the two places. He favored the moving of the office from New Westminster to

Vancouver. The late Dr. Rothwell, member for New Westminster, had been in favor of such a move.

There having been some uncertainty on the part of the Leader of the Opposition as to which one he was, Mr. Walkem gave the information that he was the fifth member for that city, but he could inform them that at that he had 2,593 votes more than Mr. Dugald Donaghy, the Liberal white hope in that election.

ELECTORAL REFORM

He suggested a change in the system of electing members for Vancouver. He did not approve of electing six en bloc as at present. Rather would he have single constituencies created. He could assure them that even if this were done there would be six out of the eight seats that would go Conservative every time, and often the whole eight would so vote.

ARTICLE RUFFLES CALM OF HOUSE

Speaker, Ex-Speaker and Deputy Debate Procedure Point of Order

For the first time since assuming office as Speaker, Hon. J. W. Jones was called upon to decide rules of order yesterday. The matter arose in connection with a question of privilege raised by Mr. A. M. Manson, an ex-Speaker of the House. He objected to statements which had been printed in a Vancouver paper with respect to the finances of the province, as conducted by the late Government.

The article in the newspaper was absolutely incorrect, he said. At the same time he did not impute to the writer of the article a disposition to misrepresent, but he was suspicious that the information had been inspired from a departmental office. He went on to rebuke a "minister for so far forgetting his duty" when he was checked by Mr. C. F. Davie, of Cowichan-Newcastle.

Mr. Davie took a point of order, and pointed out that Mr. Manson could not, under the rules, attack a member of the House. He was privileged to state what he contended was wrong, but not to impute motives to a member of the House.

Mr. Manson took the stand that he was protecting the minister against misrepresentation.

The Speaker, appealed to by Mr. Davie for a ruling, called the attention of Mr. Manson, an ex-Speaker who knew the rules well, to refrain from prolonging the matter. He did not want to be unduly strict, but cautioned the ex-Speaker as briefly as possible to state his point.

Before long Mr. H. D. Twigg, Deputy Speaker, and Mr. Ian Mackenzie, also an ex-Deputy Speaker, were dragged in, during which time Mr. Mackenzie questioned the etiquette of Mr. Twigg questioning or advising the Speaker.

It was contended by Mr. Manson that the public accounts were official documents, and defending the criticisms that were being made by him.

The Speaker said he was of the opinion that Mr. Manson was going rather far afield. He could not see what purpose was to be served in any event in continuing the debate after the situation was fairly placed.

Mr. Manson accepted the ruling, and said that he would confine himself to going into the inaccuracies of the article.

Later Hon. R. I. Maitland felt obliged to remind Mr. Manson that he was drawing deductions which were not in order.

The discussion finally ended up with no loss of temper.

INDISPOSITION KEEPS PREMIER FROM SPEAKING

Large Percentage of Returned Men Reported in Provincial Police and Lands Department

PETITIONS FOR NEW MEASURES

Premier Tolmie was again absent from the Legislature yesterday, owing to the contraction of a severe cold on the day of the opening. He has been advised to remain at home until the beginning of the week. Attorney-General Pooley is leading the Government in his absence.

It had been the intention of the Premier to follow Mr. T. D. Pattullo, the leader of the Opposition, in the debate on the Address. His indisposition has, of course, interfered with his plans.

In consequence the debate, was continued by Mr. George A. Walkem, on the Conservative side, while Mr. W. R. Rutledge, of Burnaby, also from the Conservative side, adjourned the debate.

RETURNED MEN IN SERVICE

Replying to questions, Attorney-General Pooley gave Mr. Ian Mackenzie the information that as far as the Provincial Police were concerned, on August 20, 1928, there were 130 returned soldiers in that service out of 236 on the force; there were 138 returned men now employed on a force of 254; there had been thirteen returned men appointed to the force since the date mentioned, while four had been dismissed, or had tendered their resignations.

It was added that the percentage of returned soldier recruits tends to, and will continue to fall off, by reason of the age limit fixed by the regulations.

Replying to similar questions with regard to the Lands Department the replies were given by Hon. F. P. Burden that at August 20, 1928, there were 153 returned men employed out of 369 (not including seasonal employees); there were 153 returned men out of a total of 362 employed now. There had been one returned man appointed to the service since the date mentioned and one discharged.

RAILWAY PETITION

A petition was presented by Mr. G. A. Walkem from the Canadian Northeastern Railway Company for leave to introduce a private bill.

The bill proposes to amend the plans of the company which owns the railway charter from Stewart up Bear River, by adding to the mileage of the road so as to allow the extension of it to the Peace River Block, and northward towards the northern boundary of the province. Five years is set out as the time for building the main line, with three years additional for the completion of the branch lines.

Authority is sought to increase the capitalization of the company from \$2,000,000 to \$10,000,000, and to permit the enlargement of the amount of bonds per mile of construction that may be issued from \$35,000 to \$50,000. This becomes necessary owing to the increased cost of construction since 1911, when the original act was passed.

Col. Nelson Spencer presented a petition from the Royal Plate Glass Insurance Company of Canada, for leave to introduce a private bill to increase its capital, and for other purposes.

Mr. C. F. Davie presented a petition from the West Kootenay Power & Light Company, Limited, for leave to introduce a private bill for the purpose of increasing its power, and for other purposes.

Mr. W. R. Rutledge presented a petition from the Corporation of the District of Burnaby for leave to introduce a private bill for the purpose of amending the Burnaby Municipality Act, 1923, and for other purposes.

The petition for leave to introduce a private bill for the purpose of in-

corporating the Provincial Telephone Company, was received.

Hon. W. A. McKenzie, Minister of Mines, presented a return covering

the iron ore supply of the province. He explained the return was called for last session, but could not be completed before the House rose.

INTEREST RATE CUT

"We have raised that to \$12,000,000, and have had the interest rate reduced to 4% per cent."

Mr. A. M. Manson, rising as the Minister of Finance sat down amid rounds of applause, asked when the rate had been raised from 4½ per cent to 5. He had not heard of such a change.

Mr. Shelly said he did not know. The situation was as he told the House, however.

Mr. Manson then paid a compliment to Mr. Shelly for the evident interest he was taking in his department. He then proceeded to trace the history of the difficulties that had faced the former Government upon its assuming power.

The Speaker called the attention of the member for Omineca that he was getting far from the subject of debate, that of the amendment of the leader of the Opposition, which had to do with employing fiscal agents to dispose of bonds.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 26, 1929

GOVERNMENT FORCES WIN FIRST TEST

Majority of Twenty-One Is Accorded British Columbia Ministry in First Division of Session

BOND SALES CHALLENGED

Acting - Leader of House Insists on Immediate Division on Question Raised by Opposition Leader

BY a vote of twenty-nine to eight in a House where ten members were absent, but all paired, the motion of want of confidence in the Government was disposed of in the Legislature yesterday afternoon, the Government maintaining its majority of twenty-one over the combined Opposition, including the Liberals and Mr. T. Uphill, Labor member from Fernie.

No inconsiderable time was taken up with the discussion of points of procedure, in which the Government was able to force the hand of the Opposition after the latter had fallen foul of a rule of the House which allowed the ending of the debate on the amendment offered by the leader of the Opposition, and forced a vote being precipitated. The debate then continued on the Address in reply to the Speech of the Lieutenant-Governor, and this is still before the House.

Hon. W. C. Shelly, Minister of Finance, placed the serious situation which the new Government faced when it assumed power and defended the course taken by the Administration of the day, gave the information that the present Government had shown that it had the confidence of the bank.

"When the present Government took office I found that it had a line of credit with the bank of \$10,000,000 on which was paid 5 per cent," said Mr. Shelly.

Mr. Manson took the position that Mr. Shelly had also been out of order in his address.

He proceeded to say that the Liberal Government had done away with the employment of fiscal agents and with paying commissions.

Mr. C. F. Davie, of Cowichan-Newcastle, pressed for a ruling as to Mr. Manson going so far from the point. He felt that Mr. Shelly had not violated the rule, as he had drawn a parallel between the two Governments as to selling bonds by agencies.

Mr. Manson proceeding, said that the situation as far as the Government was concerned was that of late its bonds sold at a better price than any other province, and even higher than the Dominion.

Mr. Shelly wanted to know when British Columbia bonds sold higher than Dominion ones.

Mr. Manson admitted he might be wrong on that point, but there was at least a very small difference between the selling prices of the Province and the Dominion securities.

COMMISSION PAYMENT

When Mr. Manson doubted the need of paying a commission of ¼ of 1 per cent he said that he doubted if the Speaker or Mr. T. H. Kirk, if they were in the position of Minister of Finance, would have taken such a course.

The Liberal Government was never without good advice on financial matters, he said. The Bank of Commerce had given this advice without charge.

Hon. R. L. Maitland wished to know if no commissions were charged by private buyers of bonds, how did they get paid for their work?

Later Mr. Manson said that when private placing of bonds took place the public in buying paid the vendors' commission.

Mr. Maitland said this would make no difference as far as the Province was concerned for the vendors would take this into account in arriving at the price to be paid. The Province really paid the commission in any event.

Mr. Manson defended the alleged apathy of the Liberal Government in not acting when advised to do so in the placing of the securities. He said it would be folly to offer for sale \$20,000,000 of bonds at one time.

Again he defended the action in not offering to sell after the election. There would have been criticism of that, and moreover it was doubtful if the Lieutenant-Governor would have approved of such a course.

Mr. Maitland asked if something might not have been done by calling in Premier Tolmie.

Mr. Manson said this was an unconstitutional course, and could not have been done.

Mr. Maitland asked why some of the bonds had not been placed before the election.

Continued on next page

DOUBT ON ELECTION

Mr. Manson said opinions differed as to the time of offering bonds. There was also the doubt that went with an impending election.

"I think so," said Mr. Maitland. Mr. Manson then proposed to adjourn the debate until the next sitting, when he would proceed with his speech, and moved accordingly.

Amid cries of "No" from the Government side, Mr. Pattullo rose to ask that there should be the fullest discussion allowed of this matter.

Mr. Pooley said that Mr. Manson knew the rules of the House well. He had availed himself of the opportunity to speak, and was now wanting to adjourn the debate in order to have the chance to make two speeches really.

Mr. Manson suggested allowing the matter to remain open in order that the rules might be studied.

Mr. Davie said he never knew of the Liberals allowing the other side any adjournment of the debate where a vote of confidence vote in the Government was involved.

NO ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Pooley announced for the Government that there was going to be no allowance of the adjournment of the debate on a vote of want of confidence.

In spite of protests the Speaker called for a vote as to whether the right of Mr. Manson adjourning the debate should be allowed.

The division, the first of the session, resulted as follows:

Yeas (eight)—Messrs. Uphill, MacPherson, Wrinch, Kergin, I. A. MacKenzie, Pattullo, A. M. Manson and Buckham.

Nays (twenty-nine)—Messrs. R. MacKenzie, Rutledge, Fitzsimmons, Carson, Cornett, Kingston, Kirk, Lister, Beatty, Walkem, Peck, Hayward, Twigg, Maitland, Howe, Shelly, Pooley, Hinchliffe, Michell, MacNaughton, M. Manson, Schofield, Kennedy, Davie, Bruhn, Burden, Atkinson, Loughheed and W. A. McKenzie.

Pairs—Messrs. Tolmie and Sutherland, Borden and Pearson, Dick and Gray, Spencer and Hanna, Berry and Gillis.

This by no means settled the trouble, however.

Mr. Ian Mackenzie rose and moved an adjournment of the debate, but in a somewhat unusual form, which was a demand for the adjournment of the debate.

But a mistake had evidently been made, if it were intended to get anywhere, for the Speaker ruled it out of order.

Then Mr. Manson, an ex-speaker, protested, and informed the Speaker that he "was absolutely wrong" in his ruling.

Amid cries of "order," Mr. Davie rose and demanded a retraction.

Mr. Manson proceeded to explain the position of affairs, and to search for a rule covering the matter in May.

He, however, was met by Mr. Pooley informing him that he did not need to appeal to May, because the rules of the House covered the point exactly, where it was set out that a motion for adjournment, and for adjournment of a debate were always in order, but that another proceeding must take place before either of the motions could again be proposed.

Mr. Manson tried to find some way out, and others pleaded for allowing the matter to stand over, but Mr. Pooley informed him that while he was prepared to grant every courtesy in reason to the Opposition, but that the members of the Opposition side must realize the import of the motion of want of confidence, when it was moved and ask for no quarter.

Then followed the spectacle of each of the Opposition members in the House moving the same motion for an adjournment, only to be ruled out of order.

The main motion on the amendment followed, with the defeat of the amendment offered by the leader of the Opposition in the same division as previously given.

The House then proceeded to the debate of the address in reply to that of His Honor.

After Mr. W. R. Rutledge had spoken, the debate was adjourned.

Minister of Finance Explains Decision to Select Fiscal Agents

Hon. W. C. Shelly Gives Four Reasons Why Government Determined to Choose Representative Firms to Handle Provincial Issues—Blames Apathy of Predecessors

Says Failure of Late Administration Will Cost Taxpayers About \$2,000,000

THE late Liberal Government by "unjustifiable apathy and procrastination" refused the advice offered by such financial institutions as the Canadian Bank of Commerce, and Dominion Securities Corporation as early as January of last year, that the prices of Government securities were to suffer a check and that money was becoming stiffer along this line of investment. The Government was further warned just before the election along similar lines, and advised to do the refunding that was to be carried out in November and early in the present year, which totaled over \$2,000,000, and that again no attention was given to the advice.

After election there was manifested a disposition on the part of the late Government to show little evident interest in the country's welfare. The present administration came into power with a situation facing it which was most perplexing and called for very prompt action. These were the reasons given why the present Government resorted to the method of employing the highest class of fiscal agents possible in disposing of the securities that had to be sold without loss of time, when the situation was very clearly and in a business-like way placed before the Legislature yesterday afternoon by Hon. W. C. Shelly, in replying to the Leader of the Opposition in his attacks upon the administration of the financial situation on Thursday.

Mr. Shelly charged that the apathy of the late Government in this matter of grappling with the financial situation when advised to do so by the best of authorities would result in the loss of \$2,000,000 to the people of the province on these securities involved.

PRIVATE SALES IN PAST

The Minister of Finance, moreover, met the very emphatic statement of Mr. Pattullo the day before that the late Government had always adopted the policy of disposing of the securities of the province in the open market by reciting some fourteen instances in which there had been private sales of bonds made by the Liberal Government extending over the whole course of its term, and one of the latest sales made by it was cited to have been a private one.

Mr. Shelly did not differ with the Leader of the Opposition on the subject of calling for open tenders in the placing of the securities of the Government. He, however, pointed out that under the most peculiar situation that had been created by the exceptional conditions, coupled with the ill-advised course followed by the late Government in refusing to face the situation created, that the wisest course had been taken by the present administration by calling in the aid of such a powerful financial syndicate with such large selling forces and institutional connections, the very best had been done for the province. He further showed that the province by the prompt action taken at the time had succeeded far beyond what had fallen to the lot of other provinces of the Dominion.

Mr. Shelly was loudly applauded as he unfolded the history of the financial muddle, and the manner in which the new Government had extricated the province.

GOOD PRICE OBTAINED

When he announced that the latest offer of the Government covering the \$6,000,000 which had matured that day had been taken at a price which was lower than any recent flotations, and which was the last of the \$20,000,000 legacy left to be solved by the late Government he was given prolonged applause from the Government side of the House.

When the House opened Mr. W. R. Rutledge, who had adjourned the debate on the amendment to the address, announced that he would give way in speaking on the amendment of Mr. Pattullo, reserving the right to debate the main question.

When the Opposition took objection to this, it was pointed out by Hon. R. H. Pooley, who was leading the Government in the absence of Premier Tolmie, that owing to the manner in which the amendment of Mr. Pattullo had been brought in as an addition to the Address in reply, that therefore the amendment would have to be disposed of first of all.

Mr. Shelly thereupon rose and proceeded to deal with the amendment of the Leader of the Opposition on its merits.

"When we took office on August 20, 1928, the position of the finances of this province with respect to early maturities was as follows:

TREASURY BILLS

"Treasury bills in bank maturing November 30, \$10,068,769; treasury bills in New York, also maturing November 30, \$4,000,000; debentures maturing in New York January 25, 1929, \$6,000,000; a total of \$20,068,769.

"This represented an accumulation of financing held over by the MacLean Government. Instead of going to the market when prices were attractive, the above total was allowed to pile up.

"Many overtures were made to the Government to clean up this financing as the market outlook of the future was very discouraging. With this heavy programme of financing to do and a constantly curtailed market for provincial bonds, it is self-evident that the position had become a very serious one, and the following is a synopsis of our endeavors to make the most of the unfortunate position in which the former Government relegated us, and an unprejudiced mind would readily admit we have been successful in our endeavors.

"It is therefore incumbent upon me to comment upon the financing of these maturities by the past regime, and to utter not only severe criticism, but also indictment against a policy of inexcusable procrastination which has proved to be very costly indeed to people of the province.

"In support of this statement let me cite excerpts from correspondence on file in the Treasury, representing most reliable information given by institutions whose advice had been sought in the matter.

"There is a letter from the Canadian Bank of Commerce, Victoria, to the Deputy Minister of Finance, dated January 5, 1928, giving the contents of a telegram received from the general manager of the bank:

"Our impression is money rate may become stiffer next few months and long term issue likely to sell on a better basis now than later. Present cost to Province twenty-five to thirty-year bonds about 4.50 or slightly better. Unless there are strong reasons to the contrary, would advise principal \$3,000,000 one operation. Two-year notes would sell about same price. We think 4% rate fair at present for temporary financing."

"There is a telegram Dominion Securities Corporation, Limited, January 4, 1928:

"Good demand both short and long term suggest issue \$5,000,000 to \$6,000,000 take care substantial part February maturity."

"Letter from the same firm dated January 9, 1928:

"There is a good demand in the United States market for both short and long term securities and as advised in our telegram we believe you could net approximately a 4.49% basis for 1, 2, 25 or 30-year 4% bonds, payable in New York and Canada."

"Strangely enough in the face of such definite advice no action was taken and the expedient of temporary refunding was resorted to. As predicted money rates became stiffer and stiffer, yet no action was taken to convert these treasury bills; on further inquiry by the Treasury Department it was learned that the market continued to go against advantageous marketing of securities as is evidenced by the following telegrams:

"Toronto, July 13, 1928:

"Judging by present outlook we feel deputy would be disappointed in bids received for short dates and do not feel requesting bids which are likely to be unacceptable and probably refused helps his situation. In view his requirements and market conditions feel there is real

merit in considering fiscal agency."

"Also a telegram from the Canadian Bank of Commerce, dated July 17, 1928:

"We should also like to say to him that we are inclined to think he should do his long term financing now as the prospect for money rate is upward if anything rather than downward. A large volume of Canadian financing is waiting and the security markets are not particularly receptive and many are likely to be disappointed. He might get 4.85 now and if he waits he might do considerably worse. The 1927 market was abnormally favorable. We are not likely to see such favorable rates for some time."

"Further dilatoriness is evidenced by the following letter of the Deputy Minister of Finance, dated July 23, 1928:

"The outgoing Cabinet unfortunately is not inclined to enter at present into any new financial obligations for the future and feel disposed to leave this financing for the incoming Cabinet. This I very much regret as I feel a loss will be sustained by the delay."

SYNDICATE

"The six months newed by a further bills in New York. able rate there. Finally it became conversion of at treasury bills should it was accomplished. vantageous possible when every evident weak market situation when many smarting losses in digested issues; at York bankers were some European 1. three or six months ample opportunity it at higher rates at a time when once had been asked as 6% on three. After combing even formation, and he evidence that the a fiscal agency was entered into comprising as powerful a group as could be: The Canadian Bank of Commerce; A. E. Ames Dominion Securities Corporation, Wood, Gundy & Read & Co., the New York, the syndicate to re-keing charge; on time Ontario sold 000,000, paying 5.1% against them, and ing 5% for six months. A careful survey fact that no Canada has, on peculiar cycle through, resorted since May, 1928. there has accum of government municipal finance has been accom terms (three to ma hope that the market. This has yet to be done."

"Since closing of the syndicate who purchased 82 per cent of provincial issues, we offer from an Eastern reads in part as follows:

"If province could any borrowing in they consider the million 4% per cent. Market is extremely there is very little believe at present sell block around were able to cut off this price."

"Our sale of 4.87 yield basis; we obtained from in excess of the block."

"The unjustified procrastination administration, re-dollars and cent the censure it election. Had been acted upon meant the refund 000 at a time we could have floated on a twenty-five basis, to yield saving to the 1/2 of 1 per cent interest charge annum over the life of the principal sum in \$1,200,000, but Province is that 4 per cent amounts to \$1,200,000."

PRIVATE SALES

"The fiscal agency by this Governmenticular time has best, and whilst public tender, due ket conditions, preferable course proved fallacious the past six months profitable bids have been subject to in-credit. I would opportunity of former administration visible to make teen of these bids among which P.G.E. collateral Province, when in 1925 at 92.50 sixteen-year basis 5.19 per cent."

SYNDICATE STRONG

"The six months notes were renewed by a further issue of treasury bills in New York, the best obtainable rate therefore being 5%. Finally it became imperative that conversion of at least part of the treasury bills should take place and it was accomplished at the most advantageous possible terms, at a time when every evidence pointed to a weak market situation and at a time when many dealers had taken smarting losses in disposing of undigested issues; at a time when New York bankers were paying 5 1/2% to some European banks for either three or six months money, and ample opportunity for them to loan it at higher rates for fixed periods; at a time when one Canadian province had been asked to pay as high as 6% on three months money. After combing every source of information, and having indisputable evidence that the best recourse was a fiscal agency arrangement, this was entered into with a syndicate comprising as powerful and influential a group as could be desired, that is: The Canadian Bank of Commerce; A. E. Ames & Co., Ltd.; the Dominion Securities Corporation; Wood, Gundy & Co., and Dillon, Read & Co., the last mentioned of New York, the price for \$6,000,000, the syndicate to receive 1% as marketing charge; on or about the same time Ontario sold in London \$10,000,000, paying 5.118% with sterling against them, and Nova Scotia paying 5% for six months bills.

A careful survey will reveal the fact that no one Province in Canada has, on account of the peculiar cycle we are passing through, resorted to public tenders since May, 1928. During the year there has accumulated \$215,000,000 of government and high-grade municipal financing; most of this has been accomplished by short-terms (three to nine months) in the hope that the market would recover. This has yet to come to market.

"Since closing the last deal with the syndicate who, since 1916 has purchased 82 per cent of all our provincial issues, we have received an offer from an Eastern house, which reads in part as follows:

"If province contemplate doing any borrowing near future would they consider bid two or three million 4 1/2 per cent at 4.90 basis? Market is extremely flat and there is very little demand. We believe at present time we could sell block around 4.85 basis, if we were able to obtain concession off this price."

"Our sale of bonds net Province 4.87 yield basis; therefore, the price we obtained from syndicate is far in excess of this offer for small block.

"The unjustifiable apathy and procrastination of the late administration, reduced in terms of dollars and cents, expresses best the censure it received at last election. Had the advice sought been acted upon, it would have meant the refunding of \$8,000,000 at a time when the Province could have floated its debentures on a twenty-five-year 4 per cent basis, to yield 4.50 per cent, the saving to the taxpayers being 1/4 of 1 per cent annually in interest charges or \$40,000 per annum over twenty-five years, the life of the issue. This principal sum in itself represents \$1,200,000, but its worth to the Province is that compounded at 4 per cent to maturity and amounts to \$1,732,469.60.

PRIVATE SALES IN PAST

"The fiscal agency method adopted by this Government at this particular time has indeed proved the best, and whilst it is conceded that public tender, during favorable market conditions, is by far the most preferable course, it would have proved fallacious so to do during the past six months or so, as unprofitable bids would not only have been subject to refusal, but would have tended to impair the provincial credit. I would also take this opportunity of mentioning that the former administration found it advisable to make private sales, fourteen of these being on record, major among which is the sale of the P.C.E. collateral stock held by the Province, when \$5,925,195 were sold in 1925 at 92.50 on a 4 1/2 per cent sixteen-year basis, the yield being 5.19 per cent.

"I am satisfied that this explanation will reveal the fact that the Government has successfully met a most unfortunate circumstance. Much as I am opposed to private deals under normal circumstances, I nevertheless felt that placing ourselves in the hands of such powerful syndicate with such a large selling force and institutional connections, this Government has done the proper thing under the peculiar financial cycle that now exists."

Dealing with the private sales of securities, which he said the late Government had carried out, Mr. Shelly took exception to the position that Mr. Pattullo had taken on the matter on Thursday.

He could not understand a young man aspiring to become some day the Premier of the province getting up and making the statement that it was always the policy of the Liberal administration to dispose of the securities of the province in the open market when the records

showed that no less than fourteen of these had been sold by private tender.

"And the leader of the Opposition signed one of them when he was acting Minister of Finance," went on Mr. Shelly.

Mr. Pattullo asked for a copy of the letter referred to as one of acceptance.

Mr. Pooley at once sent a copy across the floor to the leader of the Opposition.

Mr. Pattullo said that they always called for public tenders, and only after that was a private sale made.

Mr. Shelly enumerated the private sales, with their dates, the amount of the issue and rate realized, which was as follows:

December 1, 1917	\$ 300,000	6.125
April 1, 1918	200,000	6.125
November 1, 1918	100,000	6.125
December 2, 1918	200,000	6.125
May 15, 1919	300,000	5.40
June 30, 1920	2,800,000	6.0204
June 30, 1920	28,000	6
August 16, 1921	1,000,000	6
July 12, 1924	2,000,000	5.126
November 1, 1927	310,000	4.72
November 1, 1927	690,000	4.65
December 1, 1927	1,000,000	4.424
February 2, 1928	4,000,000	*4.37
May 20, 1925	5,925,195	15.19

*Six months' note.

†P.C.E. collateral stock.

STATE HEALTH INSURANCE URGED

Member for Burnaby Speaks in Debate on Address—Presses Aid for Trunk Highways

Canada is fifty years behind the times in state health insurance, in the opinion of Mr. W. R. Rutledge, member for Burnaby, in his speech on the Address in Reply in the House yesterday. He intended to move later for an investigation into the subject of health insurance.

The member stressed the need of industries in the municipality, which possessed such excellent waterway facilities, when describing the physical conditions of his riding.

Owing to the geographical location of the riding, there was heavy traffic of a trunk character on the highways, and he instanced Kingsway and Grandview highway in this connection, as really provincial thoroughfares.

He commended the school system of the district, but urged that some change should be worked out with regard to school taxation. The condition of some of the Crown reserves in the municipality was the subject of reference, Mr. Rutledge then turning to the general needs of the province, and expressed his doubt about the Leader of the Opposition's criticism on patronage, quoting actual conditions in answer to the charges of Mr. Pattullo.

GAME ACT AMENDMENTS

In the aggregate the amendments proposed to the Game Act by the Provincial Government should be received with favor. The administration of the Act will probably always remain subject to criticism as there are so many viewpoints as to the best ways to conserve game. In the amendments the chief feature is that hereafter responsibility for game law enforcement is to be placed in the hands of a new organization which will be confined to that duty alone. At present such enforcement is in the hands of the Provincial Police, and no matter how active that organization may be it cannot give undivided attention to seeing that the game laws are observed.

The proposed new administration will be welcomed by all sportsmen. It never was expected that provincial policemen would make good game wardens. Some members of the force, but by no means all, may be acquainted thoroughly with the purposes for which game laws are made, and while all of them no doubt observe the letter of the law, many of them can hardly be expected to understand the spirit of its interpretation. It is no disparagement to the Provincial Police force to say that during recent years the conservation of one of the country's great assets has been neglected to a degree. The fault of this lay in the Government. The change to be effected will be welcomed by the Provincial Police.

The creation of various game districts, with the Game Commissioner empowered to organize the province under these subdivisions, appears as a logical way of carrying out the new scheme for conservation. In a province such as British Columbia open seasons suitable for one district are frequently quite unsuitable for another. The same applies to bag limits. On the other hand the establishment of private game farms, under licence, is a provision of the new amendments which is likely to meet with less unanimous approval from sportsmen. In past years the greatest enemy of game conservation was the market hunter, and in the future very careful restrictions will have to be imposed to prevent game "boot-legging." It is doubtful if the establishment of game farms will increase the game possibilities of the province for any but the wealthier sportsmen with big private areas to stock with pheasants. The breeding of blue grouse and willow grouse has not been carried on commercially in a really successful way, and it is doubtful if it ever will be. Even the raising of pheasants calls for expert knowledge. In some countries game farming is a lucrative undertaking, but chiefly where expense is not much of an object to the game farms' customers.

When gun licences were first introduced by the McBride Government they followed a strong recommendation from sportsmen and were accompanied by a promise that the revenue so obtained would be put back into game conservation. A large amount has been collected in the course of the years but it is not known how much has been spent as promised. When the amendments to the Game Act are considered in the Legislature doubtless there will be a full explanation of what is proposed and some promise made by the Government that the body to handle game conservation will be fully equipped in every way for the purpose. That is one of the best guarantees which the sportsmen of the province can have that the changes in the Game Act will inure to the benefit of a rich provincial resource.

MANY BILLS INTRODUCED

Busy Legislative Programme Looms Up for Members Next Week in Provincial House

REGISTRATION OF BEEKEEPERS

At yesterday's sitting of the Legislature several new bills were introduced.

Hon. W. Atkinson introduced a bill to amend the Contagious Diseases (Animals) Act. This is intended to clarify the statutes by eliminating from one of them features which are provided in another one.

The same minister introduced a bill to amend the Agricultural Act, under which it will be possible to give notice with respect to spraying orchards by any other method in addition to that of "in writing."

Attorney-General Pooley introduced the bill to amend the Conditional Sales Act, and one to amend the Motion Pictures Act, which allows the censoring of newspaper advertising and billboards dealing with movies.

By message, Mr. Atkinson introduced a bill to amend the Apiaries Act, which allows licensing of all apiaries, so that the department may have knowledge of all producers of honey.

Hon. F. P. Burden, Minister of Lands, by message, introduced an amendment to the University Endowment Lands Act, covering the matter of taxing them.

In reply to questions by Dr. H. C. Wrinch as to the dismissal of Dr. D. Warnock as deputy minister of agriculture, Mr. Atkinson gave the information that he was dismissed for "deliberately refusing and neglecting to carry out the instructions of the Minister."

Mr. Pooley informed Mr. Ian MacKenzie regarding the employment of returned men by the Liquor Control Board and gave the information that on August 20, 1928, there were 282 males and fifteen females employed, of whom 117 were returned soldiers; that there were now 286 males and fifteen females employed, of whom 118 were returned men; that six returned men had been taken on since the date mentioned, and one discharged.

Mr. T. H. Kirk presented a petition from the Chartered Commercial Company, of Vancouver, for leave to introduce a private bill for the purpose of changing its corporate name.

Dr. C. M. Kingston presented a petition from the Granby Consolidated Mining, Smelting & Power Company, Limited, respecting the petition of the West Kootenay Power & Light Company, Limited, for a private bill, and suggesting changes in the bill.

The following petitions were received:

From the Canadian Northeastern Railway Company, for leave to introduce a private bill; from the Royal Plate Glass Insurance Company of Canada, for leave to introduce a private bill to increase its capital; from the West Kootenay Power & Light Company, Limited, for leave to introduce a private bill for the purpose of increasing its power; from the Corporation of the District of Burnaby, for leave to introduce a private bill for the purpose of amending the Burnaby Municipality Act, 1923.

Questions to Come Before House Posted

Dr. H. C. Wrinch has posted notice of a resolution he will introduce in the Legislature, dealing with the subject of state health insurance. He proposes a committee of the House to make inquiries into the working of the various forms of state insurance.

Mr. F. M. MacPherson proposes to ask questions of the Premier as to what is being done in the matter of immigration to British Columbia.

Mr. L. A. Hanna is asking questions relative to the construction of a road from Alberni to Tofino.

Dr. Wrinch has questions to ask about the change in the Nelson jail.

Mr. A. M. Manson wants to find out how the proposed changes in the Game Act will affect the employees, and what it will mean to the expenditures of the province.

Mr. H. D. Twigg, chairman of the committee on private bills, has called a meeting of the committee for Tuesday next.

Mr. R. Hayward, chairman of the municipal committee, has called that body together also for Tuesday.

Hon. S. L. Howe gives notice of a bill to amend the Civil Service Act.

LEGISLATORS SEIZE CHANCE FOR ORATORY

Until Debate on Address in Reply Is Disposed Of, Little Progress Will Be Made in Legislature

SEVERAL BILLS AWAIT SCRUTINY

Debate on the Address in Reply, and a number of private bills will occupy the Legislature in its second week, commencing tomorrow.

There are a number of private members who wish to bring the needs of their ridings before the House, and thus the debate may continue all this week. Fulllest liberty will be given to the new members to voice their opinions before the real work of the session proceeds.

Meanwhile the Government has introduced a number of bills, which will stand for second reading when the Debate on the Address is complete.

A start will be made soon by the standing committees, dates having been set for their organization during the ensuing week.

There are a number of private bills about ready for presentation when the way is cleared, including that to amend the Canadian North Eastern Railway Company franchise and one to incorporate the railway company from the Telkwa and Copper River coal beds to the G.T.P., somewhere near Vanarsdol, and for a line to Kitimaat.

WEST KOOTENAY MEASURE

The West Kootenay Power & Light Company seeks amendments to its charter which may create a situation wherein demands will be pressed for a public utilities commission.

When the bill gets into committee there will be representations made, it is expected, by the city of Grand Forks and also by the Granby company, which is vitally interested in the matter.

The Game Bill, introduced by Attorney-General Pooley, which has passed its first reading, will be discussed at length, and as is the case of amendments to the Game Act, will be the subject of very diverse opinions.

There are other bills in the offing which will be ready for the Private Bills Committee on very short notice. One of them is for the incorporation of the chiropodists of the province as an association. It is proposed to have them examined by representatives of the medical profession, so that the interests of the public may be protected.

Mr. F. G. T. Lucas, K.C., of Vancouver, has been in the city for a few days preparing the bill for presentation to the House as soon as he can.

CHIROPRACTIC PROFESSION

The chiropactors are seeking some amendments to the legislation affecting them, but not of a very radical character. These alterations refer to the organization of the body of examiners, and the intention is to have the ratio of regular medical practitioners as compared with the chiropactors altered somewhat.

The bill is being presented before the committee by Mr. Gordon Cameron, of this city.

Amendments to the Mining Act originating with the new Minister of Mines, Hon. W. A. McKenzie, are

expected to reach the House in the form of an amending bill early this week.

FISCAL POLICIES

Mr. W. C. Shelly, the Provincial Minister of Finance, deserves the heartiest congratulations on his maiden speech in the Legislature. It was his province to give an exposition of the reasons which led him, as Minister of Finance, to employ fiscal agents of the highest repute in disposing of securities which it was necessary to sell without loss of time. To those who understand the financial situation and are aware of the position in which the finances of the province had been left by the late Liberal Government Mr. Shelly's explanation was unnecessary. It is as well, however, that it should have been made. It disposes of erroneous opinions and furnishes a complete and conclusive answer to the strictures indulged in by Mr. T. D. Pattullo, the Leader of the Liberal Opposition in the Legislature.

Mr. Shelly showed an entire grasp of the financial situation. His explanation was put forward in a business-like way which business people cannot fail to understand. The loans in question were loans which the former Liberal Government was authorized by the Legislature to contract. Again and again that Government was advised, by financial authorities such as the Canadian Bank of Commerce and the Dominion Securities Corporation, that the money rate was stiffening and that the time was ripe to sell long term securities. The advice was ignored. On July 13 last the Deputy Minister of Finance wrote: "The outgoing Cabinet unfortunately is not inclined to enter at present into any new financial obligations for the future and feels disposed to leave this financing for the incoming Cabinet. This I very much regret as I feel a loss will be sustained by the delay."

Mr. Shelly province actus ness of the lat turned a deaf quarters, amou but a comforti great debt of taxation that as has been sh is in favor of concerned or v the emergency conditions agi Mr. Shelly ac making avails powerful fina forces and in justifies the st ably saves th money.

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Mr. Shelly estimates that the loss which the province actually suffers, because of the dilatoriness of the late Government and the fact that it turned a deaf ear to financial advice from strong quarters, amounts to \$2,000,000. This is anything but a comforting reflection in view of the already great debt of British Columbia and the heavy taxation that prevails. The present Government, as has been shown in the matter of Public Works, is in favor of open tenders where contracts are concerned or where loans are being effected. In the emergency which arose because of a set of conditions aggravated by the late Government Mr. Shelly advised and adopted the course of making available to the province the aid of a powerful financial syndicate with large selling forces and institutional connections. The result justifies the step in every sense, and unquestionably saves the province a considerable sum of money.

In a single speech, and by the businesslike aptitude shown in its mastery of details and logic, Mr. Shelly has proved himself an asset of high value to the Government and a staunch guardian of the finances of the province. Incidentally, by having aroused the necessity for such an explanation, the Liberals have incurred further odium for the financial methods which they employed while in power. Mr. Shelly has been able to prove, within a brief few months of assuming office, that he gives promise of being one of the most capable Finance Ministers the province has ever had. His choice for inclusion in the Cabinet must be a matter of considerable pride to Dr. S. F. Tolmie, the Premier.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 29, 1929

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS FILED IN LEGISLATURE

Replying to the questions asked by Mr. Ian Mackenzie relative to the employment of returned men in the various departments of the Government, several ministers gave replies yesterday.

In the Department of Agriculture, it was shown by Hon. W. Atkinson's replies that exactly the same number of returned men were employed now as on August 20 last.

In the Department of Finance the number had increased from 106 on August 20, 1928, to 108 at present. There had been three appointed and one had resigned.

In the Department of Mines there had been no change in the situation as far as returned men were concerned.

In the Department of Education there had been an increase of one in the number of returned men employed at present, over August 20 last.

Replying to Mr. Mackenzie, the Attorney-General gave the information that the beer parlor licences to the number of sixty-three had been renewed in Vancouver on December 31, the date when they expire.

Mr. George S. Pearson, of Nanaimo, has placed on the order paper questions asking why Dr. T. Judson McPhee, of Nanaimo, was dismissed from the position of medical school inspector and district health officer.

Dr. H. C. Wrinch is asking questions as to the change of deputy mining recorder at Hazelton and at South Hazelton.

Mr. Pearson also seeks from the Minister of Mines answers to the following questions:

Has the Government of this Province at any time entered into an agreement with the Pacific (Coyle) Navigation Company, Limited, to carry out an experiment with one of their tugs to prove the efficiency and economy of pulverized coal as a fuel in craft of the size of a tugboat? If so, has this experiment been concluded, and what was the result?

Who's Who in Making Laws Across James Bay

The member for Cariboo is by nature a frontiersman. Born in Scotland sixty-one years ago, the wanderlust impulse early impelled him to leave his Scottish home and to seek other parts of the British Empire. This finally brought him to Williams Lake, where he now resides and where he carries on a most lucrative business.

In the centre where Mr. McKenzie resides, however, the population is not by any means sufficient to warrant a large store. But the merchandise from the great warehouses of the member for Cariboo is delivered over a fifty-mile radius. His customers are numerous, but they are very widely scattered in that great open ranching, farming and mining country which has been so prominently associated with the development of British Columbia, and which at one time was practically synonymous with this province.

That you can obtain everything, from a needle to an anchor, may not



MR. RODERICK MacKENZIE

be an absolutely correct expression to apply to the McKenzie stores, for anchors are not in great demand in that country, the diversified character of the stock carried there, however, is just as wide as the expression used so often conveys. Unpretentious in appearance, overlooking the station of the Pacific Great Eastern Railway, the store has every department possibly of use to the residents of the communities supplied from it.

That the member for the district is alive to his mercantile business is evidenced by the fact that during the last half of 1928 he won a gold watch offered by the Massey-Harris Company, of Toronto, manufacturers of farm implements, for the largest percentage of increase in their lines made by any dealer. The increase of Mr. McKenzie was 870 per cent. He brought in four carloads of implements last season.

The extent of the trade of the member has brought him into touch with all classes, and many parts of his riding. He understands the needs of all, and knows the difficulties with which the pioneers have to contend. He is well qualified to serve as a representative of the district.

While yet a very young man Mr. McKenzie went to South Africa, then attracting a lot of attention in Great Britain. While he was engaged in large part in mercantile work there, he also was attracted to the mining game, and he recalls that in six months' time he cleaned up £20,000. He, however, had the misfortune to lose it again in two weeks' time.

He was in Johannesburg at the time of the Jamieson raid and came through that exciting time, and also the period of the South African War. He was in Natal at the opening of the war.

Later he went into business under the name of Cleg, McKenzie & Company in the drygoods line in Johannesburg. Prosperity shone upon the venture, and after some nineteen years in South Africa, Mr. McKenzie decided to retire and take up his residence in Scotland.

But the call to wander was too strong, and twenty-one years ago he again set out, coming to British Columbia this time. After spending three years in Vancouver, Mr. McKenzie opened up business at Squamish where he still retains his interests. With the coming of the P.G.E. he followed the construction to Williams Lake, which he selected as a strategic point for business.

Mr. McKenzie is a practical man, whose advice may well be sought by members of the Government, and whose opinion on matters of public business will be listened to with respect by members of the Legislature.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 29, 1929

AID TO MINER IS EMPHASIZED

More Roads and Better Ones Is
Theme of Capt. Fitzsimmons
in Legislature

"People want good government in the provinces rather than fine speeches, in which the parties try to get the better of each other," said Capt. James Fitzsimmons of Kaslo-Slocan, in speaking in the Legislature on the Address of His Honor yesterday afternoon.

He wanted to see appropriations made for the opening up of trails in the province just as early as they could be reached, and worked in the Spring. In taking this course he pointed out the operators of mining claims would be enabled to get supplies in early in the season.

This suggestion, he hoped, would be taken seriously. It would apply to all parts of the country, and

would have benefits to nearly every district in the province.

While he thought that roads should be better looked after than in the past, Captain Fitzsimmons also made a plea for rural hospitals. He felt the Government should give attention to this feature, as it was only proper that residents in less favored parts of the country than the large centres should be able to get hospital attention.

Adjourns Debate — The first speaker in the Legislature this afternoon on the Address in Reply to His Honor will be Mr. Roderick MacKenzie, of Cariboo. The debate yesterday was adjourned on motion of the member from Cariboo.

ECHO IN HOUSE OF BONDS CASE

OPPOSITION LEADER IS SATISFIED WITH REPLY OF MINISTER OF FINANCE

Speaker Rules Matter Out of Order When Mr. Pattullo Seeks Re-consideration

Considerable time was occupied in the Legislature, following the opening yesterday afternoon, in the discussion of the right of the Leader of the Opposition to bring in a motion on a question of privilege, setting out that the information given the House by the Minister of Finance in replying to a speech of Mr. Pattullo was "a misrepresentation of the real facts."

The matter was debated at length before the motion was ruled out of order by the Speaker.

It was contended by the Government side that the attempt of Mr. Pattullo to bring the subject up was only a round about way of making a speech in reply to Hon. W. C. Shelly, after the debate on the amendment to the Address had been disposed of by the House and was therefore entirely out of order.

Mr. C. F. Davie contended that the matter was not one of privilege. It was a motion simply, and should be preceded by notice of motion, which Mr. Pattullo at first consented to accept as a way out, but later refused.

Hon. R. H. Pooley said that the only way in which this could be brought up was on condition it was felt to be a matter of such importance that it should be disposed of at once in that way.

Mr. Ian Mackenzie put forward the view that the veracity of the Leader of the Opposition was attacked, but was met with cries of "No" from the other side of the House.

When Mr. Mackenzie called Mr. Davie a dictator, he was called to order by the Speaker, who said that such an expression could not be applied to any member of the House.

Mr. T. Uphill, who had voted with the Opposition in the division of Friday was sorry to see the spectacle of "little boys" in the House. He said he did not know much about it, but he would vote with the Government.

The Speaker ruled the motion out of order.

Mr. Pattullo's statement preceding the introduction of the motion went into the subject-matter of what he claimed did not properly represent the situation with respect to the action of the late Government. The reference to his own part in the sale in a private way of securities was, he said, the sale of \$310,000 of an issue that in which a larger part was sold after tenders had been called.

The various sales referred to by Mr. Shelly were detailed by Mr. Pattullo.

In the statement submitted by the Minister of Finance, it is indicated that some \$18,800,000 of securities of the Province were sold by private sale by our administration. That statement is very misleading.

COMPENSATION BOARD FUNDS

Of the sixteen items quoted by the minister as having been sold by private sale, in five of them aggregating \$1,100,000, the sale was made to the Workmen's Compensation Board. I do not think that anyone will look upon a sale of British Columbia securities to the Workmen's Compensation Board as a private sale.

The item of \$5,900,000 quoted by the minister consisted of Pacific Great Eastern collateral stock guaranteed by the Province. The Pacific Great Eastern is a corporate body itself and the guaranteed collateral stock was in an entirely different position from the ordinary securities of the Province.

Another item mentioned by the minister of \$4,000,000 was nothing more or less than a six months' note on hand and was disposed of just as an ordinary treasury note is sold to the Bank of Commerce, and cost only 4.37 per cent.

Of the balance of approximately \$7,500,000 referred to by the minister as having been sold by private sale, this additional amount was only awarded after tenders had been first called and a price had been obtained by public tender.

THE ACTUAL POLICY

During the time that our Administration was in office, we disposed of over \$92,000,000 of securities, direct obligation of the Province, and approximately \$6,000,000 indirect obligation guaranteeing Pacific Great Eastern collateral stock. Of this amount of \$98,000,000 the Minister of Finance only alleges that we sold \$18,800,000 by private sale, so that even if his statement were correct, which it is not, that would leave approximately \$80,000,000 sold by public tender, which is an indication beyond question of just what our policy was.

But the statement of the Minister of Finance in connection with the amount of \$18,800,000 is grossly misrepresentative, and I trust that I have made it clear to the House that the statement which I made to this House as to our policy was in no sense incorrect, and that on the contrary, the Minister of Finance gave a very wrong impression to this House as to my personal attitude upon this issue.

DOUKHOBORS OF B.C. MUST OBEY CANADIAN LAWS

Dr. L. E. Borden Alludes to Problems Presented by Settlements of Russian Sect in Interior Valleys

MINING NEEDS ARE STRESSED

The Province of British Columbia has still a very rich treasure left her in the mineral resources that remain to be developed. According to Dr. L. E. Borden, Conservative member for Nelson, there has been an estimate made that at least \$4,500,000,000 worth may yet be the portion of the province. This statement was made by the member for Nelson in speaking to the Address in Reply in the House yesterday afternoon.

It is natural that a resident of Nelson, the centre of a wonderful mining part of the province, should think in terms of mineral wealth.

In connection with the estimate given which he said was that of mining engineers who had gone into the matter, basing it on the production of Mexico and the United States, British Columbia was on the Cordilleran Range, which extended the length of the continent. It was held that the British Columbia section was richer than Mexico or the United States. The estimate was on this assumption.

Dr. Borden said that he felt that he represented not only Nelson, but also the whole of the Kootenays, and added: "We expect a great deal in the matter of roads there in the next few years."

He took the position that there should not be such a readiness to put in roads before the proper location for a permanent road was ascertained. There had been a lot of

money wasted in this way in the past.

The Nelson-Spokane highway afforded an instance. It had been changed several times and there were still alterations needed. With improvements to some sections of the road and the construction of the Nelson bridge, there would be the southern transcontinental roads provided. He felt that he was entitled to ask for all that he was seeking, in view of the production of that country.

MINERAL WEALTH

The Kootenays produced 60 per cent of the mineral output of the province. The same territory paid about one-tenth of the taxation of the province, also. One-half of the silver came from there and nearly all the zinc and lead produced in the province, and even in the Dominion. More than one-half of the men engaged in lode mining in the province were engaged there. There was also more than one-half of the men engaged in the concentrators, and practically all the men employed in the smelters.

Outside of the Consolidated Company there were ninety shipping mines in the district.

There had been last year less ore shipped, but this showed a healthy condition, inasmuch as concentrators were being built, and the output was coming to the smelters in these concentrated forms.

Dr. Borden made an appeal to the Minister of Mines for roads and trails to the properties. There were many of them in the course of development, including the Duncan country, which shortly would come into prominence.

THE DOUKHOBORS

The Doukhobor problem was one which Dr. Borden said must be grappled with. It was a serious one. He traced the history of the sect, and of their life in this country.

He recalled seeing them arrive in Halifax when the settlement which first went to the Prairies reached that port. There were Galicians at the same time, and later, when he went to the Prairies, he found that the latter were falling in line with the habits of the country and assimilating, but the Doukhobors were not. They came on to British Columbia in numbers, and had possession of some four or five thousand acres of good land. There were about 6,000 of them. The great difficulty was that they in part refused to send their children to school.

There were three sections of them. The Community, the Independent ones, and the Sons of Freedom. It was the last named who made all the trouble. He was inclined to think that a man named Raven, in California, was responsible for a lot of the trouble. Some went there in the Winter and took training from him.

Dr. Borden felt that if these people were going to enjoy the good areas which they possessed they must obey the laws of the province. The law would have to be enforced.

LOWER RATES FOR FREIGHT ARE STRESSED

Mr. E. C. Carson Speaks of P.G.E. Problems Which Hold Back Lillooet Riding From Development

MINING NEEDS OF DISTRICT

Mr. E. D. Carson, Conservative Member for Lillooet, differs from the Leader of the Opposition with respect to the survey which the present Government is making of the P.G.E. In his speech on the Address yesterday afternoon, in the House, he expressed the hope that the survey would disclose the need of an efficient railroad man who would take charge with a view to giving reasonable rates to the territories served, and so build up the country and decrease the usual deficit.

"The Leader of the Opposition," said Mr. Carson, "has criticized the survey of the P.G.E. and has told the members of this House that all the information has already been gathered. If this is the case, I would ask him why they did not make use of it?"

FERTILE AREA

"Much has been heard of the famous freight rates case of the late Liberal Government, and I am sure they would have fared much better had they started with rates in their own backyard. I can show you large farming areas suitable for growing vegetables and fruits of all kinds within a few miles of the Pacific Great Eastern Railway, which have remained undeveloped and without road connection for years, despite the fact that they had the promises of the Brewster, Oliver and MacLean administrations that should their party be given the reins of office they would be given roads. The people want the chance to make a home and decent living in this their native or adopted province, as the case may be.

IMMIGRATION

"In the matter of immigration, like the Member for Burnaby (Mr. Rutledge) I would say that if it is proposed to give assistance to them, I would ask that the same assistance be given those non-residents who desire to go on the land in our own province.

"A great many of the Members of this House have been over the Pacific Great Eastern Railway, but I regret that time did not allow them to see the large farming and ranching areas adjacent to the railway.

"They were surprised to learn that for some two hundred miles the P.G.E. traverses the Lillooet district, and for this reason it is important that this area be developed to the greatest possible extent so that greater tonnage may be had for the railway.

"It is said that the roadbed, equipment, etc., are in good condition. It should be; it has cost the province enough and though the cost to the province generally has been high, it has been doubly so to those who have attempted making a living in the territory served.

POLITICAL

The Member (Mr. T. D. Patt) that political present administration rampant as never before. Member from Burrard to have the Member from Burrard give me changes that the Lillooet.

"I would also of the Opposition for North Vancouver (Mackenzie), who about the well-returned soldier the Lillooet disadministration.

"In attempting idea of the Lillooet district, your attention to the early days still in its infancy when developed, none in the mining Columbia.

"A number of properties now stage will come be of immense commercial life of

"In this country the attention Mines (Hon. V) his consideration with a view to help during the progress in district be speeded

"A number of areas and to give recently located

"Although the portion of the tion and other such in the p impossible to an business to an

"The farming of the district condition, the areas of land none in produ ducts of all k reengin practic from lack of r tion, roads and In this coun Government should prove a

OCCUPATION

"I hope that will be given mining's oc class of occup is no body of deserve some tion as those who contract powder smok of underground have had a observe and re being a "cinc to the bowe "diggers" to even under su as exist in t the best man mining comm Empire—that ing & Smelt at Britannia

"On the ge tion of pecu all classes of of the opinio earnings on amount of under the W Act should 1 per cent, or, for while I h erence to mi is not cover that act, it me to state brief for o compared to do, from a diversified miners, log agricultural predominant So, in conc Government at my con claims of th receive th considerat merit."

POLITICAL PATRONAGE

The Member for Prince Rupert (Mr. T. D. Pattullo) has told you that political patronage under the present administration has been rampant as never before. Like the Member from Burnaby I would like to have the Member for Prince Rupert give me a note of any changes that have been made in Lillooet.

"I would also remind the Leader of the Opposition and the Member for North Vancouver (Captain Ian Mackenzie), who is so concerned about the welfare of returned soldiers—the wholesale dismissal of returned soldiers, without cause, in the Lillooet district under its late administration.

MINING

"In attempting to give you some idea of the importance of the Lillooet district, I would first draw your attention to mining. The mining development, though started in the early days of the province, is still in its infancy and gives promise, when developed, of being second to none in the mining districts of British Columbia.

"A number of properties have been producing successfully for some time, and as conditions, such as transportation, etc., improve, other properties now in the development stage will come into production and be of immense value to the commercial life of the province.

"In this connection I would ask the attention of the Minister of Mines (Hon. W. A. McKenzie) for his consideration of our problems with a view to giving all possible help during the coming year so that the progress in mining in this district be speeded up.

"A number of trails and bridges will be also needed to open up new areas and to give access to properties recently located.

TIMBER

"Although there are large tracts of valuable timber in the southern portion of the district, transportation and other conditions have been such in the past, that it has been impossible to carry on a profitable business to any great extent.

AGRICULTURE

"The farming and ranching areas of the district are not in a healthy condition, though we have large areas of land which are second to none in producing agricultural products of all kinds; yet these areas remain practically in their wild state from lack of reasonable transportation, roads and suitable development. In this connection the proposed Government marketing measure should prove a great help.

OCCUPATIONAL DISEASE

"I hope that serious consideration will be given to the subject of placing miners' consumption within the class of occupational disease. There is no body of workers who so richly deserve some pecuniary compensation as those unfortunate miners who contract this disease amidst the powder smoke and dust and damp of underground working places. I have had ample opportunity to observe and realize that it is far from being a "cinch of a job" going down to the bowels of the earth in "diggers" to earn one's daily bread even under such favorable conditions as exist in the largest and one of the best managed and best equipped mining communities in the British Empire—that of the Britannia Mining & Smelting Company, Limited, at Britannia Beach, Howe Sound.

"On the general and broader question of pecuniary compensation to all classes of workers, I am strongly of the opinion that the percentage of earnings on which is based the amount of compensation payable under the Workmen's Compensation Act should be raised to at least 65 per cent, or, if possible, 70 per cent, for while I have made a specific reference to miner's consumption which is not covered by the provisions of that act, it is hardly necessary for me to state that I hold no special brief for one class of worker as compared to another, coming, as I do, from a constituency of such diversified types of workers as miners, loggers, railroad workers, agriculturists—to mention only the predominating representative types. So, in conclusion, I would urge the Government, with all the emphasis at my command, to see that the claims of these and all other workers receive that favorable and tangible consideration which they so justly merit."

Premier May Not Take Seat For Few Days

It is doubtful if Premier Tolmie will be in the House for a few days longer. His doctor has advised that he remain inside, fearing a relapse of a rather severe cold or possibly a touch of influenza, which has kept him confined to his home since the opening of the Legislative session.

Regret at the continued absence of the Premier from the House was expressed by Mr. T. D. Pattullo, Leader of the Opposition, on behalf of his side of the Legislature yesterday afternoon. He gave voice to the hope that the Premier would soon be back and that long life might be his portion.

Hon. R. H. Pooley, Leader of the Government in the Premier's absence, informed the Leader of the Opposition that he would have great pleasure in conveying the message to the Premier.

PLEA VOICED TO GIVE AID TO SETTLERS

Camp Lister Situation Is Described as Requiring Urgent Attention for Remedial Measures

CRESTON MEMBER PRESSES ROADS

Colonel Fred Lister made a strong plea for attention being paid to the fruit farmers of the province by the Government, and in this connection asked that the situation at Creston be investigated at once with the idea of righting the position of affairs there. The picture he drew of the area which had been set aside for soldier settlement there was a deplorable one. The Liberal Government spent \$1,000,000 on the area, and it was now a disgrace.

Buildings were falling into ruins, following the leaving of the settlers. The farms were left wild and cattle and horses roamed at large over the places, which were growing up with bushes. Weeds abounded, so that there was, he said, the finest crop

of weeds to be found anywhere in Canada.

WATER SUPPLY NEEDED

Under these conditions it was impossible, he warned the Minister of Agriculture, for the remaining farmers to keep their places free of weeds. When he left farmers were drawing water for use. He said if the Government was to give some attention to the place; provide a water supply, and aid in other ways, this could be converted into a prosperous section.

In spite of the wonderful prosperity that was heard about British Columbia there were fruit growing sections that were not doing as well as they should do. He was glad in this connection to see that the Leader of the Opposition had changed his position on this subject and was now advocating some relief for these fruit farmers. At one time he had said that it would only be over his dead body that these concessions sought could be obtained.

The Government had to decide whether the industry was worth anything to the country or not. If it were not, then it would be allowed to go.

If the industry were regarded otherwise it would have to be ascertained what help could be afforded. "If assistance has to be given, then give it," said Colonel Lister.

The Marketing Act had done good, he felt. The lawyers, he admitted, had made a good deal of money out of it, but it had given a lot of assistance to the farmers. The committee of direction would likely be down asking for improvements and he hoped that they would get a proper hearing.

There should be a demand made also of the Dominion Government for the old dumping regulation.

Speaking of immigration Colonel Lister said that if assistance was to be given to people coming into the country those now on the land should be accorded the same help.

POLICE PATRONAGE CHARGED

Dealing with the patronage matter Colonel Lister said that there had been only one man removed in his district. He thought, however, that the Attorney-General, before he turned the police of the province out of the patronage list, should have taken politics out of it. Men of long standing in the police had received no promotion, while men who entered the force late were made inspectors and given other promotions. This action was taken not because these men were good policemen, but because they were good politicians.

Any prosperity there was in the country at the present was not due to the late Government, but in spite of it. British Columbia was a young virile country that would go ahead in any event. Good government might assist in the work. He was glad to see mining going ahead better. He hoped it would continue to prosper.

Lumbering was more or less a conundrum to him, he admitted. There was a tremendous amount of money coming out of that industry. Operators said they were not making money. They were still operating, however.

The information was forthcoming that the operators were coming to the House to ask concessions. He believed that many of the troubles were due to the operators themselves.

There was too great an overhead.

He did not know what use the natural resources of the country were to the province, if nothing was to be got out of them. He advised very careful consideration before cutting off any revenues.

Turning attention to the Minister of Public Works, he said that he knew that he came into power with no money left him. The old Government spent all before it left power. In the coming year, however, he would demand that a lot of money be spent on necessary roads.

He was of the opinion that the people who were in the country developing it were entitled to have money spent for their benefit, as well as the people in California, respecting money spent to give them roads here.

There should be more roads and trails into the mines so that prospective buyers might get in to see claims. These trails were of assistance also to the fire wardens in cases of fire.

TWO COMMITTEES OF HOUSE PREPARE FOR THEIR WORK

The Public Accounts Committee of the Legislature is getting down to business without delay this session. It had been called together for a meeting in the Cedar Room this morning at 11 o'clock, when the subject of the industrial commission affairs will be taken up for investigation.

Colonel Don Martyn, the commissioner of that department, is summoned to appear before the committee this morning.

The Industrial Department has always proved a very knotty subject for the Public Accounts Committee. This session the majority of the committee will be composed of members from the Government side, while the affairs to be investigated will cover the period ending March, 1927.

The Public Accounts Committee has organized with Mr. G. A. Walkem as chairman and Mr. T. H. Kirk as secretary.

Who's Who in Making Laws Across James Bay



MR. W. F. KENNEDY

takes a very deep interest in the fruit marketing problems that face the farmers of the Okanagan and other districts in the Interior. In moving the Address in Reply to that of His Honor a few days ago he made a strong plea for the most considerate attention being given by the Legislature to the fruit farmers of the province who were facing trying conditions. He has during the past season thrown himself very heartily into this subject in an endeavor to arrive at some permanent solution of the difficulties that are facing this important department of agriculture.

He will undoubtedly be heard later on the subject, for Mr. Kennedy in addition to the high social qualities he possesses has marked ability along the line of concentrating upon problems and finding a solution of them. Determination is a quality he possesses in quite as large a degree as geniality, and his counsel is always listened to with respect.

The member for North Okanagan is one of the most popular of the representatives in the Legislature. Although it is only his second session in the House he was the choice of his party for senior whip on the opening of the new Parliament. His choice was a happy one, for Mr. Kennedy has all the qualities that make for filling the office well. His geniality has made him a friend of every one in and about the Legislature Chambers.

A former Premier, referring to Mr. Kennedy on the floor of the House, said that the member for North Okanagan recalled to mind the great red apples that made his riding so famous—the McIntosh Reds. The Conservative whip's own leader has gone one better and persists in referring to Mr. Kennedy as the man with "a million-dollar smile." The member for North Okanagan, however, has not much faith in the description being exact. He says he has never been able yet to find a banker who will allow him to realize on his smile, nor yet accept it as collateral. But in any event he has a geniality and affability that puts him in the forefront among the members with whom he sits and which has made him so popular in his own riding that in the by-election of June 9, 1927, he defeated a minister of the late Liberal Government who had been called to office.

Mr. Kennedy was born in 1888, and at the age of thirteen came to Vernon with his parents and has lived there ever since. He has grown up with the rich Okanagan district and knows its problems as thoroughly as anyone.

When he entered the provincial political field he was not new to public life inasmuch as he had for years been serving the residents of Vernon in various capacities that brought him directly in touch with the problems that have to be faced in connection with local self-government. He served in the school board, and has always been identified with the board of trade, of which he was president for a time. Since 1911 Mr. Kenzedy has been in business under the firm name of Sell & Kennedy, handling implements of all kinds, and fuel. The member for North Okanagan

B.C. ELECTION ACT INQUIRY VOTED DOWN

Mr. A. M. Manson Defeated in Effort to Have Select Committee Appointed by House

IRREGULARITIES COMPLAINED OF

Former Liberal Government Responsible for July Election, Is Answer of Ministers

A resolution introduced into the Legislature yesterday by Mr. A. M. Manson, former Attorney-General, calling for the appointment of a select committee to go into the matter of the working of the Provincial Elections Act and recommend any changes that were deemed necessary in the face of the proceedings of the late election, came to an abrupt end.

Mr. Manson had elaborated upon the shortcomings in connection with the election, including the fact that the ballot papers in many instances were so thin that the marking of the ballot could be detected through the paper. He was immediately met by the statements of members of the Government that the shortcomings that were in evidence in the last election, and in former ones, were under the administration of the party to which he belonged, and of which he was the Attorney-General in the Government.

TO CHECK IRREGULARITIES

It was further stated that these would all be overcome before another election was held and that it would not require a committee of the House to insure this fact. The Government would see that the ballot was a secret one, and the markings would not be decipherable. Not only this, but members of the Government added to the list of shortcomings in the election beyond what Mr. Manson had enumerated, and promised that all these would be wiped out.

The resolution to appoint a committee was defeated by a vote of thirty-two to ten, on a straight party vote of the members present. Premier Tolmie and Dr. W. E. Sutherland were paired, and also Dr. Macdonough and Dr. Gillis. Mr. C. W. Uphill, Labor member, was absent from the House.

The resolution of Mr. Manson, introduced by Mr. J. A. Buckham, re-

Whereas important and substantial amendments to the Provincial Elections Act were passed at the last session of this Legislature:

And whereas since that time a general provincial election has been held:

And whereas it is desirable to inquire as to the working of the said Provincial Elections Act as amended;

Be it therefore resolved, that a select committee of this House be appointed forthwith to inquire fully into the operation of the provisions of the said act as amended.

And be it further resolved that the said committee be empowered to send for persons, papers, and records, to examine the same and to take evidence under oath, and to report their findings and recommendations to this House.

Mr. Manson, after recalling the history of the late election, said that in recent years there had been a number of changes introduced into the election laws. He thought it was an opportune time to have the House go into the matter while the memory was fresh, and when another election was some way off.

He referred to the fact that the ballot that was used by the province was different from that used in any sister province, and in the Dominion and did not make the provision for elimination of all but a small space in which the mark could be made on the ballot in front of the names.

In every constituency there had been ballots marked in wrong places. He recalled the ballot for absentees being unanimously endorsed by a special committee last session, and yet there were indications that it had not worked out as well as it might.

ABSENTEE BALLOTS

Hon. J. Hinchliffe pointed out that while in 1924 there had been a great deal of objection to the way in which the absentee ballots were handled after they were cast. There was nothing of this kind in the last election.

With respect to the ballot that had been used in this province, there was the same confined space left for the voter so that it was difficult to spoil the ballot. The late Government was the one responsible for changing that ballot.

Mr. Hinchliffe said that the result of conference with the chief electoral officer indicated that the fault chiefly found was not so much in the ballot used, as in the class of persons employed to act as returning officers, who were incapable in many instances. He felt the appointment of the committee would be a waste of time.

Mr. G. S. Pearson, of Nanaimo, sympathized with the mover of the motion. He objected to the ballots being such that the marking could be read through them.

Hon. R. H. Pooley, Attorney-General, marveled at the complaint that was made as to the paper being too thin. It had been in the power of the late Government to have righted it. Before the next election came round he said he could assure the House the electorate would be properly protected in this matter.

Hon. W. A. McKenzie, Minister of Mines, then launched out in vigorous manner with respect to the matter. He wished to know why a change had not been made in the thickness of the ballot paper by the late Government.

Why was the change not made before the last election if the former Government knew of the trouble?

It did not require a committee of the House to go into the abuses, said Mr. McKenzie.

There were many things that required attention in maintaining the secrecy of the ballot, said he. Among them was the practice of having the ballot handed to the returning officer, who placed it in the box. These officers could tell the marking of the ballots, and he had all sympathy with the electors who objected to handing the ballots to the officer. A clever returning officer could tell how 80 per cent of the electors voted.

The amendments made to the Election Act before the last election made it a very different one from the 1924 election.

"There will be amendments to the Election Act before another election comes on," said Mr. McKenzie.

He went on to say that he thought they should have a report from the chief electoral officer. After that they would be in better shape to deal with amendments.

Mr. Manson said that Dr. MacLean and Hon. J. Hinchliffe had been regarded as experts on the Election Act, and the other members, in large part, left the matter to them.

MINORITY ELECTION

He felt that there were a lot of

matters that could be dealt with by the committee. For instance, he said there were two members of the House at present who did not secure a majority of the votes cast. Was this a trivial matter? he asked.

Mr. Pooley asked for the names of the two members.

Mr. Manson said he did not propose now to give them. He did not say that it was the fault of these two men. It was a matter of fact.

"Were these two constituencies," he asked, "democratically represented in the Legislature?"

After Mr. Manson had praised the summary prepared of the late election, and which he described as the best that had ever been got out, he complimented Hon. S. L. Howe on this work.

As he sat down, Colonel C. W. Peck asked again who the members were that were referred to. The member for the Islands said that he wished to know so that the Government might be informed, so that the ballots would not be burned.

Mr. Manson, with some passion, defended the late Government, saying that no ballots were burned until some time after they were legally entitled to be destroyed.

The vote was called for, whereupon the resolution was defeated.

LABOR MEMBER IS UNCONVINCED

Mr. T. Uphill Is Not So Confident of Prosperity as Some of His Fellow Members

Mr. T. Uphill, Labor, complimented the Speaker on his fairness in speaking on the Address in Reply in the House yesterday.

He said that the prosperity of the country was seen in the stock exchanges, in the cities, but it was not evident in his riding. It was nonsense to talk of prosperity when it was confined to the few.

A feed on Christmas Day was not enough for a year. The country was not prosperous when men were looking for a meal from day to day. The same conditions prevailed in the United States, as in Canada, which showed that high protection did not free a country from poverty.

Dealing with the coal situation he contended there was no consistency on the part of either of the great parties. Conservatives in Ontario were asking for the removal of duty from the American coal coming into Canada; while the Liberals of Alberta and Fernie were wanting to raise the duty against American coal coming in.

On immigration he said there was room in Canada for millions. The system of immigration was silly, however. The country might not owe a man a living, but it owed him the right to earn a living.

Before he closed Mr. Uphill referred to the coal mining situation in England. He referred to the visit of the Prince of Wales to the affected districts, and contended that there in the best supplied area in the world as far as coal was concerned, there were people who were without coal. The same unequal distribution as far as fruit was concerned was noticed here. There were people who wanted apples and yet in the Okanagan there was fruit going to waste.

NEW BILL WILL TIGHTEN UP ON MINING RULES

Measure Proposes Mining Companies Must File Copies of Their Prospectuses With Minister of Mines

STEEL BOUNTY IS REVISED

By a bill introduced into the Legislature last evening by message of His Honor through Hon. W. A. McKenzie, Minister of Mines, a number of points connected with the mining industry are cleared up.

There is provision made that instead of designating exactly the headquarters at which a resident engineer of the department is to be placed, that this may be fixed by order-in-council, so that prompt action may be taken in placing a resident engineer in cases where the need of one arises.

The practice of having the department carry on diamond drilling on a property and charging the cost of the same against the property is to be stopped. This was found to lead to trouble and to serve little good.

The providing of protection for wage earners employed in the mines to the fullest possible extent is secured under the act. There is a clearing up of some of the sections with respect to this.

There is provision likewise made to obtain better safeguards against the practising of fraud on the investing public. Not only is the issuer of a prospectus obliged to file copies with the resident engineer, but copies must also be deposited with the Department of Mines so that the Minister is advised and is in a position to act as he deems best.

Another bill introduced by message by Mr. McKenzie is one respecting bounties on iron and steel. This allows for the earning of the bounty where scrap may be used for the manufacture of the iron or steel in proper proportions. The operation is confined to rolling mills having a capacity of 20,000 tons a year.

A bill to regulate the working of quarries provides that the operations of quarries shall fall under the inspection of the Department of Mines.

Private Bills Committee—The private Bills Committee of the Legislature met yesterday, and organized with Mr. H. D. Twigg as chairman and Mr. J. H. Beatty as secretary.

Moved Adjournment—The debate on the Address in the Legislature was moved by Mr. J. W. Cornett, Member for South Vancouver. He will have the right-of-way on the debate being called today.

STATE HEALTH INSURANCE IS AGAIN PRESSED

Legislature Asked to Appoint Committee to Examine Working of Measure in Other Countries

SIMILAR MOTION TO ONE LAST YEAR

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The road between Black Lake and Cedar Creek needed attention.

He wanted larger appropriations for road maintenance in the Chilcotin. Cattle shipments from this district had been largely responsible for the Pacific Great Eastern Railway surpluses of October and No-

When he entered the provincial political field he was not new to public life inasmuch as he had for years been serving the residents of Vernon in various capacities that brought him directly in touch with the problems that have to be faced in connection with local self-government. He served in the school board, and has always been identified with the board of trade, of which he was president for a time. Since 1911 Mr. Kenzedy has been in business under the firm name of Well & Kennedy, handling implements of all kinds, and fuel. The member for North Okanagan

B.C. ELECTION ACT INQUIRY VOTED DOWN

Mr. A. M. Manson Defeated in Effort to Have Select Committee Appointed by House

IRREGULARITIES COMPLAINED OF

Former Liberal Government Responsible for July Election, Is Answer of Ministers

A resolution introduced into the Legislature yesterday by Mr. A. M. Manson, former Attorney-General, calling for the appointment of a select committee to go into the matter of the working of the Provincial Elections Act and recommend any changes that were deemed necessary in the face of the proceedings of the late election, came to an abrupt end.

Mr. Manson had elaborated upon the shortcomings in connection with the election, including the fact that the ballot papers in many instances were so thin that the marking of the ballot could be detected through the paper. He was immediately met by the statements of members of the Government that the shortcomings that were in evidence in the last election, and in former ones, were under the administration of the party to which he belonged, and of which he was the Attorney-General in the Government.

TO CHECK IRREGULARITIES

It was further stated that these would all be overcome before another election was held and that it would not require a committee of the House to insure this fact. The Government would see that the ballot was a secret one, and the markings would not be decipherable. Not only this, but members of the Government added to the list of shortcomings in the election beyond what Mr. Manson had enumerated, and promised that all these would be wiped out.

The resolution to appoint a committee was defeated by a vote of thirty-two to ten, on a straight party vote of the members present. Premier Toimie and Dr. W. E. Weatherland were paired, and also Dr. Naughton and Dr. Gillis. Mr. Thompson, Labor member, was absent from the House.

The resolution of Mr. Manson recorded by Mr. J. A. Buckham, reads as follows:

Whereas important and substantial amendments to the Provincial Elections Act were passed at the last session of this Legislature:

And whereas since that time a general provincial election has been held;

And whereas it is desirable to inquire as to the working of the said Provincial Elections Act as amended;

Be it therefore resolved, that a select committee of this House be appointed forthwith to inquire fully into the operation of the provisions of the said act as amended.

And be it further resolved that the said committee be empowered to send for persons, papers, and records, to examine the same and to take evidence under oath, and to report their findings and recommendations to this House.

Mr. Manson, after recalling the history of the late election, said that in recent years there had been a number of changes introduced into the election laws. He thought it was an opportune time to have the House go into the matter while the memory was fresh, and when another election was some way off.

He referred to the fact that the ballot that was used by the province was different from that used in any sister province, and in the Dominion and did not make the provision for elimination of all but a small space in which the mark could be made on the ballot in front of the names.

In every constituency there had been ballots marked in wrong places. He recalled the ballot for absentees being unanimously endorsed by a special committee last session, and yet there were indications that it had not worked out as well as it might.

ABSENTEE BALLOTS

Hon. J. Hinchliffe pointed out that while in 1924 there had been a great deal of objection to the way in which the absentee ballots were handled after they were cast. There was nothing of this kind in the last election.

With respect to the ballot that had been used in this province, there was the same confined space left for the voter so that it was difficult to spoil the ballot. The late Government was the one responsible for changing that ballot.

Mr. Hinchliffe said that the result of conference with the chief electoral officer indicated that the fault chiefly found was not so much in the ballot used, as in the class of persons employed to act as returning officers, who were incapable in many instances. He felt the appointment of the committee would be a waste of time.

Mr. G. S. Pearson, of Nanaimo, sympathized with the mover of the motion. He objected to the ballots being such that the marking could be read through them.

Hon. R. H. Pooley, Attorney-General, marveled at the complaint that was made as to the paper being too thin. It had been in the power of the late Government to have righted it. Before the next election came round he said he could assure the House the electorate would be properly protected in this matter.

Hon. W. A. McKenzie, Minister of Mines, then launched out in vigorous manner with respect to the matter. He wished to know why a change had not been made in the thickness of the ballot paper by the late Government.

Why was the change not made before the last election if the former Government knew of the trouble?

It did not require a committee of the House to go into the abuses, said Mr. McKenzie.

There were many things that required attention in maintaining the secrecy of the ballot, said he. Among them was the practice of having the ballot handed to the returning officer, who placed it in the box. These officers could tell the marking of the ballots, and he had all sympathy with the electors who objected to handing the ballots to the officer. A clever returning officer could tell how 50 per cent of the electors voted.

The amendments made to the Election Act before the last election made it a very different one from the 1924 election.

"There will be amendments to the Election Act before another election comes on," said Mr. McKenzie.

He went on to say that he thought they should have a report from the chief electoral officer. After that they would be in better shape to deal with amendments.

Mr. Manson said that Dr. MacLean and Hon. J. Hinchliffe had been regarded as experts on the Election Act, and the other members, in large part, left the matter to them.

MINORITY ELECTION

He felt that there were a lot of

matters that could be dealt with by the committee. For instance, he said there were two members of the House at present who did not secure a majority of the votes cast. Was this a trivial matter? he asked.

Mr. Pooley asked for the names of the two members.

Mr. Manson said he did not propose now to give them. He did not say that it was the fault of these two men. It was a matter of fact.

"Were these two constituencies," he asked, "democratically represented in the Legislature?"

After Mr. Manson had praised the summary prepared of the late election, and which he described as the best that had ever been got out, he complimented Hon. S. L. Howe on this work.

As he sat down, Colonel C. W. Peck asked again who the members were that were referred to. The member for the Islands said that he wished to know so that the Government might be informed, so that the ballots would not be burned.

Mr. Manson, with some passion, defended the late Government, saying that no ballots were burned until some time after they were legally entitled to be destroyed.

The vote was called for, whereupon the resolution was defeated.

LABOR MEMBER IS UNCONVINCED

Mr. T. Uphill Is Not So Confident of Prosperity as Some of His Fellow Members

Mr. T. Uphill, Labor, complimented the Speaker on his fairness in speaking on the Address in Reply in the House yesterday.

He said that the prosperity of the country was seen in the stock exchanges, in the cities, but it was not evident in his riding. It was nonsense to talk of prosperity when it was confined to the few.

A feed on Christmas Day was not enough for a year. The country was not prosperous when men were looking for a meal from day to day. The same conditions prevailed in the United States, as in Canada, which showed that high protection did not free a country from poverty.

Dealing with the coal situation he contended there was no consistency on the part of either of the great parties. Conservatives in Ontario were asking for the removal of duty from the American coal coming into Canada; while the Liberals of Alberta and Fernie were wanting to raise the duty against American coal coming in.

On immigration he said there was room in Canada for millions. The system of immigration was silly, however. The country might not owe a man a living, but it owed him the right to earn a living.

Before he closed Mr. Uphill referred to the coal mining situation in England. He referred to the visit of the Prince of Wales to the affected districts, and contended that there in the best supplied area in the world as far as coal was concerned, there were people who were without coal. The same unequal distribution as far as fruit was concerned was noticed here. There were people who wanted apples and yet in the Okanagan there was fruit going to waste.

NEW BILL WILL TIGHTEN UP ON MINING RULES

Measure Proposes Mining Companies Must File Copies of Their Prospectuses With Minister of Mines

STEEL BOUNTY IS REVISED

By a bill introduced into the Legislature last evening by message of His Honor through Hon. W. A. McKenzie, Minister of Mines, a number of points connected with the mining industry are cleared up.

There is provision made that instead of designating exactly the headquarters at which a resident engineer of the department is to be placed, that this may be fixed by order-in-council, so that prompt action may be taken in placing a resident engineer in cases where the need of one arises.

The practice of having the department carry on diamond drilling on a property and charging the cost of the same against the property is to be stopped. This was found to lead to trouble and to serve little good.

The providing of protection for wage earners employed in the mines to the fullest possible extent is secured under the act. There is a clearing up of some of the sections with respect to this.

There is provision likewise made to obtain better safeguards against the practising of fraud on the investing public. Not only is the issuer of a prospectus obliged to file copies with the resident engineer, but copies must also be deposited with the Department of Mines so that the Minister is advised and is in a position to act as he deems best.

Another bill introduced by message by Mr. McKenzie is one respecting bounties on iron and steel. This allows for the earning of the bounty where scrap may be used for the manufacture of the iron or steel in proper proportions. The operation is confined to rolling mills having a capacity of 20,000 tons a year.

A bill to regulate the working of quarries provides that the operations of quarries shall fall under the inspection of the Department of Mines.

Private Bills Committee—The private Bills Committee of the Legislature met yesterday, and organized with Mr. H. D. Twigg as chairman and Mr. J. H. Beatty as secretary.

Moved Adjournment—The debate on the Address in the Legislature was moved by Mr. J. W. Cornett, Member for South Vancouver. He will have the right-of-way on the debate being called today.

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MR. PEARSON APPEALS FOR STATE SCHEME

Says People of Province
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System for State Health
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REFERS TO PLAN USED ON ISLAND

The resolution favoring the investigation by a select committee of the House of the working of state health insurance plans elsewhere, as introduced by Dr. H. C. Wrinch in the Legislature, did not make very much progress yesterday. The speech of Mr. George S. Pearson, the second of the resolution, was the sole contribution to the debate on the subject.

The debate was then adjourned by Mr. W. R. Rutledge.

Mr. Pearson, in his speech, said that there were many questions tributary to this health insurance measure which would require very careful consideration, instancing the Workmen's Compensation Act, which unquestionably required improvement, yet he did not believe workmen's compensation would ever be properly administered until it was supported by a state health insurance measure.

"I am of the opinion that the citizens of this province will expect this measure to be a contributory measure, that is to say, they will expect to contribute an amount regularly which will not be a burden towards the cost of this scheme. At the present time in centres such as Nanaimo, Cumberland and Ladysmith, and perhaps many others, the workers of the chief industries of those centres have a partial health insurance scheme of their own devising now under operation," said Mr. Pearson.

"I contend that there is no incident in the economic life of the wage earner of this province which has so serious an effect in making it difficult for him to maintain a reasonable standard of living as the incident of sickness," said Mr. Pearson.

"It may be difficult for those of us whose income is sufficient to take care of reasonable needs and comforts to visualize just what it means to the average wage earner to be faced with a serious illness, impairing his earning efficiency; or the illness of his wife or his children; or to have to take care of crippled children or mentally deficient children. Not only does this make of this man an economic bankrupt, who is ashamed to look the world in the face, but it impoverishes his soul and either entirely breaks his spirit or makes him a social degenerate, sore at himself, sore at the world and a ready victim to the nostrums of any glib-tongued social orator.

"You may think I have painted this picture black, but this is the story of scores of lives in any industrial centre in this very province. Is it not a fact, sir, that the reason hospitals in this province have such difficulty in financing is because in cities such as Vancouver and Victoria approximately 50 per cent of all the patients who enter those institutions are unable to make any contribution towards their treatment, and even in the smaller industrial centres where workmen's compensation and workmen's benefit funds help considerably, still 50 per cent of these patients using public wards are unable to contribute towards the cost of their treatment.

"SERIOUS REFLECTION"

"This condition is a serious reflection upon a great, prosperous country such as ours, and, while I am one who does not believe in undue Governmental interference in business and industry, I nevertheless believe that if business and industry cannot so distribute the production of wealth, which, as the member for Fernie ably pointed out, is actually greater than our needs then it is the bounden duty of Government to see that the interests of all people are protected.

"Is it not also true that, due to the natural practice of eminent medical men locating in large centres of population where the opportunity of greater returns from their practice is possible, it is made impossible for the low and moderate wage earners of the small centres to avail themselves of the best medical advice available; and, further, is it not also a fact that, even in the centres where these eminent medical men are located, only those who are comparatively wealthy can avail themselves of their advice or services?

"I am one who believes that a full measure of health, a reasonable degree of comfort and a full opportunity to develop the best that is in him should be placed reasonably within the reach of every citizen of this country, however humble he may be."

Mr. Rutledge will move the following amendment to the resolution offered by Dr. Wrinch when he speaks on the subject:

That the resolution standing on the Order Paper in the name of Dr. Wrinch be amended as follows:

That all the words in the said resolution after the first word, "Whereas," be deleted, and the following be inserted in lieu thereof:

"It is advisable, in the interests of the people of this province, that this Legislature should be in possession of authentic, full and up-to-date information regarding the subjects of maternity benefits and health insurance; therefore be it

"Resolved, that a humble petition be presented to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that a commission composed of members of the Legislature, who shall serve without salary, be appointed under the Public Inquiries Act to inquire as to what laws relating to the subjects of maternity benefits and health insurance are in force in other provinces of Canada or any other countries; to collect facts as to the actual operation of such laws and as to how far

they have been found satisfactory; to inquire as to whether and to what extent the public interest requires the introduction of similar laws into the Province of British Columbia; to estimate what would be the total annual cost to the people of the province in regard to each of these subjects, and what portion of the annual cost would fall upon (a) employers of labor, (b) prospective beneficiaries, and (c) the general taxpayers; to suggest methods by which the annual cost might be collected from the employers, prospective beneficiaries, and general taxpayers respectively; and generally to inquire into any or all matters affecting the said subjects respectively; and to report its findings and recommendations to this Legislature at its next session."

SCHOOL ACT OF B.C. WILL BE ALTERED

Amendments Are Proposed
in Measure Introduced by
Hon. J. Hinchliffe Affecting
School Management

APPLY SPECIALLY TO RURAL SCHOOLS

Free Textbooks' Distribu-
tion Is Placed on Statutory
Grounds Both for Public
and Summer Schools

ALL school districts throughout the province must bear a share of the taxes required to pay teachers' salaries, according to the amendments of the Public School Act introduced in the Legislature yesterday.

Hon. J. Hinchliffe, Minister of Education, sponsors the measure, which was before the House by message.

It is proposed that all school districts will pay at least three mills on the dollar of assessment. Hitherto those school areas where the assessment was below \$150,000 were exempt from paying part of the salary of the teacher.

The collection of these three mills will be made by the Provincial Government in unorganized districts and devoted to the purposes intended.

PRIVILEGE DISAPPEARS

In connection with the matter of assisted schools the provision that all rural schools within the E. & N. belt on Vancouver Island were declared to be assisted schools, and therefore free from bearing any part of the cost of providing teachers, will also be eliminated, and the E. & N. belt will come under the same rule as elsewhere in the province.

This special privilege for the Island was secured by the late J. H. Hawthornthwaite while he was in the House, and during the time that the School Act was undergoing considerable change. Instances are on record where an assessment of \$1,000,000 was followed by no contribution to the teacher's salary under this exemption.

The fixing of the salaries of teachers in assisted rural school districts will continue to be done by the Legislature. In the case of a teacher of two years' standing in the profession in rural schools, there is a provision made that the Council of Public Instruction may increase the salary of such teacher to the extent of \$10 a month, where it is deemed expedient to do so.

In view of the fact that the only place where the word "householder" appeared in the act was with respect to assisted schools without an assessment for school purposes, with all districts coming under the heading of being obliged by local assessment to contribute to the teachers' salaries, the definition of "householder" is struck out.

Provision is made in the bill for the creation of a permanent position, such as that filled at present by Miss Lottie Bowron, who investigates the living and social conditions under

Continued on Page 2, Column 5

which young women teachers may be called to live in outlying parts.

FREE TEXTBOOKS

There is some clearing up of points that had been overlooked in the act, and which left no statutory authority for what has been going on for a long time. The free textbook distribution will be made statutory. Provision will be made that these books may be distributed free or at cost or partially so. This will be made to apply to Summer schools also.

There is also provision that where the department assists in some branch of work in the schools, such as home economics, the department will be safeguarded against losing it all should the school later do away with the optional subject. The department will hold a lien to the proportionate amount contributed to the work, and when the equipment is sold may recover this proportion of the returns received by the board.

Qualification for electors and school trustees under the School Act is provided for. This fixes as included in the qualification the fact that either of them must be a British subject, and of the age of twenty-one years. A man and his wife will not both be able to qualify for trustees at the same time.

There is provision made for the furnishing of eyeglasses to indigent pupils by the board of trustees in cases where it is deemed wise to do so. This is not made a compulsory action.

A trustee to be eligible to sit must have paid his school taxes.

NONRESIDENT STUDENTS

Another point is cleared up in the bill which has given some trouble in the past. Where a child is under sixteen years of age and is qualified to attend a high school, the district in which he lives will be required to pay the fees for his attendance at a high school that is located within reach in another district, should one not exist in his own district, provided the fees are not greater than \$5 a month. If the report of the principal of the high school is that the pupil is not applying himself, the obligation on the board to pay his fees shall cease.

Provision is made for the granting by the Council of Public Instruction in writing of permission in cases of necessity whereby a trustee may not become disqualified because he has furnished some material to the board, the supplies not to exceed \$25 in a year.

This is made to overcome the instances where the trustees may be the only persons that are able to furnish supplies without great inconvenience being caused in outlying places.

The standard upon which trustees shall proceed in the supplying of accommodation for pupils is altered somewhat, the standard being downward as far as numbers in the rooms is concerned.

The bill will be one of the most carefully considered ones at the present session, it is anticipated. It has, like other debatable bills of the Government this session, reached the House early, so that a full discussion can be afforded.

IRRIGATE REQUIRE

Dr. C. M. Kingst
to Farmers Pa
for Water

The province was a wholesale revenue land in the Grand constituency if relief was not given the fruitgrowers C. M. Kingst, riding, warned that yesterday afternoon the address in R.

He told the as pensive irrigation installed in the of \$225,000. The an acre, which s of thirty years charge per acre fund and interest this \$5 an acre v erating expenses

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Mr. W. R. B Burnaby, in h health insuran piction of an medical profess this solution o lem with favo that he wishe

pression. He sion was ap the needs of and the advi tion, that th would be fo such legislatio edly be a soc erable merit suffering mun

IRRIGATED AREA REQUIRES RELIEF

Dr. C. M. Kingston Appeals for Aid to Farmers Paying Too Highly for Water in Interior

The province was threatened with a wholesale reversion of irrigated land in the Grand Forks-Greenwood constituency if radical and drastic relief was not given immediately to the fruitgrowers of that district. Dr. C. M. Kingston, member for that riding, warned the Legislature yesterday afternoon, when speaking on the Address in Reply.

He told the assembly that an expensive irrigation system had been installed in the district at a cost of \$225,000. The cost had been \$90 an acre, which spread over a period of thirty years made the annual charge per acre toward the sinking fund and interest \$9. In addition to this \$5 an acre was charged for operating expenses.

The installation had been a mistake in the beginning. An experimental plant should have been installed, and when its success had been proven a series of other irrigations plants should have been installed as the demand arose for them.

The people of the district expected relief, Dr. Kingston stated. They felt that while they were responsible in some degree for having the irrigation system, inasmuch as they had made an appeal for one, at the same time they believed the Government should bear the major responsibility, inasmuch as it had made the mistake of placing so large and impracticable a system in that district.

So heavy was the burden upon the farmer in the Grand Forks-Greenwood district that they could hardly make ends meet. "They are simply hanging on by the teeth. If some radical, drastic relief is not given them immediately the bulk of this land will revert to the Crown. It must be remembered that 950 acres of this territory has already reverted to the Crown."

The speaker said that there were other problems facing the farmers there. Freight rates on apples to Prairie points were from 100 per cent to 150 per cent greater than the amount received by the farmer for his apples. He felt that this was a field of activity in which the Government could quite easily engage itself. There was no reason why the Government should not try to obtain substantial reduction from the railways on these freight rates.

Interlocked with this was the problem of marketing. It already appeared that the Board of Control system had not proven the success that it was first expected to be. Some means should be provided whereby there could be an affiliation between the fruitgrowers of this province with the Grain Growers' Co-operative Market Association and other such associations on the Prairies. Herein lay one solution to the marketing question, the speaker believed.

He asked the Minister of Mines for his assistance in the developing of the mining resources of Grand Forks.

Mr. W. R. Rutledge, member for Burnaby, in his speech on state health insurance, had given a suspicion of an allegation that the medical profession did not look upon this solution of the hospital problem with favor. Dr. Kingston said that he wished to correct this im-

pression. He felt that if a commission was appointed to investigate the needs of state health insurance and the advisability of its application, that the medical profession would be foremost in advocating such legislation that would undoubtedly be a social reform of a considerable merit and an aid to long-suffering municipalities and citizens.

Island Coal Production Declines 62,000 Tons on Figures of Previous Year

Coal production in British Columbia during the year 1928 aggregated 2,515,100 long tons, compared with 2,453,827 long tons in 1927, an increase of 61,373 tons, according to figures compiled by the Department of Mines and issued by Hon. W. A. McKenzie, Minister of Mines. The East Kootenay District, in which are located the collieries of the Crow's Nest Pass Coal Company and the Corbin Coal Company, Limited, were responsible for the increased output, while Vancouver Island collieries showed a falling off of 61,997 tons.

Details of production in the various districts of the Island are given below.

	1926	1927	1928
Canadian Collieries (Dunsmuir), Ltd.--			
Comox Colliery	270,788	233,894	264,751
Extension Colliery	175,811	207,837	165,546
South Wellington, No. 5 Mine	47,434	73,762	62,488
Wellington-Extension, No. 8 Mine			26,475
Wellington-Extension, No. 9 Mine			11,622
Total	494,033	521,136	530,882
Western Fuel Corporation, Ltd.--			
No. 1 Mine	323,533	347,283	320,581
Reserve Mine	180,591	176,576	150,308
Wakesiah Mine	40,197	47,119	70,879
Total	544,321	570,978	541,768
Other Island Collieries--			
East Wellington Coal Co.	43,474	47,454	3,757
Granby Consolidated M. S. Co.	167,268	190,653	188,799
King & Foster Coal Co.	16,602	546	
Nanosee Wellington Colliery	27,459		
Diamond Jubilee Mine		282	214
Fiddick's Mine		276	1,752
Little Ash Mine			1,716
Round Island Mine			138
Richardson's Mine			202
Total	254,821	239,211	196,678
Total for Vancouver Island	1,293,175	1,331,325	1,269,328

BY-ELECTIONS TO BE REDUCED

**AMENDMENT TO ACT WILL
CLEAR STATUS OF EXTRA
INDEMNITY TO SPEAKER**

**No Interference With Position of
Opposition Leader Being Spe-
cially Indemnified**

A number of Government bills were before the House yesterday afternoon on their second readings. These included the amendment to the Constitution Act, which proposes to wipe out the obligation of ministers on being called to take office having to go back to their constituents for re-election.

Attorney-General Pooley recalled in this connection that the practice of going back for re-election dated back as far as the time of Queen Anne. It had been used for the purpose of protecting the people against autocratic action on the part of the Crown. That time had long since passed, and in Britain and in various parts of the Empire, including a number of the Canadian provinces, the practice had disappeared.

He recalled that the late Government, because of the fear of opening the seat in Vancouver, had refrained from giving that city representation in the Cabinet. This had created an injustice under which the people of that city labored for a long time.

In reply to a remark from the Leader of the Opposition, Mr. Pooley said that the Government of the day was not afraid to open any seat in the province, even those occupied by the Liberal members of the House.

He went on further to allude to the amendment which clarified the position of the Speaker with regard to drawing a special indemnity. This was not provided for in a valid way, and yet Speakers had been drawing down the allowance.

Mr. Pattullo asked what was going to become of the Leader of the Opposition.

Mr. Pooley said that a special dispensation had been provided for his receiving special indemnity.

Evidently, he said, there had been among the members occupying the Opposition leader's chair those who were awake to their own interests, but the same could not be said of the Government members. The bill would right the position as far as the Speaker was concerned.

The Attorney-General offered the former Attorney-General, Mr. A. M. Manson, his memorandum regarding the matter, which was acknowledged with thanks.

The debate was adjourned by Mr. Pattullo.

DEBATE TO BE CLOSED SOON

**GOVERNMENT IS ANXIOUS TO
GET ON WITH BUSINESS
OF HOUSE**

**Orders-in-Council Motion Stands
Over Until Return of Premier
Tolmie**

After the debate on the Address in Reply had been adjourned yesterday afternoon, on motion of Hon. R. W. Bruhn, Hon. R. H. Pooley, Attorney-General and Acting Leader of the Government, again called the attention of the Opposition to the fact that the debate was closing early the following week. If the members of the Opposition were intending to speak there was danger that they would be deprived of the chance if they continued to put off.

Mr. Pooley said he wished to give them fair warning, and if they were left without the opportunity of speaking at the end they could only blame themselves for it.

Mr. T. D. Pattullo, Leader of the Opposition, pointed out that numerically the Opposition had not the ability to alternate with the Government side. He pointed out that the members of the Government, with the exception of the Minister of Finance, who spoke on

Continued on Page 2, Column 6

the amendment, had abstained from speaking.

Later a little passage occurred when Mr. Pattullo asked to let the resolution calling for the making of orders-in-council public property stand over for the meantime.

He said that he would like to see it stand until the Premier returned to the House, which he understood would be the case in a few days. Mr. Pooley said that the Premier was well advised in the matter of the resolution and knew all the facts. There would be no particular advantage in having the matter stand over. The Leader of the Opposition could go ahead with it at any time.

Mr. Pattullo rather heatedly said that the Opposition had some rights in the House. He wished, he said, only the courtesy of allowing this to stand over. While he did not for a moment expect that the Premier would go against the wishes of the ministers with whom he had taken this up, he thought the Premier would like to hear the reasons advanced.

Mr. Pooley expressed his agreement with the standing over of the matter. He deprecated the remarks of the Leader of the Opposition suggesting that there was an attempt to be unfair. The Government side could recall the way in which the club was exercised over their heads when the Opposition was in power, and there could be no complaint if this were returned.

COMOX COUNTY ACT REPEALED BY AMENDMENT

**Alteration of Apiaries Act
Is Designed to Secure
Compulsory Registration**

**MINOR CHANGES
IN OTHER BILLS**

Although a plea to let the County Definitions Act remain unchanged, the amending bill passed second reading in the House yesterday. This act was amended last session to separate the county of Comox from Nanaimo and set up a distinct judicial area. Such amendment would have become law by proclamation, but it has hitherto been inoperative.

Mr. A. M. Manson asked to spare the provisions which he had inserted in the act last session because under the rule of the present Government the development might be so great in the province that the division might become necessary.

Hon. J. Hinchliffe, Minister of Education, met this with the statement that there might have to be two additional counties created.

This was met with the exclamation from Mr. Manson: "You go to the head of the class."

Mr. Pooley, in moving the second reading, pointed out that the Government, after passing the necessary amendment to create the new county had not called it into action. He therefore felt it should be eliminated.

Mr. Manson said it was a harmless act as it stood and pleaded for leaving it.

TO PROVIDE ASSESSMENT

Hon. F. P. Burden, Minister of Lands, in moving the second reading of the bill to amend the University Endowment Lands Administration Act, explained that the bill was one that was necessary in connection with the assessing of the land for taxation purposes.

The bill passed its second reading without objection.

Hon. W. Atkinson, Minister of Agriculture, in moving the second reading of the Agricultural Act amendment, said that it made provision whereby when spraying of an orchard was necessary it would be possible to give notice, not necessarily in writing, but it might be given by telephoning or telegraphing.

The adjournment of the debate was moved by Dr. H. C. Wrinch.

The bill to amend the Contagious Diseases (Animal) Act came up for second reading, on motion of Mr. Atkinson. This, he explained, was for the purpose of removing some overlapping in the act in relation to the Milk Act.

Dr. Wrinch moved the adjournment of the debate.

The bill to amend the Apairies Act on the motion for the second reading, was explained by Mr. Atkinson to be for the purpose of having all apairies registered. This would be done without cost, but keeping in touch with the keepers of bees and so avoiding danger from foul brood.

Dr. Wrinch adjourned the debate.

DEPARTMENTAL CHARGES

Replying to questions asked of the Minister of Mines by Dr. Wrinch as to the removal of Mr. William Grant as deputy mining recorder at Hazelton and the appointment of Mr. G. A. Wyman to the post, and also with regard to the appointment of Mr. W. Saunders at New Hazelton, the following reply was given by Hon. W. A. McKenzie:

The appointment of William Grant as submining recorder was cancelled on the recommendation of the Mining Recorder; G. A. Wyman, provincial constable, who held the position of submining recorder prior to said Grant's appointment, was reappointed submining recorder; said Wyman, being transferred to the Victoria detachment, his successor, Corporal C. G. Barber, was appointed submining recorder; and Corporal Barber also being transferred, W. J. Saunders was appointed to succeed him as submining recorder. No information was forthcoming as to whether Mr. Saunders had been sergeant-at-arms under the McBridge Government.

In reply to Mr. G. S. Pearson, the Minister of Mines gave the information that an agreement had been made between the Department of Industries and the Pacific (Coyle) Navigation Company to carry out experiments with one of their tugs to prove the efficiency and economy of pulverized coal as a fuel, and that the experiment has not yet been completed.

BRIDGE SOUGHT ACROSS RIVER

MR. J. R. MICHELL ASKS FOR SPAN OVER NORTH THOMPSON RIVER

Relief From School Costs Is Stressed as Urgent—Hospital Needs Financial Help

Overcrowding of schools, and the burden placed upon the municipal ratepayers thereby; assistance in the financing of the hospital; and the urgent necessity of a bridge across the North Thompson River to eliminate the loss of life, several instances of which were noted within the past year, were among the matters emphasized by Mr. J. R. Michell, member for Kamloops, speaking on the Address in Reply in the Legislature yesterday afternoon.

He urged upon the Department of Education the necessity of considering relief with respect to school costs, and asked the Minister of Public Works to give attention to the needs of the bridge. The hospital at Kamloops was well managed, but difficulty was being experienced in the financing of its operations. The speaker said he would like to draw the attention of the Provincial Secretary to this need.

In the course of his speech Mr. Michell said:

"We have, on the north side of the river, North Kamloops, and adjoining are the B.C. Fruit Lands Co., Ltd., properties. It has large tracts of the very best of agricultural lands under its own irrigation system, and produces good crops of vegetables and fruits of all kinds. Referring to the North Thompson Valley, this valley is well populated with families for about 100 miles or more from the city of Kamloops, and the land is very productive. The settlers on the North Thompson River are very much in need of

bridges to give them access to the Canadian National Railway that follows the North Thompson River. At the present time many of them have to cross by the ferries at different points, which is very inconvenient to the settlers and very dangerous, especially in the Fall of the year and early Spring when ice is going down the river. There have been several lives lost in crossing.

"I also call your attention to the necessity of constructing a public highway from Kamloops up the North Thompson River, to connect us with the Alberta line. I may say that this valley has settlers, as I have pointed out, for over 100 miles, and this road would be a valuable asset to this district."

Mr. Michell alluded to the mining, agricultural and stock industries in the district.

POLICY TO AID INDUSTRY URGED

Mr. J. W. Cornett Stresses Burden of Education on Taxpayers of Province

Covering fully the need of relief in the cost of education borne by municipalities throughout the province, Mr. J. W. Cornett, member for South Vancouver, in his speech on the Address in Reply at yesterday afternoon's session, urged upon the Government the necessity of thoroughly investigating the financing of the province's educational system with a view to giving as much relief as possible. He felt that the cost of education was an expense that should not be borne by municipal ratepayers, but by the people of the province as a whole. The speaker also urged the necessity of increasing the industries and payrolls of the province with the view of giving relief to the labor situation.

He congratulated the members from Vancouver on the successful culmination of the bonding together of the contiguous territory of that city into a Greater Vancouver and complimented Mr. Ian MacKenzie on the manner in which he had brought about the necessary legislation at the last session permitting the consolidation of the various municipalities into one large city.

"Coming, as it were, fresh from the field of municipal administration, and having first hand knowledge of the burden of education upon organized municipalities in general, and having in mind the struggle of the Municipality of South Vancouver in particular, I feel that it is my first duty in this legislature to plead the cause of the municipalities burdened with the ever-growing cost of the education of their children."

LOYAL TO WRONG PRINCIPLE

He pointed out that in the case of South Vancouver, more than half the revenue derived from Taxation had to be used for educational purposes.

"That struggle was one that I shall never forget. It is obvious that many other municipalities are approaching the condition that was successfully weathered by South Vancouver, who stood by their elected representatives through thick and thin and paid taxes when many of them could not afford to pay one half of what they were called upon to pay.

"I contend that this splendid loyalty displayed by these people was expended in support of a wrong principle. Young men and young women are assets of the Province of British Columbia, and not necessarily of the municipality in which they are born and educated; and therefore it is the duty of this province and not the municipality, to bear the cost of their education.

The acceptance of this principle by this Legislature would be only common justice and the broadening of the basis of taxation for education under this principle would be in entire accord with the previous advertisements engaged by the administration at a cost of more than \$60,000."

The speaker went on to give the mill rate of various municipalities throughout the province. He instanced municipalities widely apart, and in each case it was shown that 50 per cent and more of the mill rate was for school costs.

INDUSTRIAL PROBLEM

Dealing with the industrial question, Mr. Cornett said that development of industries was vitally bound up with the problem of settlement of lands and the completion of the Pacific Great Eastern Railway. It was only through the development of the province's industries and the settlement of its lands that the problem of the Pacific Great Eastern Railway would be permanently solved, "and solved only by the completion of the railway by the people of this province, thus giving access to the invaluable ore deposits adjacent to this line and a destination for the ore created within the province."

The speaker said if the province was ever to reach prosperity, it would have to be through the manufacture of its raw materials and development of its natural resources by local plants. Some plan should be evolved, he said, to encourage plants, factories and mills in British Columbia, "and not in Tacoma or other foreign communities that have been manufacturing our raw products.

RELIEF GIVEN

The speaker pointed out that during the past fifteen years the population of this province had been at a standstill. It had even been necessary for Vancouver last year to provide \$227,000 in relief work.

"It would be infinitely cheaper, and much better business, to help the people we already have here by promoting an industrial development within the province; by helping in a large way the establishment of iron and steel plants and other industrial enterprises of a fundamental nature, than to encourage strangers into our midst. Let us leave behind us, when we pass from this House, the reputation of being men who did what the electors of this province sent us here to do," he concluded.

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INDUSTRIAL LOANS WILL BE CALLED IN

Public Accounts Committee Shows Disposition to Favor Winding Up Policy of Advances to New Firms

"NO POLITICS" IN COMMITTEE WORK

"The opposition will get every chance before this committee this year," said Mr. George A. Walkem, chairman of the Public Accounts Committee of the Legislature yesterday, before the committee rose.

Mr. Walkem went on to say that there would not be a repetition of what had occurred, he believed, in other years. He pointed out that he was endeavoring to follow the practice of the British Parliament in this regard where he understood that the Public Accounts committee was regarded as a non-partizan body, and where he believed the chairman was a member of the Opposition.

The committee almost finished the testimony of Col. Don Martyn, the industrial commissioner, before the committee rose. All the various concerns which had loans from the Government were gone into, and the standing sought to be ascertained. Col. Martyn was as optimistic as ever with regard to them.

The chairman said that he felt that the committee should this year make some recommendations from time to time.

This met with a general acquiescence, and Mr. Walkem intimated that on this industrial matter there should be a recommendation of some kind in due course.

FEAR OF DISCONTINUANCE

During the proceedings Mr. T. H. Kirk, secretary of the committee, said that he had had word from Vancouver that showed that some of the concerns were alarmed by reports that the government might be going to close down on them.

Mr. Walkem said that he felt that this was all right. What was wanted was that some of these firms, such as the one mentioned, should get the regular financiers to handle their loans instead of the Government. This was the idea at which they aimed.

When the financial statement was submitted on the situation with regard to the Industrial Department some questions arose regarding the classification, and the methods of arriving at the conclusions reached. It was therefore decided to summon for today the accountant who had prepared the figures to testify, and to give information as to how these figures were arrived at.

The report showed that under loans made, there had been in the line of principal \$1,573,884.86. Of this amount there had been repaid \$587,319.71, written off \$100,000, and a balance still due of \$883,565.15.

Under the heading of interest it was shown that there had been earned \$404,218.23. Of this amount there had been repaid \$281,909.60, written off \$43,717.21, leaving a balance due under this head of \$79,591.42.

The balance sheet showed the following as assets: cash in treasury \$70,843.20; balance of principal due \$886,565.15; balance of interest due \$79,591.42. The liabilities were made up as follows: advances \$665,000; interest \$371,999.78, making up a total of \$1,036,999.78 against the same amount under assets.

SAN JUAN BOX FACTORY

Among the enterprises that were gone into during the sitting was that of the San Juan box factory which had been taken over by Mr. J. I. Mutter, of Duncan, for \$9,000 on his personal covenant.

The Pacific Bolt and Nut Company in Vancouver was a concern which Mr. Walkem said was doing well, and was in a position to obtain its financing in other than by the aid of the Government.

Mr. A. M. Manson pointed out that the security was good, and the concern was making money.

ALLEGES COMPETITION

Mr. Walkem said that that was not the question. This was unfair competition for others who were in the same line of business. The Vancouver Engineering Company was financed from the Old Country and they were wanting to get more capital from England. They were met, however, with the argument that the Government of the Province was lending money to compete against such a private concern. This was making against the interests of the Province, he felt.

Col. Martyn said that no money had been advanced to this concern since 1925.

SIDNEY ISLAND PLANT

The Peerless Brick business on Sidney Island was brought up, and the situation examined. Col. Martyn said that there were a number of people interested in the matter, and there was the prospect that something might be done to get started.

Mr. Manson said there was a good plant there, and with the revival in building it was quite possible that something might come of it.

Mr. Walkem pointed out there was considerable opposition in this line of brickmaking.

Col. Martyn pointed out that there was excellent clay and a good plant. He had got some parties interested on the matter at one time, but a little trouble had arisen and the chance went over.

The mill at Sayward was under review, and a general opinion expressed that if it were possible to get hands on anything in this connection it should be done.

REDUCTION PLANT

When the affairs of the Star Construction Company came up wherein the Bible Students' reduction plant at Alberni was called into question Col. Martyn explained that the Government had this on its hands. The plant had represented the amalgamation of three small concerns. The trouble was that the fish offal that was used was not steadily procurable. He had hopes now of getting it taken over by the cold storage

concern being erected in the city of Victoria.

In connection with the J. B. Tracy company which made motor plates and other sheet metal manufactures it was pointed out by Mr. Manson that if the company was to get the renewal of the motor plates from the Government it was necessary to place the order early in the present year for next season. This was necessary if the firm were to be in a position to tender in competition with eastern firms, as it required some time to get the material from the Old Country by water.

The Vivian Gas Company was represented as a good proposition, but Mr. Walkem pointed out that in this case the Government had set up the Marpole concern in opposition to it. It was a case of setting up a concern to compete with one of the Government's own established ones.

COMPETITION IN COAL

When the Welsh Anthracite Company was brought up Mr. George Pearson, of Nanaimo objected to the Government aiding a concern to import coal against the local product of the province.

This was explained by Mr. Ian Mackenzie, and by the chairman with the statement that the company handled all kinds of coal including Nanaimo. The importation of Welsh coal had been found a failure and would not be again attempted.

At the same time the chairman pointed out that this was a case of the Government helping a coal dealing concern against private investments.

The Eastern Abrasive Paper Company was explained to have been started in Victoria, but it did not prove to be a success owing to the fact that there was not the demand for the supply that could be made. The article manufactured was excellent but it could not be kept going. Col. Martyn said that he had tried to interest other concerns in it, in order to make the paper as a side line in connection with other manufactures.

The Western Textile Company had now \$45,000 of Government money borrowed. It had recently been sold. Col. Martyn said that

it had had orders for the making of blankets for the Government jails.

Mr. Manson thought this was likely "a baby" worth nursing for a while. The Government, he thought, could help out in the purchasing of the jail blankets to good purpose.

SHOULD BE WOUND UP

In the opinion of the chairman of the committee, the time has arrived for the winding up of this department. The concerns that are self-supporting and meeting their liabilities should be transferred to the ordinary methods of financing, and the others should be handled in the best way possible so as to get them disposed of at the earliest occasion. If his counsels prevail the committee will recommend such a course to the Government.

Who's Who in Making Laws Across James Bay



MR. E. C. CARSON

If the member for Lillooet, Mr. E. C. Carson, does not know his constituency, it is not because he has not lived long enough in it to become acquainted with the varied interests that are represented there. He is a native son of the district, living on the farm on which he was born, at Pavilion.

In 1864 land was taken up at that commanding point, overlooking a broad expanse of country, by the father of the present member for the district. This area was added to from time to time until, at the present time, there is included in the farm of Mr. Carson some 6,000 acres. This farm is operated since the death of Mr. Carson, Sr., by the member for Lillooet and his brother.

In the operation of the farm there is under cultivation about 2,000 acres. One-half of it is devoted to dry farming, while the other half has been brought under water, and is thoroughly ditched for the purpose. The remainder of the vast estate is used by Carson Bros. as range land for the pasturing of the stock.

The above venture into the political field was made by Mr. Carson in 1920, when he entered the lists as an independent for the Lillooet district. In that election he was unsuccessful, but at the late election he succeeded in winning the seat as a Conservative candidate against the former member, Mr. E. A. Munn.

The coming of the P.G.E. brought changes in the territory served by that line of railway. The member for the riding was quick to appreciate the alterations in connection with the conditions that would follow such a move, and he adapted himself to the change.

Now, each train on that line that passes Pavilion on the way south, takes a large shipment of meats from the farm of Carson Bros. They have gone into the meat business as an accessory to that of farming, and the orders from all the points along the line from Squamish to

Pavilion are received on the north-bound train. When the following day the southbound arrives, the orders have been filled, and are placed in the car ready for delivery along the line.

The situation is made specially inviting along this line in view of the fact that the Carson farm is located just about at the southern end of the farming area, which takes in Northern Lillooet and Cariboo.

This end of the business is a lucrative one and represents a turnover of something like \$6,000 a year. The stock that is used in the supplying of the market is not confined to that raised on their own farm, but purchases of stock are made from others in the vicinity to fill the orders.

Mr. Carson took early opportunity in the House to present the claims

of Lillooet to consideration on the part of the Government and the Legislature, and the presentation of the cause of his riding was shown to be in good hands.

Mr. Carson is one of the very considerable group of new members of the House who promise to make excellent representatives, not alone of their own ridings, but of the province as a whole.

GOVERNMENT SHOULD AID THE CAPITAL

Mr. Reginald Hayward Says Legislature Ought to Make Good Taxation Losses Owning to Exemption

NEW COURT HOUSE URGENTLY NEEDED

That the city of Victoria was entitled to a grant from the Provincial Government in lieu of tax exemption along similar lines as that made by the Federal Government to the capital of Canada, was the contention of Mr. Reginald Hayward in his speech on the Address in Reply at yesterday afternoon's session of the Legislature.

The value of property owned by the Provincial Government in Victoria, the capital city, was \$3,000,000. It was only just, the city member stated, that Victoria should be indemnified for the many public services, such as police protection, fire protection, and many other services that Provincial Government buildings were given.

The securing of a grant in lieu of exemption of taxes is a matter that the City Council of Victoria has urged for some time. Each new building erected by the Provincial Government in Victoria adds to the

Continued on Page 2, Column 6

GOVERNMENT SHOULD AID THE CAPITAL

Continued from Page 1

city's total of tax-exempt property. Mr. Hayward also urged the necessity of a new Court House in Victoria. The present one was built in the eighties and was quite out of date. He compared Victoria's Court House with that of Prince Rupert, showing that the capital city was badly behind the times. There were valuable records stored in the Provincial Court House, and they were endangered because the vaults were taxed beyond capacity, and the building was not fire resisting.

Even the courtrooms were antiquated, and grand juries had condemned the building time and again, even so recently as the Fall of last year. Such a condition should not exist. The city should be provided with an up-to-date, fire-proof court house of such proportions as to meet the ever-increasing demand.

"The court house is nothing but a musty, mouldering, delapidated building, and everything else you can think of to describe its inadequacy. It is beyond my power or description to tell all its defects. It is not fit for a backwoods municipality," he declared amidst cries of "Hear, hear."

"If any member here will visit the building at closing time, he will find valuable documents lying around on the counters, because there is no other place to put them. Can you imagine such a condition existing in any other modern city? The place is nothing but a fire trap and the public's property, deeds, titles to land and many other important documents are in danger of destruction by fire for every twenty-four hours of the day."

MANY ISLAND SCHOOLS ARE FED BY SPOON

Hon. Joshua Hinchliffe Explains Object to Be Obtained by Amendments to Public Schools Act

MINIMUM OF THREE MILLS IS PROPOSED

Declaring that "there are great inequities in taxation for school purposes," Hon. Joshua Hinchliffe, Minister of Education, in speaking to the second reading of the bill to amend the Public Schools Act at yesterday's session of the Legislature, cited case after case in rural districts within the E. & N. Railway belt that were receiving their education at the cost of those outside the belt.

"They have been spoon fed so long they think they have vested rights to the provincial treasury. It is these wrongs that the act is trying to remove. These districts can maintain their education system at so low a cost only at the expense of those outside the railway belt," the minister stated.

Mr. Hinchliffe pointed out that districts which had a local assessment of \$150,000 and over received a grant toward the teachers' salaries, but that districts with a local assessment less than \$150,000, and sometimes it was only \$10,000 less, had their teachers' salaries paid from the provincial treasury. This iniquity in the sharing of school costs would be remedied by the setting of a rate of three mills on the dollar for education in all districts assessed locally for less than \$150,000.

490 ASSISTED SCHOOLS

In all there was a total of 490 assisted schools, exclusive of the E. & N. Railway belt. The assessed value of these districts was \$27,000,000 and the school rate on the total assessment was 3.7 mills, exclusive of school teachers' salaries. Two hundred school districts had no school rate, the minister pointed out. A total of 182 were assessed less than four mills and some were as low as half a mill. There was one district that had a local assessment of \$1,000,000 and yet did not pay the teachers' salaries. There were 417 school districts assessed at below \$100,000. The minister said it seemed to the Government that there was room for an evening up of taxation for school purposes.

In the E. & N. Railway belt up to 1901 the tax had been confined to half a cent an acre, but the act was amended so that all property outside the organized territory could be taxed for school purposes. All schools within the belt up to that time, with the exception of three or four, were provincial schools.

SITUATION ANALYZED

There were now sixty-two assisted schools in the railway belt. The property taxable for school purposes in 1923 was assessed at \$12,750,000. One school district alone was assessed at \$1,000,000; three at between \$500,000 and \$600,000; three at between \$400,000 and \$500,000; six at between \$300,000 and \$400,000; sixteen between \$200,000 and \$300,000, and eighteen between \$100,000 and \$200,000. The average school tax on these districts was 2.6 mills. This was an important point to consider when it was general in cities and in many districts to have a school rate of thirty mills and over. These districts in the railway belt contributed nothing beyond the average 2.6 mills. Many contributed nothing at all, he said.

RATE OF INTEREST IS DISCUSSED

Public Accounts Committee Makes Some Inquiries Regarding Finance Department

The question of the finances of the Industrial Department of the Province did not occupy much time of the Public Accounts Committee yesterday morning. The point had been raised the day before by Mr. Ian Mackenzie as to how the item in the statement of "interest earned—\$415,716.99" was explained.

Mr. J. Fisher, of the Department of Finance, was before the committee to explain, but Mr. Mackenzie was not present.

Some questions were asked with regard to the item and the way of arriving at it. In this regard the rate of interest which the Government paid for the money so used was enquired into a little. In this Mr. A. M. Manson took a part.

He got away from the direct subject under consideration, and his mind seemed to be going back to a statement made by Hon. W. C. Shelly in the House a few days ago, with respect to the present Government obtaining a larger overdraft from the bank than the former Government had, and at a lower rate of interest than when the new Government came into power.

Mr. Manson asked what rate was being paid, and Mr. Fisher said that it was a 5 per cent rate a year ago. As far as he knew it was the same now.

Mr. Manson said that the Minister of Finance had given four and three-quarters per cent as the present rate.

Mr. Fisher felt clear on the matter, but pointed out that there was a differentiation with respect to the funds alluded to.

Going back to the item of the interest earned in the statement of the industrial department, Mr. T. H. Kirk, secretary of the committee, said that this statement did not pretend to be a profit and loss account. It was simply a statement of the interest that had been collected from the loans.

It was agreed by the committee that this was a correct view, and that there was little or nothing to be learned from carrying the investigation with respect to the matter further.

The question was therefore dropped.

Before the committee rose, Mr. Manson made a statement before

the committee with regard to the priority of claims of the Workmen's Compensation Board.

The reason for this course was that the workmen under the operation of the act were grouped, each group having its own rate based on the accidents in that group over a term of years.

The theory was that the present year's insurance should pay the year's business. The Board was very prompt in collecting the dues for this reason.

Report on Audit Of Finances of Province Filed

On the opening of the Legislature yesterday, Mr. T. D. Pattullo, Leader of the Opposition, asked when the report of the audit which was authorized by the Government would be forthcoming. He said he had information that the report had been filed with the Government.

Hon. R. H. Pooley said that just as soon as the Government had had time to make an examination of it the report would be produced.

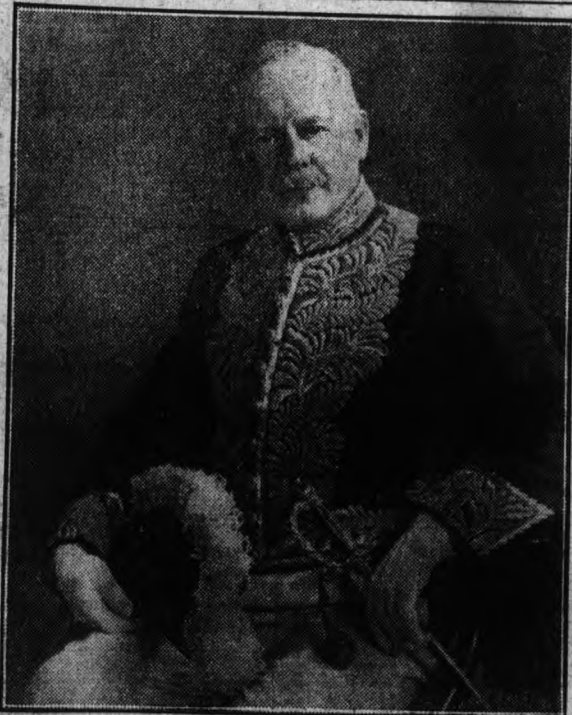
He congratulated the Leader of the Opposition upon the efficiency of his means of information.

J A N

1929

NEW LEGISLATURE OPENED TO-DAY

OPENS LEGISLATURE THIS AFTERNOON



HON. R. B. BRUCE, LIEUT.-GOVERNOR OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Speech From The Throne by His Honor the Lieut-Governor At Legislature's Opening

Definite proposals of the Toimie Government announced in the Speech from the Throne at the opening of the Legislature to-day include assistance to the establishment of an iron steel industry, extension of exemptions from succession duties and amendments to the Male Minimum Wage Act, the Game Act, the Companies Act, the Mineral Survey and Development Act and the School Act.

The speech, which indicates little else of the Government's plans, is as follows:

"Mr. Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly:

"In welcoming you to the first session of the Seventeenth Parliament of British Columbia, it is with pleasure that I note the improvement in the condition of His Majesty the King. Throughout his serious illness his loyal subjects in this Province have followed with deep anxiety the reports upon His Majesty's condition, and we are all rejoiced to learn of his steady progress toward recovery. This trying period has served to bring out in a most striking manner the affection with which His Majesty is regarded by his subjects, and our prayer is that he may yet be spared to us for many years.

"Since the Legislature last met, the Province has suffered a severe loss in the death of the former Lieutenant-Governor, the Hon. W. C. Nichol. He was a generous and public-spirited citizen, who represented the Crown with honor and distinction, and his passing is sincerely mourned.

"Within the past year the Province has received visits from the Foreign Secretary in His Majesty's Imperial Government, the Under-Secretary for the Dominions, the leader of the British Labor Party, and the British Empire Parliamentary Association. These visits are very gratifying and should do much to create a better understanding between the different parts of the Empire.

"It is with pleasure that I observe that business conditions in the Province are showing rapid improvement. There are indications that the aggregate output of our basic industries in the present year will surpass all previous records. The bank clearings and building statistics of our leading centres also reflect the general prosperity.

"In harmony with the general advancement of the Province, the City of Vancouver and the municipalities of South Vancouver and Point Grey have been amalgamated into a Greater Vancouver, which takes a proud place among the leading cities of the Dominion.

"My Government, represented by the Premier and the Minister of Public Works, in conference with the Dominion Government, has succeeded in making further progress towards the restoration to the Province of the Railway Belt lands and the Peace River Block. Further conferences are to be held with a view to the completion of the transfer.

"The future of the Pacific Great Eastern Railway is receiving the earnest attention of my Government. Information as to the resources of the railway-grant lands is being collected and a thorough survey of the location and assets of the railway is being made.

"My Government is seriously considering the question of land settlement, and for the purpose of expediting the settlement of reclaimed and Government-owned lands, has appointed a Commissioner of Immigration and Colonization, whose duty it will be to inaugurate plans for the disposal of lands to suitable settlers in the best interest of the Province. In accordance with a plan so inaugurated, a portion of the reclaimed lands at Sumas has already been placed on the market by the Diking Commissioner on terms that should encourage settlement and increase our agricultural production. Irrigation problems will be given careful consideration.

"Recognizing that the success of agriculture largely depends upon the profitable marketing of the products of the land, my Government contemplates the immediate organization of a marketing branch in connection with the Department of Agriculture. Its purpose will be to co-operate wherever possible with existing agencies for the better marketing of farm products with a view to perfecting as nearly as possible the facilities for trade in these commodities. For this purpose you will be asked to vote an appropriation.

"An audit of the accounts of the Province is being made by a reputable firm of auditors for the purpose of clarifying our financial position, and their interim report will be placed before you.

"In view of the growing importance of public utilities, the question of the advisability of providing some measure of stricter control is receiving the consideration of my Government.

"Provision will be made to meet the Province's immediate needs in connection with highway facilities in such manner as to encourage the greater development of our natural resources, agricultural production, industrial undertakings, and tourist travel with a view to interesting capital and settlers of the best type.

"Arrangements are now being entered into between Canada and the United States for a conference concerning the conservation of the salmon, and it is earnestly hoped that lasting benefits to the industry will result therefrom.

"My Government is diligently carrying out a thorough survey of the provisions of the Taxation Act to the end that the incidence of taxation may be modified.

"You will be asked to consider legislation intended:

(a) To extend exemptions under the "Succession Duties Act";

(b) To give assistance to the establishment of the iron and steel industry in this Province;

(c) To amend the "Male Minimum Wage Act," the "Game Act," the "Companies Act," the "Mineral Survey and Development Act," and the "Public Schools Act."

"The reports of the various departments of my Government will be laid before you.

"The Public Accounts and Estimates for the coming year will be submitted to you.

"I leave you in the hope that the first session of this new Parliament will, under the blessing of Providence, result in the enactment of such measures as will prove of benefit to all our people."

\$723,228 Deficit In Province This Year, Shelly Says

Public accounts of the Provincial Government for the last fiscal year ending March 31, 1920, presented to the Legislature to-day by Hon. W. C. Shelly, Minister of Finance, show a deficit of \$723,228, covering the last twelve months ending March 31 last.

The revenue for that year was \$21,136,348 and expenditures totaled \$21,859,577.

The public accounts presented to-day also contain a review of the deficits and surpluses recorded in the last eleven years.

The total deficits in eleven years totalled \$13,318,879. Revenues in that time totalled \$189,779,302 and expenditures \$203,098,181.

WHIPS NAMED THIS MORNING

W. F. Kennedy was appointed chief whip for the Government forces and J. W. Cornett was named as deputy whip at a meeting of the Conservative caucus this morning. Colonel Cy Peck, V.C., was chosen as chairman of the caucus.

Liberals have selected H. F. Kerrin as chief whip and A. Wells Gray as deputy whip.

Colorful Ceremony Marks Start of First Session Of Conservative Regime

Striking Pageantry Is Revived as Lieutenant-Governor Bruce Formally Starts Members on Labors; Large Crowds Fill Legislative Chamber for First Glimpse of Newly-elected Assembly

The Seventeenth Legislature of British Columbia was opened at the Parliament Buildings to-day by Lieutenant-Governor R. R. Bruce with traditional ceremony, and commenced the first legislative labors of the new Conservative regime.

Eager to see the House which they elected last July, British Columbia electors filled every corner of the Legislative chamber and crowded the steps of the Parliament Buildings when the Lieutenant-Governor started the session on its way.

His Honor, dressed in Windsor uniform, drove to the Buildings at 3 o'clock, attended by his secretary, A. M. D. Fairbairn and his aide-de-camp, Major W. H. Molson, and a personal guard of naval and military officers. He was met at the steps by a guard of honor from the Sixteenth Canadian Scottish Regiment in scarlet tunics, kilts and feather bonnets, in command of Major D. R. Sargent and Lieutenant R. G. Christy and accompanied by the pipe band of twenty-four and the brass band of thirty-five pieces.

GUNS BOOM

As the Lieutenant-Governor and his party alighted at the Buildings they were greeted with the booming of eighteen-pounder guns in a battery from the Fifty-eighth Field Battery drawn up in Parliament Square under command of Major T. B. Monk and Capt. B. Gadsden. The battery consisted of twenty men with four guns, which faced Belleville Street. They boomed out a salute of fifteen rounds to the gubernatorial party.

Bright sunshine, a cloudless sky overhead, the gay color of uniforms, the glint of bayonets and the skiff of the Highlanders' pipes made a striking pageant as the ceremonies opened.

SPEAKER CHOSEN

His Honor mounted the steps and proceeded immediately to the Legislative chamber, where the members and invited guests awaited him. While the officers of his guard stood at attention in the middle of the chamber, he ascended the Speaker's dais. He was then informed, according to the old custom, that the House had not yet chosen a Speaker, whereupon he signified that he would not reveal why he had called the assembly together until a Speaker had been appointed. To permit the members to make this choice he retired to his chambers.

During his absence J. W. Jones of South Okanagan was unanimously chosen Speaker, and, donning his black robes and three-cornered hat, went to inform the Lieutenant-Governor of his election. On His Honor's return Mr. Speaker informed him officially in the words prescribed for this purpose, that unworthy as he was he had been elected to preside over the House.

HEADS SPEECH

The Lieutenant-Governor then read his Speech from the Throne, which is published in another part of this issue. After concluding his speech he left the chamber again with his guard. The routine business of the House commenced immediately. This was brief, consisting of the presentation of a budget of routine reports from various departments and the introduction of the minor bill by which British parliamentaries signify that their business comes before the consideration of the Speech from the Throne.

After this formality, it was resolved to consider the speech at the next sitting, and the opening session adjourned until to-morrow afternoon, when W. F. Kennedy of North Okanagan will launch the first debate.

At the conclusion of the opening ceremonies the members and their wives went to the Empress Hotel to

(Continued on page 2)

attend a reception tendered to them by Premier Tolmie and Mrs. Tolmie.

LIVELY SESSION FORECAST

Extraordinary interest was evinced in the first session of the new Parliament, judging by the size of the crowds which viewed the opening. While opinions vary on the probable length of the session, there is unanimity among members in the opinion that before it finishes it will witness some lively passages.

The Government already has opened itself to successful attack in many directions and faced with an Opposition more experienced in public affairs than it can be itself, the new ministry will find all its acts subject to rigid scrutiny. Some of the points which are sure to come under review from the Opposition are the Government's sale of two loans totaling \$12,000,000 without calling public tenders; the dismissal of public employees in various districts for political purposes; the handling of mining reports by the Mines Department, and the Government's promise to prevent any increase in the public debt, while at the same time forcing the Treasury to carry a large part of the cost of the Sumas and South Okanagan reclamation schemes.

POLICIES A SECRET

On all the big issues before the House the Government so far has observed complete silence. Its policies on the future of the Pacific Great Eastern Railway, the handling of provincial finances, the creations of a public utilities commission, the fixing of timber royalties, the conduct of the liquor business, and the problem of land settlement, all are unknown so far. With all these questions due for discussion, the session opens interesting possibilities.

Besides these major issues the House will have to deal with a large group of smaller matters, including an unusually extensive budget of private bills. And in addition to these, the non-political question of agricultural marketing to which the members have devoted more time than to almost any other business in recent years, apparently must be threshed out again.

GOVERNOR'S GUARD

The officers who attended the Lieutenant-Governor to-day were as follows: From the navy, Commander Nelles, Commander L. W. Murray, Engineer-Commander Curry, Paymaster Lieutenant-Commander King, Lieutenant-Commander Wood, Lieutenant-Commander Taylor, Lieutenant-Commander Hedder, Lieutenant-Commander Greer, and Lieutenant Keckman; from Work Point Barracks, Col. A. E. Harris, Acting D.O.C.; Colonel Gillman, A.A. and Q.M.G.; Colonel G. R. Peakes, G.S.O. M.D. No. 11; Colonel Panet, Major Stuart, Major Gibson and Captain M. F. Macintosh; Fifth Brigade, C.G.A., Colonel J. C. Harris, Major P. T. Stern, Major M. E. Crockett, Captain E. R. Bowden, Lieutenant Burns, and Lieutenant Roy; from Sixteenth Canadian Scottish, Colonel D. B. Martyn, Major J. Hebdon Gillespie, Major Gordon Smith, Major Brooke Stevenson, Major J. B. Kingham, Major Walter Bapty and Captain J. Gray.

New Course Is Mapped by B.C. Liberal Party

Progressive Spirit Shown By Creation of Committee of Fifteen; Dr. King Speaks

With T. D. Pattullo unanimously chosen as House leader and the creation of a committee of fifteen members which will represent, by the concentration of energies on organization work, the progressive, constructive spirit of the Liberals of British Columbia, the party goes into the first session of the Seventeenth Legislature of the Province, opened here this afternoon.

The election of the committee and an address by Hon. J. H. King, Minister of National Health and Pensions, in addition to the election of Mr. Pattullo as House leader, were the chief features of the sessions in Vancouver yesterday of the executive of the British Columbia Liberal Association.

TRADE TREATY

Pointing out that Canada had derived more benefit from the Australian Trade Treaty than the Australians, Dr. King spoke also of the advantages of the equalized freight rates brought into force by the Liberals at Ottawa.

NEW COMMITTEE

The creation of the organization committee was a result of the belief among the members of the executive of the British Columbia Liberal Association that the present executive was an unwieldy body which was unable to meet sufficiently often for the best interests of the party. Besides the leader, the committee named, includes the following members of the provincial executive: W. T. Strath, C. H. O'Halloran, and Mrs. Stuart Henderson, Victoria; John Hart, Dugald Donaghy, K.C., J. W. de B. Farris, K.C., Mrs. Paul Smith, and Miss Anne Sutherland, Vancouver; D. Paterson, Delta; L. A. Hanna, M.P.P., Port Alberni; D. White-ridge, New Westminster; M. Gonzales, Prince Rupert; P. D. McKean and A. F. Fisher.

NEW GROUND BROKEN

The resolution, constituting a new departure in organization principles, was moved by J. W. de B. Farris, K.C., and read as follows: "That an organization committee, not to exceed a chairman and fourteen members, be elected by the provincial executive in session at Vancouver Jan-

uary 21, as hereinafter provided for. "That the organization committee be composed of (1) the leader of the Liberal Party in British Columbia, when chosen in convention, but provided that the elected House leader shall act till that time, and (2) a chairman and fourteen zone members.

"That the official organizer of the party be secretary of the organization committee and that the organizer be appointed by the committee.

METHOD OF ELECTION

"That the chairman be elected by the committee in consultation with Hon. J. H. King and Mr. Pattullo and that the zone members be elected by their own zone membership in the provincial executive.

"That the organization committee shall arrange for the collection and disposition of the party funds.

"That the organization committee shall maintain headquarters at such place as it shall decide and shall meet at frequent intervals.

WILL CO-OPERATE

"That it be charged with Federal as well as Provincial matters and take immediate steps to act in co-operation with Dominion headquarters, so that all organization work affecting the party, federally or provincially, shall as far as possible be co-ordinated.

"That the Provincial executive shall meet each year at the call of the chair and that a synopsis of the activities of the organization committee shall be submitted for endorsement.

"That the members of the organization committee, except the party leader, shall be elected for two-year terms and be eligible for re-election."

DR. KING'S ADDRESS

Addressing approximately eighty members of the executive gathered at a banquet last night, Hon. J. H. King urged unanimous support of the Liberal Party, Dominion and Provincial, and paid a tribute to the qualities of leadership of Premier King.

"Canada cannot be secondary to any unit within the Empire," said Dr. King. "We must indicate our position to the nations of the world.

"This Empire will be the great contributing factor in world politics."

PRESIDENT SPEAKS

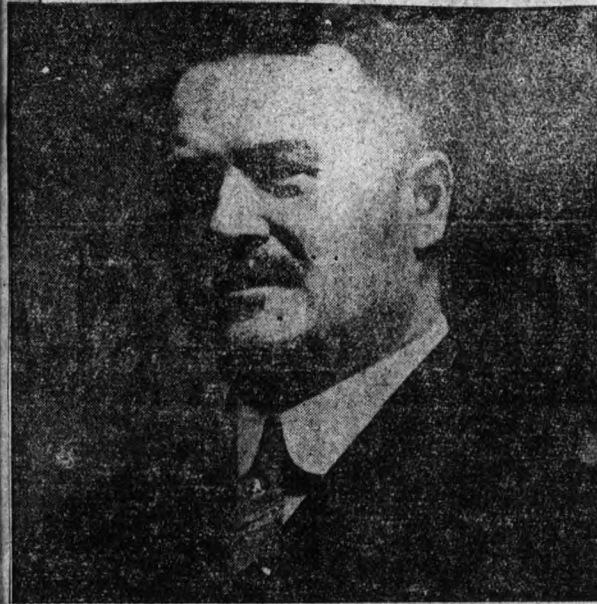
Mrs. Mary Ellen Smith, president of the British Columbia Liberal Association, who presided over the function, spoke briefly on tariff matters, and urged British Columbians to see that capitalistic organizations in the East did not dictate the trade policy of this province.

Mr. Pattullo, newly-appointed house leader, congratulated the executive officials on the harmony of the day's meeting.

The policy of the party at this session of the Legislature would be decided, Mr. Pattullo intimated, at a conference of the party members.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 22, 1929

MEMBERS OF SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT OF B.C.



HON. S. F. TOLMIE
Premier.



HON. S. L. HOWE
Provincial Secretary



HON. R. H. POOLEY, K.C.
Attorney-General



W. H. SUTHERLAND, M.D.
Revelstoke



J. H. BEATTY
Victoria City



HON. W. ATKINSON
Minister of Agriculture



HON. W. A. MCKENZIE
Minister of Mines and Minister of
Labor



H. D. TWIGG
Victoria City



COL. C. W. PECK
The Islands



W. F. KENNEDY
North Okanagan



HON. B. W. BRUHN
President of the Executive Council

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Members of Seventeenth Parliament of B.C.

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THOMAS H. KIRK
Vancouver City



G. A. WALKEM
Vancouver City



W. DICK
Vancouver City



J. W. BERRY

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J. R. MICHELL
Kamloops



F. M. MacPHERSON
Cranbrook



A. WELLESLEY GRAY
New Westminster



G. K. MacNAUGHTON, M.D.
Comox



H. C. WRINCH, M.D.
Skeena



T. UPHILL
Fernie



J. J. GILLIS, M.D.
Yale

E. C. CARSON
Lillooet



J. A. BOOKHAM
Columbia



HON. F. P. BURDEN
Minister of Lands



HON. W. C. SHELLY
Minister of Finance and Minister of
Industries



T. D. PATTULLO
Leader of the Opposition



HON. N. S. LOUGHEED
Minister of Public Works



HON. J. HINCHLIFFE
Minister of Education



I. A. MACKENZIE
North Vancouver



R. HAYWARD
Victoria City



MICHAEL MANSON
Mackenzie



C. F. DAVIE
Cowichan-Newcastle



H. F. KERGIN
Atlin



F. LISTER
Creston



J. W. JONES
South Okanagan



H. MACKENZIE
Cariboo



J. W. CORNETT
South Vancouver



NELSON SPENCER
Vancouver City

TUESDAY, JANUARY 22, 1929



L. E. BORDEN, M.D.
Nelson



A. M. MANSON
Omineca



J. H. SCHOFIELD
Rossland-Trail



C. M. KINGSTON, M.D.
Grand Forks-Greenwood



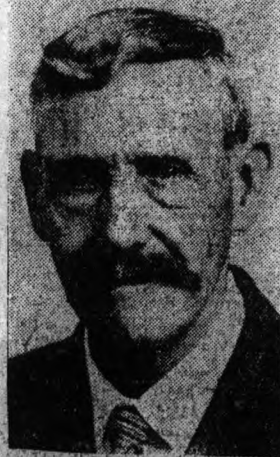
G. S. PEARSON
Nanaimo



L. A. HANNA
Alberni



HON. R. L. MAITLAND, K.C.
Minister Without Portfolio



W. E. RUTLEDGE
Burnaby

IS COMMISSIONER



JUDGE P. S. LAMPMAN
Inquiry into Saanich municipal affairs, opened this morning at the Court House.

COLD FORCES
PREMIER TO
REMAIN HOME

Premier Tolmie will be confined to his home for a day or two by a cold contracted yesterday at the opening of the Legislature, when he stood on the steps of the Parliament Buildings bareheaded to greet Lieutenant-Governor Bruce. It is expected Attorney-General Pooley will lead the House in his chief's absence.

Capt. Ian Mackenzie, Liberal of North Vancouver, is asking the Government in the Legislature for figures showing how many returned soldiers there were on the payroll of the Public Works and Lands Department and the Provincial Police on August 20, 1928, and how many have been dismissed since then.

would settle everything and Mr. O'Halloran reiterated: "The instructions given Mr. Patton and myself are that, if we are to go ahead in this tremendous investigation without assurance against vast expenses, we much throw up our hands, much to our regret."

The Commissioner asked: "Why not go ahead now with what you are interested in?" Mr. O'Halloran explained that he wanted to present evidence by an independent witness expert in taxation, provided his clients would be freed of the cost involved. He intimated the unnamed witness had appeared on behalf of many taxpayers' associations in other parts of Canada, and had thereby acquired wide familiarity with

such matters. "Whether he can be termed expert or not is another matter," he said.

Judge Lampman suggested adjournment to Friday instead of for a week, remarking that Summer would arrive before a conclusion if long adjournments were permitted.

LOST INDEFINITELY

H. H. Grist of Ward Seven was accorded permission to present evidence of over-assessment of farm land in the urban wards and G. H. Sedger spoke to similar points as counsel for W. Rowlands.

O'Halloran complained: "This is just a sample of what is bound to happen. This Commission will last indefinitely."

Adjournment until Friday at 11

o'clock, was then conceded by Commissioner Lampman.

Across the Bay

A new session, a new Parliament and a new chapter in provincial politics opened across James Bay yesterday. It opened with a pageantry which James Bay has not known since pre-war days, and with an air of public expectation which few British Columbia parliaments have ever excited. It opened with the boom of heavy guns, martial music and gay uniforms outside in Parliament Square and with what changes inside the Legislative Chamber!

Everything was different from what we have grown accustomed to since the long Liberal regime commenced back in 1916. The war was in its darkest hours then, there was no room for anything but the barest ceremonies and the old Government, starting under this shadow, continued in modest style to the end.

Yesterday all the pomp which British parliaments have accumulated since the Witegenmot of Saxon times was revived in miniature. There was a guard of blue-clad tars from Esquimalt, who nearly froze in the north wind, and another from the Canadian Scottish, whose kilts left their knees blue in the sharp cold. There was a gubernatorial guard of thirty officers in scarlet and gold braid and many medals. And as the Assembly waited for His Honor to appear in the great stone buildings seemed to rock from the booming salute of fifteen guns, which really boomed this time. (A similar salute has always been recorded officially at other openings but no one has ever heard it before).

The House itself was full of distinguished and undistinguished visitors, of new members and old members and, for those who have known it in other days, of memories.

What a topsy-turvy House it seemed after those twelve years, during which it hardly seemed to change at all! We have already passed one full session, of course, without the gray, heavy-set figure of John Oliver, which used to dominate the assembly from the moment it was called together, but it was hard to get used to the bodily departure, bag and baggage, of the whole Liberal Cabinet from the benches to the right of Mr. Speaker.

In the first seat of the front Treasury Row, where old Bill Sloan used to sit and smile like a sphinx at his friends, the Opposition, sat Mr. Hinchliffe in a post of high honor. Next to him was Mr. Pooley in the chair which used to harbor the restless form of Mr. Manson, and in the third chair was the new Premier, half hidden behind a bouquet of daffodils—the third Premier to hold that mighty place in two years and as it turned out, a stickler for the niceties of parliamentary life. This taste, no doubt, was acquired in the ceremonious atmosphere of Ottawa and is in strange contrast to the rural setting against which one usually pictures him. The new Premier, by the way, had his Cabinet well schooled and everything arranged so that it went off like a play well rehearsed beforehand, as, indeed, it probably was.

At the Premier's right was Mr. Manson as guardian of the Treasury, and behind him the remainder of a well-dressed Cabinet, immaculate in dress, away coats, spats, grey ties and an air of utter blamelessness.

Across the way everything was upside down as if the old House had played a game of general post. The Big Three of the Opposition, Mr. Pattullo, flanked on his right by Mr. Manson and on his left by Capt. Mackenzie, breathed for the first time the cold air of Opposition and for the first time gazed upon the left cheek of Mr. Speaker. Mr. Manson had Mr. Hinchliffe's old seat; Capt. Mackenzie had succeeded to the place of Mr. Jones with an evident desire to be up and at 'em; and Mr. Pattullo sat bolt upright, in the place where Mr. Pooley used to tilt backwards in easy elegance and where Mr. Bowser before him sat in gloomy state.

The new Opposition was surrounded by a sea of Conservatives who overflowed the benches to the right and took up almost half the other side as well. In this flood such stalwart Tories as Colonel Cy Peck, Colonel Fred Lister and old Mike Manson found themselves washed up high and dry on the Liberal sands, behind Mr. Pattullo's cohorts.

A wise precaution, however, distinguished those who were on the left of Mr. Speaker by conviction and those for lack of space elsewhere. Mr. Pooley, who prides himself on his garden, had prudently presented every Conservative with a yellow primrose, grown out of doors as an evidence of Victoria's climate and as the emblem of true-blue Conservatism, chosen originally by no less a personage than Disraeli himself. Every lapel on Mr. Speaker's right was so adorned, and the sprinkling of primroses on the left also clearly marked the vast gulf of political principle between their wearers and the unashamed, flowerless Liberals.

That was the strangely new background against which the Seventeenth Parliament of British Columbia sprang to resplendent life. Everything proceeded like clockwork. The Governor arrived, declined to say why until the Assembly had elected a Speaker and retired. The Assembly elected Mr. Jones, who had been sitting in a back seat with an air of detachment as if he had no expectation of any preferment whatever. Mr. Jones accepted with surprise and modesty and the Governor returned.

Mr. Jones, having by a lucky chance provided himself beforehand with black robes, a three-cornered hat and

a judicial collar, informed His Honor that he was quite unworthy of the Speakership but had taken it on anyway, and he hoped he would do his best and if anything went wrong would His Honor please blame Mr. Jones and not the Assembly, even if, as probable, it were the Assembly's fault?

His Honor read his Speech from the Throne and the Cabinet leaned forward in their seats with wrapt attention, as if they had not written, rewritten, erased and written again the entire address. The Conservative members appeared impressed. But the Opposition looked as if it would take a lot more than that to impress them for they had written many such in their time and said far more.

His Honor retired, his guard following with the clink of spurs and the rattle of swords. Mr. Speaker returned and took full charge. Mr. Jones assumed his well-earned dignity and South Okanagan came into its own. Mr. Speaker said he had obtained a printed copy of the Speech to avoid mistakes, which was not remarkable as newspaper correspondents, attendants and pages had secured copies by the dozen half an hour before.

Mr. McKenzie solemnly moved that if any honorable member had been elected improperly the House would proceed against him with utmost severity and the House agreed to this gruesome threat as it always does, seeing that it involves no work for anyone.

Mr. Shelly begged to file public accounts showing that the old Government had a cupboard full of deficits never before suspected. Other ministers begged to file other reports and the Premier was just about to close the day when the Opposition showed for the first time that things could not go on in this merry fashion for long. Mr. Pattullo arose in the middle of the Premier's sentence and the Cabinet looked up with pained surprise. When, asked Mr. Pattullo why, would the Honorable Finance Minister bring down the result of the special audit which is burrowing into the expenditures of the old Government, this being essential to the comfort of the Opposition and the good of the country?

The Honorable Finance Minister showed that he has already grasped the essentials of parliamentary life. He, too, arose and said he would file the desired audit, of course; he would file it as soon as—as soon as possible. And with that point cleared up so definitely, the House adjourned to the Empress Hotel to enjoy the hospitality of Premier and Mrs. Tolmie.

FARMERS
MAY QUIT
INQUIRY

Saanich Secessionists Want Inquiry Limited in Scope and Cost

Judge P. S. Lampman Orders Adjournment Until Friday After Argument To-day

When Judge P. S. Lampman, Commissioner inquiring into Saanich affairs, opened proceedings this morning at the Court House, C. H. O'Halloran stopped progress by asserting that 750 farmers, seeking disincorporation, would take no part in the inquiry unless guaranteed against expense for witnesses. He also asked assurances that the inquiry would first deal exclusively with matters relevant to the petition for secession. Other matters could be inquired into later when the farmers would not.

Adjournment was granted until Friday morning at 11 o'clock, when the Commissioner will give his ruling, and the view of the Government presented on the points of expense.

After His Honor had read his commission, H. J. Davis, appeared as commission counsel; A. J. Patton and C. H. O'Halloran, represented the petitioners for disincorporation, and E. L. Tait appeared for the municipal council.

SEES RESTRICTIONS
Suggestions as to procedure being invited by the Commissioner, Mr. O'Halloran asked adjournment for one week, on grounds that his clients wished leave to apply for restriction of the Commission, "insofar as we are concerned," to matters complained of in the petition for disincorporation which was presented to the Government by 750 farmers of northern Saanich.

He also requested that the expense of an independent expert witness, to be brought by his clients, should be considered an expense of the commission.

FIFTH STEP

"The 750 farmers of Saanich who have signed the disincorporation petition represent an assessment of over \$2,000,000. They have borne the full expense of lengthy proceedings preliminary to this hearing, including legislation. This is the fifth important step," Mr. O'Halloran pointed out.

"The nature of this commission may cause proceedings lasting three weeks. There are many matters included which are valuable in the general interest, and expert witnesses may be required upon many points." (Concluded on page 3)

THROW UP HANDS

"It will be preferable to clear up matters relevant to the petition, and later inquire into other matters, in which we will not appear.

"If the petitioners are forced to face the full burden of three weeks of proceedings here, and also provide expensive witnesses, I am instructed to advise you that my clients would have to throw up their hands.

"We have been to the Parliament Buildings this morning on the matter, and would ask an adjournment pending a ruling," said Mr. O'Halloran.

E. L. Tait stated that the municipality was prepared to proceed forthwith, and remarked, "My friend flinds himself on the horns of a dilemma, he has started something which he cannot finish."

Mr. O'Halloran warmly protested, "We can finish what we started, that was the plea for disincorporation."

FACTS IN TRUE LIGHT

Mr. Tait continued: "The municipality is interested to have the facts placed in a true light. That is the whole of our interest. It will be found that we are in full agreement on many points."

He suggested that the hearing proceed on such matters as area of the districts, inhabitants, expenditures enjoyed by each section and the tax contributions, and urged "all Saanich wants this matter settled quickly."

Mr. Tait pointed out that the basic question was "has one section of the community been persistently subjected to unfair charges?" and considered no restriction should be imposed upon the powers of the commissioner.

"Your hands should not be fettered in proposing any remedy for the general benefit of the community," he protested.

Mr. O'Halloran asked: "How do these matters affect the issue of disincorporation raised by us?"

WANT QUEST NARROWED

Commissioner Lampman asked Mr. O'Halloran: "Your point is, you do not want to take part in wider questions?" and was answered affirmatively.

Mr. Tait believed that a fair solution

CLEMENT PLANS TO PUT ALL PRODUCERS ON EQUAL BASIS

Report on Vancouver Milk Situation Tabled in Legislature Yesterday

Dean F. M. Clement's report on the Vancouver milk situation, tabled in the Legislature yesterday by Hon. William Atkinson, Minister of Agriculture, in brief, recommends the establishment of a committee of direction to control milk distribution and gradually to put all milk producers on a basis of equality.

Re-organization of milk routes, and competition among individual farmers are suggested. The general recognition of the Fraser Valley Milk Producers' Association as wholesale and retail distributors of milk and cream in Vancouver and adjacent municipalities is encouraged by the report.

An official summary of the Clement report explained it as follows: It suggests the creation of a committee of equalization to be called the Committee of Direction.

It is further suggested that an advisory committee to the Committee of Direction shall consist of representatives of the producers, distributors and consumers, any one of which shall have right of appeal direct to the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council from any ruling of the Committee of Direction.

The financing of this Committee of Direction would be a direct charge on the industry benefiting, by making a direct assessment per pound milk fat, such charge to be collected through the distributing companies.

WOULD BE LICENSED

This charge, however, is not intended to apply to the producer-vendors at the present time, but all such would be licensed at a stated rate per producing cow.

The general recognition of the Fraser Valley Milk Producers' Association as wholesale and retail distributors of milk and cream in Vancouver and adjacent municipalities is encouraged by the report. This suggestion is made in view of its efforts to maintain an increasing milk supply, and to the manufacture of its surplus into milk products with development of foreign markets for the manufactured articles.

The Fraser Valley Milk Producers' Association is recognized by the commission as the basis for comparison in matters of efficiency and inefficiency.

All distributors now in business are conceded by the commission the right to continue and enjoy the same privileges, providing they accept the responsibility equal to that assumed by the farmers represented by the Fraser Valley Milk Producers' Association.

PRICE TO CONSUMERS

Dealing with the question of price to the consumers, the commission suggests that independent distributors buying direct from the country operate on the same spread, estimated monthly, as that on which the Fraser Valley Milk Producers' Association operates. The price would be set according to fat content and milk solids, and would vary according to season. In this way it is proposed by the commission that at the end of three years the co-operative shippers would be brought up gradually to a point where all would be on an equal basis through the operations of the Committee of Direction.

Encouragement of amalgamation is advocated as a means of reducing hauling costs, by consolidating existing distributing dairies to two or three large companies and a number of producer-vendors.

Reorganization of milk routes is suggested with competition on a service basis at fixed prices.

OPEN TO ALL

The commission suggests that a proportionate share of the fluid milk market be open to all producers inside and outside the T.B.-free area, who can produce standard and quality milk and whose location will permit of delivery for sale in the fluid milk market.

Amendments to the Milk Act are suggested with a view to reducing the maximum bacterial count previous to pasteurization from 1,500,000 to 500,000 at end of third year after the regulations are brought into effect.

Competition among individual farmers is suggested in the report through placing of emphasis on quality production and uniform production, also by stressing lower production costs as a basis of costs.

The commission consisted of Dean F. M. Clement, B.S.A., M.A., of the Faculty of Agriculture, University of British Columbia, who acted as chairman; Dr. H. W. Hill, Director of Laboratories, University of British Columbia, and George E. Hancox, barrister-at-law, of Vancouver.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 23, 1929

THE SESSION

IT WAS NOT TO BE EXPECTED THAT the Speech from the Throne with which the Lieutenant-Governor opened the Legislature yesterday would foreshadow many departures from custom or policy. The new Government took office less than six months ago and this is its first session. The ministers have not had sufficient time to familiarize themselves with all the detail of their departments. It is true, of course, that the members of the Administration who were candidates a few months ago promised to do certain things for the people of British Columbia if the party to which they belonged were successful at the polls. But such reforms as they considered desirable naturally will take more time to develop than they appeared to think at that time. A few months from now we shall assume that Dr. Tolmie and his colleagues will be in a position to decide what their course will be in many directions.

If the Speech from the Throne is not notable for its wealth of legislative fare, however, it foreshadows discussions upon a number of matters of considerable importance to the province and upon which a good deal of information will be required. It was expected that the Government would deal with the succession duties. The electorate will recall that Dr. Tolmie promised either to abolish this tax altogether or make it as much less onerous as circumstances might permit. He proposes to extend the exemptions under the Act. We shall have to wait for an explanation of what is meant by assistance to the establishment of an iron and steel industry, although it is reported that this has to do with the big industry at Trail. It is proposed to amend the Male Minimum Wage Act, the Game Act, the Companies Act, and the Public Schools Act. Those familiar with the ways of the local Legislature will suggest that any consideration of amendments to these Acts might easily furnish material for many days of debate. In other words, it is not what appears in the Speech from the Throne which indicates the character of the session, but the controversies which arise over subjects introduced as the House progresses with its business.

We do not know the nature of the plans which the Government proposes to ask the House to approve in connection with its desire for more intensive settlement. Since a larger population, providing it is of the right kind, would mean lower taxation, the people of the province will wish the Administration well in its efforts in this direction. It is gratifying to note that the Speech foreshadows a proposal to establish a Public Utilities Board. This is a matter which demands careful and early consideration. And it is to be hoped the new Government will bear in mind the absolute necessity of finding men to serve on such a body who are thoroughly competent and far removed from any prospect of political interference.

The Speech says the "earnest attention" of the Ministry is being given to the future of the Pacific Great Eastern Railway. This is one of British Columbia's most pressing problems and we may expect the House will be asked to discuss it in conjunction with certain proposals which will assume more practical form when the railway lands and the Peace River block have been returned to the province. It would seem that the future of the line will be very closely related to the disposition of these areas. In the Government's advertisement of its latest loan we observe that "the provincial finances are in a satisfactory position," so it is to be expected that the successful policies of the MacLean Administration in this regard will be continued.

The new Government has entered upon its first session at the most auspicious period in the history of the province. The turn of the economic tide which began between four and five years ago has been marked by solid progress in practically every branch of provincial activity since then. Every city and town in British Columbia has been enjoying steady but sure expansion. To that expansion the policies of the Government which served the province for twelve years contributed in a very substantial measure. On that account the public generally will expect Dr. Tolmie and his colleagues to pursue a course which will in no way disturb these prosperous conditions— which constitute their legacy from their predecessors.

Smelter Plan, Utility Control Features of Government Programme

That the Tolmie Government plans to assist the Consolidated Mining and Smelting Company to establish a steel industry in connection with its Trail Smelter is the general belief among members of the Legislature, following the brief announcement in the Speech from the Throne yesterday that the House would be asked to consider legislation "to give assistance to the establishment of the iron and steel industry in this Province."

The legislation which will follow this announcement, it is expected, will provide for some form of bounty on steel to assist the Consolidated to go ahead with the steel-making plans which it has had under consideration for many years. The legislation will be introduced shortly and with it the Government will be expected to make some explanation of the precise scheme which it proposes to aid.

Significance is given to the announcement in the Speech by the fact that Premier Tolmie conferred with heads of the Canadian Pacific Railway, close associate of the Consolidated, in Montreal recently, and on his return, hinted that smelting and mining matters had been considered.

WATER BOARD PLAN

The next most important announcement in the Throne speech was that "in view of the growing importance of public utilities, the question of the advisability of providing some measure of stricter control is receiving the consideration of my Government."

When a Throne speech says that a government is "considering" any step it usually means that this step has been decided on definitely. The reference to public utility control is interpreted as meaning that the Government has decided to embark on the establishment of a public utilities commission. But this commission, it has been indicated, will be composed of the existing Provincial Water Board, which can be given full control of public utility operations by a simple amendment to the Water Act. This amendment would give it power to adjudicate on all electrical rates. At present it can only control rates on power generated and sold by the same company and cannot interfere with any of the operations of the B.C. Power Corporation, for instance, which sells its power through subsidiaries.

This amendment to the Water Act giving the Province machinery to be used in cases of dispute over power rates will be introduced shortly, it is expected.

WAGE ACT CHARGES

Another important forecast contained in the Throne speech related to the Male Minimum Wage Act. The Government plans to amend this act, the speech said, and that can only mean that the Ministry had decided to restore the statute to effectiveness, following court decisions which have made it inoperative. Only a simple amendment legalizing the wage orders issued by the board administering the law is required for this purpose.

The Government's apparent decision to sponsor such an amendment itself instead of leaving it to a private member is a reversal of the former Ministry's policy. In the past the Male Minimum Wage Act has been considered an entirely non-partisan measure for which the Government took no responsibility, and in fact, was introduced and amended originally by private members. The new Government evidently intends to assume full responsibility for it.

SUCCESSION DUTIES

The only taxation reductions definitely forecast in the Throne speech—such matters are always left to the Budget speech—are in succession duties. Conservatives in the Legislature have been urging for years that this Province should cut down its levies on estates and evidently they intend to put this view into effect but to what extent they have not indicated.

The Game Act amendments mentioned in the speech are intended to introduce the new system of game administration planned by Attorney-General Pooley and involving the entire removal of the Game Conservation Board.

B. C. Spending More For Beer Than Hard Liquor, Figures Show

Analysis of the figures contained in the report of the operations of the Liquor Control Board for the first six months of the present fiscal year, which ends March 31 next, presented to the Legislature by Attorney-General Pooley, shows that the people of British Columbia spend more money for beer than for hard liquors and wines. Beer is, in fact, the favorite intoxicating beverage.

The six months' report covers the period from April 1 to September 30. It discloses sales of liquors of all kinds through the Government stores of \$6,056,776. These are retail sales, direct to the public. Sales of beer to beer parlors, which is a wholesale trade on

the part of the Government, are set down for the six months at \$1,408,230.

GROSS PROFIT

As in retailing beer the license holder makes a gross profit, conservatively estimated on the average, and according to the size of glass in which it is served, at slightly better than 100 per cent, it is safe to say that the public paid \$3,000,000 in six months for its beer by the glass.

Examination of the sales figures in Government stores for previous years indicate that of the total volume, twenty-eight per cent was beer. Using this same proportion for the six months under review, it would mean that of the retail sales made by the Government amounting to \$6,056,776, no less a sum than \$1,695,897 was for beer,

leaving a balance of \$4,360,880 for hard liquors and wines.

This would mean that with the beer parlor sales of approximately \$3,000,000 and \$1,695,897 for sales made by the vendors, the British Columbia public paid no less a sum than \$4,695,897 for its beer in the six months period.

While in the report submitted by Mr. Pooley for the half of the present fiscal year detailed figures are not given, in other years wine sales for the corresponding period approximated \$600,000. Accepting the sales of wine at such a figure then, it leaves about \$3,780,000 paid by the people of British Columbia for hard liquor as against a total retail payment of \$4,695,897 for beer.

BIG LIQUOR BILL

This means, using round figures, that the people of British Columbia are spending more than \$18,300,000 annually for intoxicants. This huge sum may be divided; beer, \$9,400,000; hard liquors, \$7,500,000 and wines \$1,200,000. In other words, nearly \$2,000,000 more is spent for beer than for whisky, rum, brandy, gin, liqueurs and mixed beverages such as cocktails.

In federal taxes the Province has paid to the Dominion in the period under review the sum of \$3,311,161, which included \$2,621,470 in duty, \$376,966 in excise and \$312,724 in sales tax.

COMOX COUNTY IS WIPED OUT

The first act of the new Legislature, introduced yesterday by Attorney-General Pooley, will wipe out the judicial county of Comox, which was created by the former Government. As a result of the new legislation, Comox becomes again a part of Nanaimo. While the new county was officially formed, judicial machinery was not set up in it.

THURSDAY,

JANUARY 24, 1929

BILL CLEARS FERRY CAPTAIN

Held Ferry Subsidy Contract Before Election to House

Legislation Aims to Remove Doubt of Right to Seat in House

Two special bills were introduced into the Legislature on Wednesday as a result as to the legality of Captain James Fitzsimmons, member for Kaslo-Slocan, to occupy his seat in the Assembly by reason of the fact that prior to his election he held a ferry subsidy contract with the Government. The purpose of the measures is to remove all shadow of doubt as to his right to continue as a representative of his riding.

According to the preamble of Bill No. 4, "An act to indemnify and relieve Captain James Fitzsimmons respecting his election as a member of the Legislative Assembly" the captain held a charter or license issued "under the Great Seal of the Province for the operation of a ferry on the Arrow Lakes, but before accepting nomination he assigned his interest to the Beston Boat Company Limited.

After his election some doubt arose as to whether he could, under existing legislation, assign his charter. It is to make clear that he is entitled to do so, and to indemnify him against being unseated for that reason, that the bill is brought forward.

Coincident with this measure is an amendment to the Ferries Act, introduced by Hon. Nels S. Lougheed, Minister of Public Works, defining the right of a license holder to assign his charter or rights.

WHEN IS A MEMBER NOT A MEMBER?

THE BILL BEFORE THE LEGISLATURE validating the qualification of Captain James Fitzsimmons as a candidate for Kaslo-Slocan in the provincial election raises an interesting question. It is feared by the Government that on account of his connection with a ferry which had a contract with the Crown, the captain may have been disqualified as a candidate and the legislation which has been introduced in the House is intended to declare that he was qualified and relieved from any penalties for occupying his seat under disqualification.

If Captain Fitzsimmons was not qualified to be a candidate in the election, obviously he is not legally the member for Kaslo-Slocan. If his qualification had been successfully challenged in the courts, would his opponent have been elected or would another election have been necessary? We leave this to the lawyers.

If Captain Fitzsimmons was not qualified as a candidate and therefore is not a member of the House, how can he be made one except in the way prescribed by the constitution, that is, by the electors of his district? What force is there in a disqualification provision in the law if all that needs to be done when it is not observed, even though unintentionally, is to pass legislation afterwards qualifying the disqualified candidate? We might as well pass a formal bill every session declaring that every candidate who may have been disqualified for some reason or other was therewith duly qualified.

Some constitutional authorities hold the opinion that the Legislature has no power to put anybody in a seat in the House by this means. This is not to imply that Captain Fitzsimmons was not the innocent victim of technical circumstances, for he is deservedly popular in his district and probably would have been elected by acclamation in another election.

THE WEST COAST ROAD

THE SPEECH FROM THE THRONE contained no reference to the West Coast Road. In spite of this we shall hope that the Government will proceed with the work started by the late Administration last Summer without delay.

Premier Tolmie and Attorney-General Pooley are aware of the importance of the West Coast Road and its relation to Island development. It also may be assumed that they are convinced the project will turn out to be a sound investment.

GRAVE DOUBT ON BILL VALIDATING KASLO ELECTION

Much Discussion Expected When Bills Come Into House; Powers Too Wide

Grave doubt about the power of the Legislature to validate the election of Captain James Fitzsimmons, of Kaslo-Slocan, was expressed among members to-day, after the Government had introduced legislation along these lines yesterday.

The new legislation would create an extraordinary precedent in validating an election, about the legality of which the Government apparently has much doubt. Under such a precedent, of course, there would be nothing to prevent the House from validating any illegal election.

According to the bill "doubt has arisen as to the eligibility of the said Captain James Fitzsimmons as a member of the Legislative Assembly."

NO PROVISION

Captain Fitzsimmons, it is explained, operated a ferry prior to the last provincial election, but before accepting nomination assigned his charter to the Beadon Boat Company together with his license and a Government subsidy. No provision, however, is made in the Ferries Act for such an assignment, but the Government is moving with another bill to legalize such assignments in future.

When the bills come into the House they are expected to cause much discussion because of the possibilities which they open up. Some members not only fear the creation of such a precedent but many are of the opinion that the House has no power to legislate along such lines.

Premier Tolmie Reported Better

Premier Tolmie, confined to his bed with a cold, was reported to-day as improving. He will not return to the Parliament Buildings until next week, it is expected.

Rail From Stewart To Peace River Block Promised In New Bill

Completion of the Northeastern Railway from Stewart to the eastern boundary of the Peace River block within five years, and the extension of a branch line up the Finlay River from Fort Grahame to tap the rich mineralized region of the Ingenika district is promised in a bill to be introduced in the Legislature by G. A. Walkem, Conservative of Vancouver.

In order to carry through the line it becomes necessary to amend the act of 1911 under which a start was made by the old McKenzie and Mann interests and fourteen miles of railway grade was laid down from Stewart. The Northeastern Railway, with which Hon. H. H. Stevens is now associated and is the moving spirit in British Columbia, asks that the time permitted for the completion of the line from the coast to the eastern boundary of the Peace River block be set at five years from the date of the passage of the amendments now being sought.

Further authorization is sought, which was not contained in the original act to build from a point at or near Fort Grahame up the valley of the Finlay River for a distance of 100 miles. This work must be completed within three years after the completion of the main line, or eight years from the passing of the legislation.

INCREASE CAPITAL

Authority is sought to increase the capitalization of the company from \$2,000,000 to \$10,000,000, and to permit the enlargement of the amount of bonds per mile of construction that may be issued from \$35,000 to \$50,000. This becomes necessary owing to the increased cost of construction since 1911 when the original act was passed.

The other two amendments that are being asked in line with the general scheme of construction are that eight years be the time set for the extension of a branch line from the main road to the northern boundary of the Province, and that a similar time be allowed for a southerly extension to connect up the Northeastern Railway with the G.T.F. branch of the Canadian National.

RICH AREA

The country through which the railway line will run will open up a district which is said to be not only rich in minerals, but possessed of rich agricultural lands as well. It will probably tap the countermost of the warm valleys, which Major Hart, geographer for the old Conservative regime reported in 1913, contained between 20,000 and 30,000 acres of rich agricultural lands.

The new line up the Finlay River will open up a section of the country which has attracted much attention in the past two or three years, and which the Department of Mines has been studying closely because of the large deposits of silver-lead ores and mica in the Ingenika region.

NEW LEGISLATION CALLS FOR CONTROL OF FILM PUBLICITY

All newspaper and other advertising for motion pictures will be subject to the Board of Motion Picture Censors in British Columbia under an amendment to the Motion Picture Act introduced in the Legislature yesterday by Attorney-General Pooley.

Advertising will not have to be submitted to the censorship board but it will have power to order the instant withdrawal of any objectionable matter. Mr. Pooley explains that while the censorship board often deletes objectionable portions of films, it cannot at present censor advertising, which often contains extracts from those parts cut out of the films themselves.

ASK PENSION INCREASE FOR CITY WORKERS

Vancouver and Victoria Civic Workers Will Petition For Raise in Scale

An increase in the scale of pensions to be drawn by municipal workers in B.C., under the Provincial Government Superannuation Act, will be sought from the present session of the Legislature by groups representing Vancouver and Victoria municipal employees, who have assembled a petition which will be laid before the Government shortly.

The Victoria fire department, the city police force and the city's outside staff will be represented in the application, in company with a number of the departments of the Greater Victoria city services. It was stated by one of the petitioners to-day. The application will ask that the basic fraction of pay for past services will be raised from "a seventy-fifth of the average salary for ten years previous to superannuation, multiplied by the number of years service," be raised to "one-fiftieth" of the same factor.

BY FIFTY PER CENT

This would increase city pensions by fifty per cent of their present level, in respect to payments for previous service, and which applies at the inception of the plan by the provision for men who are to be superannuated, and who have served for many years before the scale of employee's contributions to the fund began.

The same point was brought before the City Council last year when the pension scheme was put into effect, but the council voted against the change suggested, on the ground that it would lead to greatly added costs of the plan.

On behalf of the petitioners it is stated that the present scale of pensions are so low that they do not encourage an employee to retire at the proper age, and make enforced retirement a hardship if that action is taken without the employee's consent. The raise in the pensions would speed up the rate of retirement under the plan, and would leave civic services freer from some of the drawbacks of carrying aged employees past their normal years of usefulness, it is contended by the employees.

MANSON ASKS INQUIRY INTO ELECTION LAW

Complete investigation into the workings of the Provincial Elections Act, as amended at the last session, is asked by A. M. Manson, Liberal of Omineca, in a motion filed in the Legislature. He suggests that a select committee of the House launch this inquiry immediately. In his resolution on the subject, Mr. Manson points out that the revised Election Act was used in a poll list for the first time and "it is desirable to inquire into the workings of the act as amended." The amendments passed last year related chiefly to the absentee vote, which was retained with changes.

TOO MANY OUT OF WORK SAYS COMOX MEMBER

Too Much Raw Material Going Abroad, Dr. MacNaughton Claims

It is time the lawmakers of British Columbia removed the stigma which attaches to them because of their failure to provide employment for the sons and daughters of this Province and to prevent the manufacture of British Columbia materials in a foreign country, Dr. G. K. MacNaughton, Conservative of Comox, told the Legislature Wednesday in seconding the formal motion in reply to the Speech from the Throne.

British Columbia has enjoyed a great measure of development and prosperity recently, the Island member said, but there was too much unemployment still.

"Too much of our raw material is going to foreign lands to foreign laborers and to keep the wheels of foreign industry turning," he declared. "While the main remedy for this situation is in the hands of the Federal Government, this Provincial Government should do all within its power to give employment to our own people."

IMMIGRATION WARNING

Dr. MacNaughton warned the Government not to embark on too large a programme of immigration until employment had been provided for all the people already here.

He congratulated the Toimie Government and the Federal Government on the success of their recent negotiations covering the return of the Peace River Block and the Railway Belt to provincial control. Gloomy prophets who had predicted that a Conservative Government could not secure the ear of the Liberal administration in Ottawa had been discredited, he said, by the praiseworthy attitude of the federal ministry.

While not prepared to offer any solution for the Pacific Great Eastern Railway problem, Dr. MacNaughton said the Province's white elephant, aided by land grants, might yet "achieve Portia-like form and have many suitors."

PLEADS FOR MERVILLE

He entered a plea for consideration for returned soldiers in the Merville district, who deserved assistance, he said.

"More roads and better roads are the demands of the people of British Columbia," he said, urging the extension of the Island Highway to Menzies Bay, north of Campbell River.

The competition of United States fuel oil has caused whole villages on Vancouver Island to be deserted, following the closing of coal mines, Dr. MacNaughton declared, and recommended diligent research to discover new uses for British Columbia's coal resources.

Now that the Government intended to amend the Game Act, Dr. MacNaughton urged greater consideration for farmers, who often suffered serious losses to their crops from the depredations of game.

Members Demand Explanation Of Warnock Removal

Dismissal of Dr. David Warnock, former Deputy Minister of Agriculture, will be raised in the House by Dr. H. C. Wrinch, Liberal of Skeena, who has given notice of these questions: "Were the services of David Warnock as Deputy Minister of Agriculture dispensed with; and, if so, for what reason? What notice was given to said Warnock? What remuneration, if any, was given to said Warnock in lieu of notice?"

Much mystery surrounds the dismissal of the former deputy and the Government has never attempted to explain it. When Dr. Warnock was relieved of his duties it was indicated that the Government's action would be explained in the House if any explanation were sought. Now that the Opposition is seeking information a statement from Hon. William Atkinson, Minister of Agriculture, is expected.

ACROSS THE BAY

Despite the Snow Everything Is Warm and Agreeable in the House as Serious Business Commences—But It Can't Go on This Way for Long—for the Opposition Fails to Agree With the Optimism of the Address Movers

The snow, which followed the birds to Victoria yesterday, half hid the Parliament Buildings in a grey blur as it fell, and inside the Legislature began to get down to the cold facts of the session after the ceremonies of the bright opening day. That process is always somewhat slow and started, as usual, with the debate on the Speech from the Throne. This is allowed to include anything at all and may end to-morrow, this day week or any other time when it is discovered at last that no one wants to say any more. It is under way anyhow, and the serious business of the Seventeenth Parliament of British Columbia may be said to have commenced.

The whole day, and it was a short one, was devoted to the rather pleasant preliminaries of the debate in which two Government speakers, according to ancient custom, point with pride to the Government, and explain how well the Province is getting on and the Opposition sits unmoved and everyone is very agreeable.

To-day things will not be so agreeable, the atmosphere will be chillier in the House as it already is outside, and the Opposition will regret that it cannot agree with everything that has been said about the Government. This year it will most certainly not agree, for Mr. Pattullo himself will commence to express the Opposition's regrets and while he is new at this job he will prove well able to do it.

W. F. Kennedy, of North Okanagan, opened the debate and did it satisfactorily. Mr. Kennedy is one of the most promising of the younger members. They like him in the House on both sides and up in North Okanagan they think "Bill Kennedy is about all right." He has been made chief Conservative whip, the first rung of the ladder which often leads up to Cabinet elevations. Dr. Sutherland started that way and so did Mr. McKenzie, who has found his reward in the Mines Portfolio.

Mr. Kennedy is a clear, if not an eloquent speaker, and he gave the House a good deal of information; but as the member chosen to move the reply to the Governor's speech is by tradition limited to a statement of facts already well known, Mr. Kennedy was given little scope for the very sound ideas he has on many public issues.

As he is bound to do, Mr. Kennedy extended congratulations to everyone, including Mr. Pattullo, whom he hoped to see rise to a ripe old age in his present position. To which expression of regard Mr. Pattullo smiled as if he thought he would live to a ripe old age all right, but would change his position for something better while he was still a young man, which, indeed, he is despite twelve hard years of office.

Dr. MacNaughton of Comox followed Mr. Kennedy with his maiden speech and turned out to be an acquisition to the House. While evidently reluctant as a new member to express too many strong opinions among more experienced legislators, Dr. MacNaughton proved to be a clear, logical speaker, who has a sharp, staccato, somewhat nervous delivery. With some common sense about the problems of a rural community, like his constituency, he mixed a few pleasing classical references, which are uncommon in the House. He hoped, for instance, that the P.C.E., the Province's white elephant, backed by large land grants, "would become Fortinella and attract many authors." The House thought the Shakespearean metaphor a little stretched, but hoped that behind the reference Dr. MacNaughton had some confidential grounds for this remarkable expectation.

The Premier's chair was empty yesterday, as it has been many times in the last few years, fortunately for more serious cases. The Premier had been bundled off to bed by his Cabinet after he had caught cold on the opening day by standing bareheaded on the front steps in a piercing north wind.

ham took away the last remnant of comfort in the form of the billowy blue leather seat with which he supplied himself in the last Parliament.

The new Speaker has secured an assistant in the person of Mr. Twigg, of Victoria, who, as such, will often preside.

There was much comfort for the Speaker when the Government moved to legalize the slight token of regard which the House pays to its presiding officers. It appears this has been rendered in the past without due legal authority but there is no disposition to call it back, and no one grudges it to the man who must sit and listen to all that the House cares to say without so much as a chance to smoke in the lobby.

Also it is hinted in one of Mr. Pooley's bills that the House will provide some practical consideration for the two Ministers who have no portfolios but plenty of worries.

The new House has hardly found its sea legs yet and, which is equally embarrassing, it has lost an important piece of furniture. This is the desk used by the Deputy Speaker when presiding in committee. When Mr. Twigg attempted to take charge for the first time with great dignity, he found he had no desk to sit at, looked around in vain for it, tried the desk of the King's Printer in the corner, where he could not be heard or seen, and finally had to preside standing up. Something will have to be done about that.

The House was back to normal after the congestion of the opening day, when scores of visitors were seated on the floor and members were huddled in odd corners. Conservatives still overflowed the benches to the right of Mr. Speaker, however, seated with the Opposition, were not distinguishable from the Liberals except for their more enthusiastic applause.

Mr. Speaker Jones was in full charge for the first time, but he probably envied former Speaker Buckham the nice easy chair he has inherited at the head of the Liberal row, for the Speaker's own high-backed seat is as ornamental and uncomfortable as its creator could devise. And it must have irked Mr. Jones also to find himself in a place where his remarks were perforce confined to reading the motions of other members or calling for order, and where he could not sit back and fire disconcerting remarks across the House at his old friend, Mr. Pattullo, as he used to do in the carefree days of Opposition. There are many drawbacks to winning elections.

Mr. Jones has the right, according to custom, to order his own chair, and take it away with him, too, when he ceases to be Speaker, if ever. So far he has not exercised it and Mr. Buck-

MEMBER NOTES YEAR'S ADVANCE IN B.C. DRAWS

Indications Point to Continued Development, Says W. F. Kennedy

North Okanagan Member Moves Reply to Speech From Throne

Progress in British Columbia in the last year has been substantial and every indication points to more rapid advancement and increased prosperity, according to W. F. Kennedy, member for North Okanagan, in moving the reply to the Speech from the Throne in the Legislature Wednesday. The speaker reviewed industrial and commercial development, touched briefly on the promised legislation contained in His Honor's address, and dwelt at greater length with the problems of the farmers in his own district. The future of the Okanagan country, he said, was largely dependent upon diversified farming interests, and caused some amazement by his statement that the dairying industry had made such rapid strides there that last year saw a production of more than 1,000,000 pounds of butter.

CONGRATULATIONS

In opening his address, Mr. Kennedy congratulated Mr. Speaker Jones upon his elevation to the chair, Premier Toimie upon his being chosen to lead the Lieutenant-Governor's advisers and T. D. Pattullo upon his selection as leader of the Opposition, a position which he trusted the Prince Rupert member would occupy for many years to come.

Touching reference was made to the double bereavement in the family of Dr. W. H. Sutherland, former Minister of Public Works and present member for Revelstoke, and to the loss sustained by British Columbia in the death of former Lieutenant-Governor Hon. W. C. Nichol.

It was a source of satisfaction, went on Mr. Kennedy, that the progress of the Province had been so marked in the last year, and also to learn that in the present year the production from the basic industries of the country would surpass all previous records. In the year that had just closed the large total of \$6,840,278,998 had been derived in revenue from the productive industries of British Columbia. This was a large per capita production than for any other province in the Dominion.

LUMBER INDUSTRY

"While many looked with grave concern upon our lumber industry during the early months of last year," he went on, "it is pleasing to note the very marked improvement during the last part of 1928, which will, I am satisfied, show a very healthy increase over the previous twelve months."

The development of hydro-electric was another auspicious sign for the future prosperity of British Columbia, said the North Okanagan member.

He referred in complimentary terms to the growth of Vancouver, which he said was destined to become, in time, "Canada's greatest city."

Turning his attention to agricultural matters, Mr. Kennedy said that production figures had been nearly \$4,000,000 larger than for the preceding year. The livestock industry showed a gain of \$1,000,000, while poultry production had also advanced, while a similar increase had been noted in fruit growing. More satisfying than the increased production, he commented, was the fact that imports of agricultural products had decreased.

"We are fast becoming a mixed farming Province, and in this, I am satisfied, we will find a solution for many of our difficulties in this industry," he said.

"The people of my district realize," he declared, "that to be successful they must give more thought to mixed farming, and with this in mind I would point out that the dairy industry is growing in the Okanagan very rapidly, and is second only to that of the Fraser Valley."

It was impossible for the Okanagan farmers to carry on successfully under the burden of the present charges for irrigation facilities, asserted Mr. Kennedy.

"If the great volume of business coming from this fertile valley means anything to our Province, then it will be necessary for our Government to come to the assistance of the farmers by giving a measure of relief which will enable the farmers to remain on the land."

WOULD ABOLISH BY-ELECTIONS FOR MINISTERS

Bill Would Eliminate Necessity of Going Back to Electors

By-elections for Cabinet Ministers are to be abolished by an amendment to the Constitution Act which was introduced in the Legislature on Wednesday by Attorney-General Pooley.

The new legislation not only abolishes at one sweep the necessity for Cabinet Ministers being endorsed in office by the electors, but legalizes the acceptance of an allowance by the Speaker and Deputy Speaker and indemnifies previous incumbents of these offices from action for having made use of the annual allowance that has been granted to them for many years past.

Under the new amendment, it is stated, allowances may be made to members of the Cabinet who are not in charge of departments, such as the President of the Council and Ministers without portfolio.

PERMITS ACCEPTANCE

Apparently, according to the wording of the section, Mr. Speaker and his deputy, who have been allowed \$1,800 and \$500, respectively, each year, ostensibly for entertainment of distinguished visitors, have not had the right to accept it. The amendment will permit of the acceptance of these emoluments. Further, the position of Deputy Speaker has never been clearly defined or fully authorized by the Constitution Act, and the bill aims to give to him all the authority possessed by Mr. Speaker while he is presiding in the absence of the regularly elected presiding officer.

The important portion of the bill reads as follows:

"No person accepting or holding in the Province any office, commission or employment, permanent or temporary, to which an annual salary, or any fee, allowance or emolument, or profit of any kind or amount whatever from the Province is attached, shall be eligible as a member of the Legislative Assembly, nor shall he sit or vote as such; but nothing in this subsection shall make any person ineligible as a member of the Legislative Assembly, or disqualify him to sit or vote as such, by reason of his accepting or holding office as a member of the Executive Council, whether as head of a department in receipt of a salary or allowance or as occupying the position of Premier, or by reason of his accepting or holding the office of Speaker or Deputy Speaker of the Legislative Assembly."

"Nothing in subsection (1) of said section 23 as it stood immediately prior to the enactment of this section shall apply or be deemed to have applied heretofore to render ineligible as a member of the Legislative Assembly, or to disqualify to sit or vote as such, any person by reason only of his accepting or holding the office of Speaker or Deputy Speaker of the Legislative Assembly; nor shall any such person by reason of his sitting or voting in the Legislative Assembly after so accepting office be liable to any penalty provided in section 31 of said chapter 45."

Pooley Legislation Calls For Wiping Out Of B.C. Game Board

Creation of a complete new system of provincial game administration is provided for in legislation introduced in the Legislature yesterday by Attorney-General Pooley in the form of amendments to the Game Act.

In brief, the Government's game policy, already foreshadowed by Mr. Pooley, involves the wiping out of the Game Conservation Board and the substitution of a new game administration force under a game commissioner. For purposes of game administration the Province will be divided into districts,

just as it is divided for police purposes.

Mr. Pooley's amendments also provide for the licensing of farms which may raise game animals for sale. There is no limitation on these operations, provided they are duly licensed.

Revision of the present system of issuing trap licenses is provided. In future these licenses will be issued for a period of years and the heirs of trappers will be given an equity in trap lines and in equipment, such as cabins, which may have been established by the trapper.

Pattullo Bares Facts of Recent Bond Transaction

Province Tied Up to Private Syndicate Now and Must Spend Huge Sums as Profits to Big Firms, Opposition Leader Shows in Stirring Address; Patronage Rampant in Civil Service, He Says; Demands Government Policy

Details of a private agreement negotiated by the Tolmie Government with a powerful financial syndicate binding this Province to sell its bonds only through this group until the end of February and costing the people of British Columbia huge sums in fees and profits were bared by T. D. Pattullo, when he delivered a telling speech in the Legislature yesterday afternoon, his first speech as leader of the Opposition.

After baring the facts of this deal, which came as a complete surprise to members on both sides of the House, Mr. Pattullo moved a non-confidence motion as an amendment to the address in reply to the Speech from the Throne, saying that "this House strongly disapproves of administrative policy and action in connection with a recent sale of provincial securities, in that sale was made privately, improvidently and contrary to sound public policy."

PATRONAGE RAMPANT

This motion came at the end of an address in which the Liberal House leader delved into many branches of Government administration, charged that partisanship was rampant in the civil service and demanded that the Government bring down definite measures instead of talking about "surveys and investigations."

Mr. Pattullo was moderate in his criticism generally, however, and assured the House that the Opposition would support any measure for the good of the country and would do everything possible to help the Government "make good."

Turning to the recent financial operations of Hon. W. C. Shelly, Minister of Finance, he said:

"There is further evidence of the kind of administration that we may expect in future in the action of the Government with regard to the sale of some \$12,000,000 worth of securities of the Province in recent weeks.

FLAGRANT VIOLATION

"The manner in which the financial affairs of the Province have been handled by the new administration is in flagrant violation of the best interests of the Province and constitutes a serious breach of trust in respect of the interests of the people.

"On September 13 last, an order-in-council was passed approving of the terms of agreement between the Province and a syndicate of financial corporations, making this syndicate the exclusive financial agents of the Province.

"Under this agreement a large issue of \$6,000,000 securities of the Province was sold by private sale and sold at a price higher than had been paid by the Province for a number of years. Sold also at this price in spite of the fact that shortly afterwards public issues were sold elsewhere by other provinces upon a more favorable basis.

"A further issue of \$6,000,000 has also been sold at a high rate of interest, advertisement of which is now running in the press.

IN OPEN MARKET

"It was always the practice of our administration to dispose of the securities of the Province in open market and I see nothing whatever in the financial situation as to why exclusive control of the sale of long-term issues should have been placed in the hands of a private syndicate rather than retained by the Government.

"Right at this very moment the Government is in the humiliating position of not being in control of its own finances. It cannot go into the market to-day nor to-morrow to borrow money on securities of the Province without consulting with and selling its securities through the syndicate to which I have referred.

"The Government is not master in its own house, but is subject to its financial agent. Until February 28 next, no matter how favorable the market may be, the Government cannot take advantage of the opportunity to place long-term issues except through this syndicate. And I am advised, Mr. Speaker, that at the time it disposed of the first issue of \$6,000,000, that had it gone to the open market it could have obtained a considerably better price than was obtained.

REVEALS ORRER

"Let us peruse the order-in-council for a moment, which is as follows:

"That in pursuance of Section 37 of the Revenue Act, and of all other powers thereunto enabling, the following financial houses, namely, Canadian Bank of Commerce, Toronto, Ont., Dominion Securities Corporation, Toronto, Ont., A. E. Ames and Company Limited, Toronto, Ont.; Wood, Gundy and Company, Toronto, Ont., and Dillon, Reid and Company, New York, in the State of New York (hereinafter referred to as "the Agents"), be appointed the exclusive financial agents of the Province of the period beginning on the date of the execution of an agreement with the Agents in terms of the draft agreement herewith and ending on February 28, 1929, for the sale of all securities issued and sold by the Province during that period, other than Treasury bills or notes given to the bankers of the Province to secure temporary borrowings; but subject to the terms and conditions herein and in the said agreement contained; and

SIGNED BY SHELLY

"That for the purposes aforesaid the Minister of Finance be authorized to execute on behalf of the Province an agreement with the Agents in terms of the draft agreement herewith.

"Dated September 13, 1928.

"W. C. SHELLY,

"Minister of Finance.

"Approved September 13, 1928.

"B. H. POOLEY,

"Presiding Member of the Executive Council."

"Turning to certain sections of the agreement referred to in the order-in-council, it is seen that by Section 1, that before disposing of any securities other than Treasury bills or notes that the Province must consult its financial agents.

"Section 2 reads as follows:

"That the said securities shall be issued and offered for sale through the Agents at such price or prices, including such allowances in the price to large institutions, banks, bond dealers and other distributors, and generally such usual arrangements for wholesale and retail prices, as may be determined from time to time by consultation between the said Minister of Finance and the Agents."

"There it will be seen that the syndicate will make the usual profits applicable to transactions of this character.

"That the legality of all the issues of securities shall be established to the satisfaction of the Agents' solicitors, whose fees in this connection shall be paid by the Agents."

PROVINCE BEARS COST

"The Province will bear the cost of all solicitors' fees.

"That for their services in advising the Province as to all matters connected with the issue of securities as herein mentioned, and for acting as fiscal agents in connection with the sale of securities as aforesaid, the Agents shall be paid or allowed from the proceeds of the sales a commission equal to one per centum of the face value of the securities so sold."

"It will be observed that the syndicate is to be paid a commission for tendering advice to the Government. We were in office twelve years and we never paid a single dollar of commission to anybody. We sold the issues of the Province upon as favorable a basis as obtained by any other Province in the Dominion of Canada, or the Dominion of Canada itself, and it did not cost us a single dollar for advice. We considered that we were able ourselves to judge of the time and the opportunity for the disposal of the securities of the Province to the best advantage, and the success which we obtained in the disposal of our securities is ample attestation of the solidity of our judgment.

MORE LOANS?

"Paragraph 6 of the order-in-council anticipates that borrowings may be required up to \$20,000,000, and under the agreement the sum of \$12,000,000 has already been sold and the agreement is still in force until February 28 next. If the whole amount of \$20,000,000 is sold, the syndicate will have been paid \$200,000 for its fiscal advice, in addition to the profits it may make in connection with the sale of securities.

"The \$200,000 on a forty-year issue amounts to a tremendous sum, and this one transaction on this single item will cost the people of this Province during the next forty years the sum of \$1,400,000, and on the amount of \$12,000,000 already sold, on which \$120,000 must be paid, the sum of \$830,000.

NO ADVANTAGE

"It is plain that no advantage whatever has accrued to the Province through this arrangement and that, on the contrary, it is going to cost the people of the Province a very large sum of money. But even if that were not so, the principle of private sale of bonds is so contrary to sound public policy that it calls for the severest condemnation.

"I said that the people of the Province, in which are included the Opposition, have a desire to give the Government an opportunity to indicate just what may be expected of it.

"In important and basic particulars the Government has given evidence of

serious failure to properly conserve the public interests.

MUST PROTEST

"The Opposition feels, therefore, that it would be recalcitrant in its duty if it did not take the first opportunity to make protest against the action of the Government in pursuing the course which it has."

Mr. Pattullo at the outset congratulated the Government on its election and recalled the difference between the days of its victory and those of the Liberal sweep of 1916. Then business conditions were at a low ebb, taxation had to be increased and economy enforced rigidly.

"We had the pleasure to retire from office with the affairs of the Province in better condition than ever before, and better, I venture to think, than they will be when this Government leaves office."

HOPE LATER

Congratulating the new Cabinet Ministers, Mr. Pattullo said the members disappointed in not securing Cabinet seats should wait in hope, as time worked many changes and their chance might come later.

Unless the leaves and fishes of office were multiplied in some miraculous way, he went on, it was possible, according to rumor, that there would be new parties in the House.

"It is not the intention of the Opposition to criticize for criticism's sake," he declared. "Any measures that are prudent and well conceived will receive our support, but in many matters where there is room for a divergence of opinion the Opposition can serve a very useful purpose."

NO EXTRAVAGANCE

The Opposition leader said he and his colleagues, among other things, would attempt to see that the Government was neither extravagant nor parsimonious, and that it gave adequate support and co-operation to business and industry.

In the twelve years of Liberal rule, he said, the Government had faced a campaign of "blue ruin" and vituperation, in which Premier Tolmie had taken a leading part, and this in the face of increasing prosperity which broke all records in 1928.

"What is the reason for the sudden change in the Government's attitude? Where all was blue ruin, now we find, in the Speech from the Throne, that the Province is in a state of 'general prosperity.' Possibly they expect to secure a little share of reflected glory for these conditions. It is not unfair to say that the expansion of 1928 was just a continuance of the years of expansion which preceded it."

CONCRETE PLANS ASKED

The mere transition of the Conservative Party to office, he said, was not sufficient, and he wondered what concrete measure the Government proposed to implement the numerous investigations and surveys which it had launched. Premier Tolmie, he said, had wide political experience and could not plead ignorance as an excuse for inactivity. But he was not hopeful that "anything worthwhile will be forthcoming."

Why, he asked, had nothing been done by the Borden-McLaren Government in Ottawa, of which Premier Tolmie was a member for some years, to stop 750,000 Canadians from going to the United States. If, since then, Dr. Tolmie had discovered some "economic nostrum" to stop emigration, it was time he produced it, Mr. Pattullo asserted.

GOVERNMENT'S PART

Taking up the Speech from the Throne, Mr. Pattullo wanted to know what the new Government had to do, for instance, with the growth of Vancouver, to which the speech referred with satisfaction.

It was also interesting to note in the speech, he said, that the new Government had made progress on the transfer of the railway lands to the Province. As a matter of fact, the former Government had completed this deal except for the arrangement of some details, and now the present ministry tried to take credit for the entire transaction. While Premier Tolmie did give some credit to the late John Oliver, but, he asked, "why would it not be a good idea to give a little credit to the living?" In this connection he recalled that he had been intimately associated, as Minister of Lands, with the original move to acquire the railway areas while former Premier MacLean and former Attorney-General Manson had carried on this work. In fact, all the difficulties in the way of the deal had been removed by the Liberal ministry.

P.G.E. INQUIRY

Mr. Pattullo asked the Government just how it was carrying on an investigation into the P.G.E. Railway and how it expected to get any information not already secured. He felt that the Throne Speech made a reference to this matter simply to allay public fears about the railway until more fortunate conditions solved the problem.

"We won't wait twelve years," said Attorney-General Pooley.

"No," said Mr. Pattullo, "the country went ahead so fast under Liberal rule that I think you won't have to wait that long."

The reference to the settlement plans of the Government, Mr. Pattullo said, simply camouflaged a political appointment in the person of the new immigration commissioner. And he added that the Opposition would hold the Government responsible for the work of the Land Settlement Board, which, according to the Premier, would have full charge of settlement work.

MARKETING PLANS

If the Government's marketing branch plans were useful they would receive support, he said, but "my name happens to be Thomas and I shall believe when I see."

Turning to the Government's statement that the former ministry piled up deficits of over \$12,000,000 in its term of office, Mr. Pattullo declared:

"Even though the statement were true, it could serve no other practical purpose at the present time than to cast aspersion upon the credit of the Province. But, as a matter of fact, the statement is not true. In every year, except two, there was a surplus on current account. We never claimed at any time that in every year current expenditure on capital account had been met."

WELL SATISFIED

"Evidently, however, the Government is well satisfied with the financial position of the Province, for I notice that our new fiscal agents acclaim in advertisement the strong financial position of the Province."

"Here is a copy of an advertisement which states as follows:

"The provincial finances are in a satisfactory position and the Province has established a sinking fund against all of its long-term bonds."

"You will recall that the members of the Opposition, in criticizing our administration, repeatedly stated that we were misrepresenting the financial position of the Province. We now find that our own figures are accepted by the administration as indicated by the advertisement. Our friends opposite were either making misrepresentations

to the public then, or they are getting money under false pretenses now."

IN GOOD SHAPE

"As a matter of fact, there is no province in the Dominion of Canada, not the Dominion of Canada itself, that has kept its accounts in better shape than has this Province under the Liberal administration."

Mr. Pattullo demanded details of the Government's public works programme and asked if the works started by the Liberal Government would be carried to conclusion.

The taxation proposals of the Speech, he said, were extremely vague. No promise of a reduction in taxes would be made, but taxation was to be "modified."

"It behooves us," he said, "to see that taxation is not taken off somewhere and placed on those who can't bear it."

SUPPORT GOOD MEASURES

The Opposition, he stated, will support any good measure to encourage steel production, as foreshadowed in the Speech.

It was about the matters not mentioned in the Speech that Mr. Pattullo was curious. For instance, what was being done to improve the administration of justice, which had been continually under attack under the Liberal regime?

"Is it true," he asked, "that in liquor purchasing patronage is rampant as never before?"

"So you suggest it was rampant before?" asked Hon. R. L. Maitland.

PATRONAGE RAMPANT

"Well, I do say," Mr. Pattullo shot back, "that in the civil service there has been more bitter partisanship in the few months of this Government than in the whole twelve years of Liberal administration."

What about the Government's timber policy, he asked. What was the Government doing about the threat of a United States lumber tariff? What about reforestation, which the former Opposition had worried about so long? Would the Government stop the export of raw logs, he demanded.

Hon. Joshua Hinchliffe, he remarked, had wept and wailed for years about log exports and now was derelict in not doing anything about it.

PARK POLICY

What, he went on, was the Government's park policy? Did the Government intend to purchase timber areas for parks? What did the Government intend to do about health insurance and maternity benefits? What about educational policies? None of these things was even mentioned in the Speech, he concluded.

PATTULLO TO CARRY FIGHT TO THE HOUSE

Asks Members to Back Him in Demand For Publicity For Government Orders

T. D. Pattullo's fight to secure the right of all members of the Legislature to examine the Government's order-in-council will be carried immediately to the floor of the House.

Mr. Pattullo, as Leader of the Opposition, has given notice of a motion urging "that an humble address be presented to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that he will cause all orders-in-council, or copies thereof, to be made available for perusal by any one at any time during office hours within the general office of the Department of the Provincial Secretary."

This motion followed Mr. Pattullo's recent clash with Hon. S. I. Howe, Provincial Secretary, who declined to allow anyone to see the orders-in-council of the Government except the Opposition Leader. Mr. Pattullo contends that all members have a right to peruse these orders, which are public documents, and often as important as acts of the Legislature itself.

AN ADMIRABLE SPEECH

THERE IS GENERAL AGREEMENT

Among the members of the House that the speech delivered by Mr. Pattullo, leader of the opposition, yesterday was the best he has given there in many years. Its tone was moderate and dignified, its delivery was excellent and its matter well arranged. Mr. Pattullo always has been known to be a ready speaker with a wide range of information on public questions, but he seldom has shown the high debating qualities which were displayed by him yesterday. His speech was marked by a complete absence of bitterness and pettiness, and as such set a standard in this respect which, we hope, will be maintained by all the members throughout the season.

It also is in order to compliment Mr. Kennedy, the mover of the address in reply to the Speech from the Throne, and the seconder, Dr. MacNaughton, upon their initial efforts in debate in the Legislature.

THE SAFEST COURSE

IN VIEW OF THE DOUBT OVER THE qualification of Captain Fitzsimmons of Kaslo-Slocan and the constitutionality of the legislation to qualify him as a candidate and establish him in a seat, the safest course would appear to be to hold another election in his district. Otherwise serious complications might arise. For instance, suppose, later on, some corporation with ample resources attacked the validity of legislation affecting its interests on the ground that Captain Fitzsimmons was not entitled to sit in the House, notwithstanding the measure which was designed to qualify him, and the courts decided in favor of this contention. Would not this mean that every bill on which the Captain had voted was invalid? And would not Captain Fitzsimmons be liable for the prescribed penalty of \$300 for every day he had sat in the House illegally. Nobody, we hope, would be mean enough to move for the collection of that penalty, but the liability would be there.

Whether the Government wants to chance this possibility or not remains to be seen. Many of its friends think that in this case it would be better to be safe than sorry, and see that Captain Fitzsimmons is established securely in his seat constitutionally; in other words, by the electors of Kaslo-Slocan. In that case the opposition should not oppose his candidature.

It has been suggested in some facetious quarters that candidates in the provincial election who held liquor permits also were disqualified on the ground that these permits are contracts with the Government. This seems to be drawing a very fine interpretation of the disqualification provision of the Act. Not for a minute would we assume that many members would be affected by such a contingency, since it goes without saying that there must be very few permits among that fine, healthy-looking collection of men who compose our Legislature.

In any event, the fact that the Government is presenting a bill which in itself reflects its doubt that Captain Fitzsimmons was qualified to be a candidate in the recent election calls for grave consideration of this particular case.

STORY OF OVER EXPENDITURES IS GROUNDLESS

Manson Explodes Report Old Government Exceeded Legal Appropriations

Misstatements about the financing of the former Liberal Government were checked up in detail in the Legislature yesterday afternoon by A. M. Manson, Liberal of Omineca. Reading from an

article in the Vancouver Province which said that the former Government in its last year of office had over-spent its appropriations by \$2,300,000, Mr. Manson proved that actually it had underspent the money appropriated to it by \$578,735.

The former Attorney-General was able to present this information only in the face of a bombardment of objections from the Government side. He sought to speak on a question of privilege, declaring the article had grossly transgressed the privileges of the House but Conservative members united in attempting to stop him. Finally, Mr. Speaker Jones ruled that he could discuss the alleged misstatements if he confined himself to them.

Mr. Manson quoted the public accounts to prove the inaccuracy of the statements of which he complained. In the Finance Department it had been alleged that twice as much money had been spent as had been authorized by the Legislature. As a matter of fact, \$1,640,000 had been appropriated to the Department, and \$1,623,000 spent, or an under expenditure of \$17,000, he said.

ACROSS THE BAY

Mr. Pattullo Gets Away to a Good Start; Tells All About the New Government's Bond Deals; Mr. Manson and His Privilege; the Absentee Vote Bobs Up Again

The House yesterday was in the double grip of real Winter and the Winter of its own discontent. Three inches of snow was melting as fast as it had fallen, everyone's feet were wet, Vancouver members complained that they had to buy rubbers for the first time in their lives because of Victoria's climate, everything was as uncomfortable as it could be and then Mr. Pattullo accomplished the final ruin of our day.

It was not that Mr. Pattullo failed to be interesting. He was intensely interesting for a full hour and a half, but he broke the cheerful spell of ceremony and congratulation which always surrounds the opening days of the House, and he told us how we

had just lost a king's ransom through the improvident business of our new Government. Mr. Pattullo broke the spell of the opening days all right. He broke it completely and he did it so well that even the Government thought its opponents had made no mistake in choosing their new chief.

Probably it was the best speech Mr. Pattullo ever made in the House. That was your impression as you listened to it and thought about the many other able speeches Mr. Pattullo had made in different vein from the other side. As an Opposition Leader's speech at the opening of a new parliament it was as good a one as the House remembers ever hearing.

Mr. Pattullo has learned many things by recent events, by what he termed "the cataclysmic devolution of July 18." But he warned the Government that "civilization is penetrating to the most backward and the diffusion of knowledge is bewildering," and the Liberal Party's chance will come again.

Whatever the penetration of civilization means to the Government, Mr. Pattullo has learned a great deal about public speaking since his days of office. He speaks with more smoothness than he used to do, with less hesitancy and without his old desire to bustle out his ideas ahead of his words. His facts, too, were admirably marshalled in order. After congratulating everyone from the King to the mover of the Address, he ascended in easy stages from a tone of courteous scepticism in regard to the Government to an effective crescendo of denunciation as he told of Mr. Shelly's bond deals, and concluded by moving a motion of no confidence in the new ministry.

It was hard to get used to Mr. Pattullo over on the left of Mr. Speaker and it was hard for Mr. Pattullo to get used to being there. Several times he referred to the Government as the Opposition, out of the habit of twelve years in the Treasury Benches, and he admitted that on leaving the House the day before he had walked straight down to the office of the Minister of Lands, forgetting for the moment that he no longer held a long-term lease on it.

The physical changes of the House

may have been irksome, but Mr. Pattullo evidently finds no trouble in getting used to his job. He leads his little group (the Twelve Apostles he called them) gayly and with as much confidence as if he might overwhelm the Government whenever he felt in the humor for it.

His motion of no confidence is a gesture of course, but some of the new, untutored Conservative members looked almost alarmed as he moved it. Such motions are always a little alarming when you hear them for the first time.

Attorney-General Pooley, leading the House in his chief's absence, and taking copious notes of the speeches for the latter's guidance, could afford to sit back calmly as Mr. Pattullo proposed in effect that the new Government hurl itself into the street where it had lived for twelve years. Mr. Pooley smiled at this suggestion but when it was all over and he came outside for a smoke Mr. Pooley said admiringly "old Duff made a good speech" which speech of course Mr. Pooley and others will try to meet in due course.

After Mr. Pattullo's effort came Mr. Walkers, who speaks in a peculiar chanting style of his own but with great earnestness and constructive ideas. After him Mr. Manson (now plain Mr. Manson of Omineca, but as active in argument as ever) was heard for the first time this year. Mr. Manson was concerned about the public accounts of the Province and he got in his say on a point of privilege in the face of everything that an enthusiastic group of Conservatives could do or say to stop him. Mr. Manson has the immeasurable advantage of knowing more about the rules than anyone else and the way he leads his attacks through the barb wire entanglements of those regulations without a scratch is amazing.

Mr. Manson is busy also with the absentee vote to which there appears to be no end. Mr. Manson is asking the House to investigate it all over again and there is a great weariness upon the House as it thinks about that idea. It was only last year that the whole House solemnly denounced the absentee vote and said it would have nothing to do with it, and ended by clasping it to its bosom. Before doing so, however, it sought to insure the purity of that unusual instrument of democracy by wrapping it around with many new restrictions.

Now Mr. Manson wants to see if the absentee vote, thus purified, is as pure as the old House hoped it would be, and whether it came through the last general election unscathed. No one is very interested in the absentee vote at this stage, but everyone is interested to find out whether, behind his apparently innocent move, Mr. Manson has anything shocking to say about the last election. If he does, it will be the first really shocking thing the House has heard so far and would be welcomed as a diversion.

PEACE RIVER ROAD URGED

Province Should Give Settlers
Early Outlet, Walkem
Declares

Construction of a road from Prince George to Moberley Lake, in the Peace River district, was advocated in the Legislature yesterday by G. A. Walkem, Conservative, of Vancouver, who has spent much time inspecting the Peace River territory at first hand.

Mr. Walkem told the House of what he had seen in the northern hinterland and said its immediate prospects justified a commencement of the proposed road, at least so far as surveys were concerned, this season. With the road complete, it would be possible to drive from Prince George to the Peace River district in a day. This facility would divert to British Columbia, he said, the substantial business which the Peace River district is now giving to Alberta.

NOT EXPENSIVE

The proposed road would not be expensive and could be constructed for \$10,000 a mile.

Apparently the public of British Columbia has absorbed a good deal of misinformation about the Peace River country, according to Mr. Walkem. While he had been told, he said, that a great part of the northern district could not be cultivated, his investigations had convinced him that very little of the land was unfit for agriculture. It could be brought under cultivation cheaply, though some of it would cost from \$10 to \$25 an acre to clear.

He added that the country was being settled as rapidly as was desirable under present conditions.

COMMITTEES OF HOUSE FORMED

Walkem Heads Public Accounts, Twigg Private Bills Under New Allocation

Standing committees of the Legislature, named yesterday, as follows:

Agriculture, fifteen members, as follows: Messrs. Berry, Kennedy, Lister, Kingston, Michell, Peck, MacNaughton, Carson, R. Mackenzie, Wrinch, A. M. Manson, Gillis, Gray, MacPherson and Hanna.

Municipal Matters, thirteen members, as follows: Messrs. Hayward, Cornett, Kirk, Peck, Kingston, Dick, Berry, Gray, Gillis, Hanna, MacPherson and Sutherland.

Standing Orders and Private Bills, eleven members, as follows: Messrs. Twigg, Davis, Beatty, Dick, Spencer, Kingston, M. Manson, I. A. Mackenzie, Kergin, MacPherson and A. M. Manson.

Forestry, eight members, as follows: Messrs. MacNaughton, M. Manson, Spencer, Lister, Fitzsimmons, Pattullo, Buckham and Hanna.

Railways, eight members, as follows: Messrs. Spencer, Carson, Cornett, Fitzsimmons, Schofield, A. M. Manson, I. A. Mackenzie and Kergin.

Printing, seven members, as follows: Messrs. Peck, R. Mackenzie,

Michell, Twigg, Hanna, Buckham and Uphill.

Public Accounts, thirteen members, as follows: Messrs. Walkem, Kirk, Beatty, Rutledge, Fitzsimmons, M. Manson, Twigg, Hayward, Sutherland, A. M. Manson, I. A. Mackenzie, Buckham and Pearson.

Mining, ten members, as follows: Messrs. Borden, Schofield, Lister, Carson, Fitzsimmons, Kingston, Kergin, Wrinch, Pearson and Uphill.

House Hears Of Veterans In Service

Government Gives Facts
About Employment of Returned Soldiers

Information on the number of returned soldiers employed in various Government departments has been given to the House by members of the Government.

In answer to questions from Capt. Ian Mackenzie, Liberal of Vancouver, Attorney-General Pooley states that 236 men were serving on the Provincial Police force on August 20 last, just before the present Government took office and of these 130 were returned soldiers. At present there are 254 men on the force and 138 are returned soldiers. Thirteen returned soldiers have been appointed to the force since the present ministry took office. Four returned soldiers have left the force either by dismissal or resignation since last August.

"The percentage of returned soldier recruits tends to and will continue to fall off by reason of an age limit fixed by regulation," Mr. Pooley stated.

IN LANDS DEPARTMENT

Hon. F. P. Burden, Minister of Lands, gave Mr. Mackenzie information about returned soldiers in his department. At August 20 last, he said, there were 369 persons in the Lands Department and of these 153 were returned soldiers. Now there are 362 employees and 153 of them are veterans. One returned man has been appointed since August and one has left the department.

Mr. Mackenzie is pursuing his inquiries by asking every member of the Government how many returned men are employed in his department and how many have been dismissed.

Mr. Mackenzie is also asking for full information about the issuance of beer licenses recently in Vancouver.

GIVES CENSOR WIDE POWERS

New Bill Covering Movie Advertising Has Teeth In It

Motion picture advertising must not reproduce any extracts from films which have been deleted by the Board of Censors, under legislation introduced in the Legislature by Attorney-General Pooley yesterday. The provisions of this bill, as made known for the first time, are drastic and include the following:

The censor may order the discontinuance of publication and the destruction or removal from any public place of any advertisement relating to any film or slide if, in the opinion of the censor, the advertisement is injurious to morals or against the public welfare, and every person upon receipt of notice of the order of the censor respecting any advertisement shall forthwith discontinue publication of or destroy or remove the advertisement in accordance with the requirements of the order.

No person shall publish or display any advertisement reproducing or relating to any act or scene depicted in any film or slide which has not been approved by the censor pursuant to section 8, or any advertisement reproducing or relating to any act or scene the depiction of which has been deleted from any film or slide before the film or slide was approved by the censor.

In addition to all other penalties to which the person holding a license under this Act may be liable by reason of any contravention or breach of the provisions of this section, the neglect or failure of that person to discontinue publication of or to destroy or remove any advertisement as required by the order of the censor under this section shall be sufficient cause for the suspension or cancellation of the license held by that person.

SHELLY CLAIMS JUSTIFICATION ON BOND SALE

Condition of Market Made
Private Deal Best, Says
Finance Minister

Justification for financing of the Government through the sales by private tenders of \$12,000,000 of long term bonds was claimed by Hon. W. C. Shelly, Minister of Finance, in replying yesterday to the criticism voiced by T. D. Pattullo the previous day.

He alleged procrastination of the Liberal Government created a serious situation in going at length into the history of the credit of the Province, and claimed that as a result of his action a considerable saving had been effected.

Further, he contended that as a result of the confidence inspired in the Province by a change of administration, the bank rate on temporary borrowings had been reduced from 5 per cent to 4 per cent, and the treasury had been notified that accommodation on temporary financing by treasury bills would be increased from \$10,000,000 to \$12,000,000.

The minister charged that the Liberal administration had on no less than sixteen occasions borrowed money through fiscal agents, or by private sale of bonds. Moreover, he said, one of the most important of these transactions had been effected when the present leader of the Opposition was acting as Minister of Finance. He produced a copy of the order-in-council signed by Mr. Pattullo as acting minister.

BILLS MATURING

When the Conservative Government took office, he said, it was found that treasury bills amounting to more than \$12,000,000 were maturing on November 30, and in addition debentures were maturing in New York on January 25, amounting to \$8,000,000, making a total

Continued on
next page.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 26, 1929

LAUNCHES MOVE FOR INSURANCE OF B.C. HEALTH

A move to secure a system of health insurance in British Columbia is being launched in the Legislature by Dr. H. C. Wrinch, Liberal of Skeena, who has been a prominent advocate of this step for some years. In a resolution filed to-day Dr. Wrinch asks the House to reaffirm its resolution of last year, urging the appointment of a committee of five members to inquire into the workings of any systems of health insurance and maternity benefits in operation in other provinces or countries and to report its findings to the House.

SHELLY CLAIMS JUSTIFICATION ON BOND SALE

(Continued from page 1)

of \$20,068,769 falling due in the near future. This, he said, represented an accumulation of financing held over by the late Government, which instead of going to the market when it was favorable, permitted the refinancing issues to pile up.

"The position of finances when we took office August 20, 1928, was:

Treasury Bills in bank maturing Nov. 30..	\$10,068,769.00
Treasury Bills in New York also maturing Nov. 30	4,000,000.00
Debentures maturing in New York, Jan. 25, 1929	6,000,000.00
Total	\$20,068,769.00

"This represents an accumulation of financing held over by the McLean Government. Instead of going to the market when prices were attractive, the above total was allowed to pile up.

"Many overtures were made to the Government to clean up this financing as the market outlook of the future was very discouraging. With this heavy programme of financing to do and a constantly curtailed market for provincial bonds, it is self-evident that the position had become a very serious one, and the following is a synopsis of our endeavors to make the most of the unfortunate position in which the former government relegated us, and an unprejudiced mind could readily admit we have been successful in our endeavors.

UTTERS CRITICISM

"It is therefore incumbent upon me to comment upon the financing of these maturities by the past regime, and to utter not only severe criticism, but also indictment against a policy of inexcusable procrastination which has proved to be very costly indeed to people of the Province. In support of this statement let us cite excerpts from correspondence on file in the Treasury, representing most reliable information given by institutions whose advice had been sought in the matter.

"Strangely enough in the face of such definite advice no action was taken and the expedient of temporary refunding was resorted to. As predicted money rates became stiffer and stiffer but no

action was taken to convert these Treasury Bills; on further inquiry by the Treasury Department it was learned that the market continued to go against advantageous marketing of securities as is evidenced by the other telegrams." These Mr. Shelly read.

NOTES RENEWED

"The six months' notes were renewed by a further issue of Treasury Bills in New York, the best obtainable rate therefore being 5 per cent. Finally, it became imperative that conversion of at least part of the Treasury Bills should take place, and this was accomplished at the most advantageous possible terms, at a time when every evidence pointed to a weak market situation and at a time when many dealers had taken smarting losses in disposing of undigested issues; at a time when New York bankers were paying 5 1/2 per cent to some European banks for either three or six months' money and ample opportunity for them to loan it at higher rates for fixed periods; at a time when one Canadian province had been asked to pay as high as 9 1/2 per cent on three months' money. After combing every source of information, and having indisputable evidence that the best recourse was a fiscal agency arrangement, this was entered into with a syndicate comprising as powerful and influential a group as could be desired, that is: The Canadian Bank of Commerce, A. E. Ames and Company Ltd., The Dominion Securities Corporation, Wood, Gundy and Company, and Dillon, Read and Company, the last mentioned of New York, the price for \$6,000,000, the syndicate to receive 1 per cent as marketing charge; on or about the same time Ontario sold in London \$10,000,000, paying 5 1/18 per cent with sterling against them and Nova Scotia paying 5 1/2 per cent for six months' bills.

"A careful survey will reveal the fact," he said, "that not one province in Canada has, on account of the peculiar cycle we are passing through, resorted to public tenders since May, 1928. During the year there has accumulated \$312,000,000 of Government and high-grade municipal financing, most of this has been accomplished by short term (three to nine months) in the hope that the market would recover. This has yet to come to market.

"In a recent communication from the highest financial authority, he says: 'It is a curious cycle we are in and it may last for some considerable time and our unqualified recommendation is not to cut all long-term bonds payable at any reasonable rate under the

"This is an opportune time to place long terms, as the C.M.B. was first for a long time and they are coming again. If B.C. comes now they will be second and many more are to follow, involving tremendous amounts."

"Since closing the last deal with the syndicate, who since 1916 has purchased 83 per cent of all our provincial issues, we have received an offer from an Eastern house, which reads in part as follows:

"If Province contemplates doing any borrowing near future would they consider bid two or three million 4 1/2 per cent, at 4.90 basis? Market is extremely flat and there is very little demand. We believe at present time we could sell block around 4.85 basis, if we were able to obtain possession of this price."

"Our sale of bonds net Province 4.87 yield basis; therefore, the price we obtained from syndicate is far in excess of this offer for small block."

"The unjustifiable apathy and procrastination of the late administration reduced in term of dollars and cents, expresses best the censure it received at

last election. Had the advice sought been acted upon, it would have meant the refunding of \$6,000,000 at a time when the Province could have floated its debentures on a twenty-five-year 4 per cent basis to yield 4.50 per cent, the saving to the taxpayers being half of 1 per cent annually in interest charges or \$40,000 per annum over twenty-five years, the life of the issue. This principal sum in itself represents \$1,200,000, but its worth to the Province is that compounded at 4 per cent to maturity amounts to \$1,732,469.60.

"The fiscal agency method adopted by the Government at this particular time has indeed proved the best, and whilst it is conceded that public tender, during favorable market conditions, is by far the most preferable course, it would have proved fallacious so to do during the past six months or so, as unprofitable bids would not only have been subject to refusal, but would have tended to impair the Provincial credit. I would also take this opportunity of mentioning that the former administration found it advisable to make private sales, sixteen of these being on record, major among which is the sale of the P.G.E. Collateral stock held by the Province when \$5,925,196 were sold in 1928, at 92.50 on a 4 1/2 per cent sixteen-year basis, the yield being 5.19 per cent."

"And the fact is now," he said, "that under this Government for the first time in five or six years our bonds have brought a less price than those of other provinces, despite the good financial shape of British Columbia."

SECRET SALES

Mr. Manson could not understand why Mr. Shelly had made his recent bond sales secretly, so secretly that the agreement between the Government and the purchasing syndicate had never been revealed until read to the House by T. D. Pattullo, Opposition Leader, on the previous day. The agreement, he said, put the Province irrevocably in the hands of its fiscal agents until the end of February, a proceeding unparalleled before. In addition, the Province was bound to pay the fiscal agents one per cent commission on all bonds sold.

Mr. Manson wondered whether Mr. Speaker Jones, if he had been Finance Minister, as he was more qualified and entitled to be than Mr. Shelly, would have entered such a deal. He wondered also if T. H. Kirk, Conservative of Vancouver, would have done such a thing if he had taken the Finance portfolio. Mr. Manson did not believe that these gentlemen or any other gentlemen experienced in finance, would have done any such thing.

Hon. E. L. Maitland asked Mr. Manson several times whether the interests which purchased the Liberal Government's bonds went without any remuneration at all, if they were paid no commission. Mr. Manson replied that they received their profit from the public by selling the bonds at a higher price than they paid for them. The purchasing public in many parts of the world, not the Government, thus paid the dealers' profits, he said.

STATEMENT WRONG

Mr. Manson denied point blank Mr. Shelly's statement that the former Government had made sixteen private bond sales. When the old Government went into the market and floated a \$5,000,000 loan, for instance, he said, the successful tenderers often came back and offered to purchase another block of Government securities at a similar price, he explained. In such cases, the Government sometimes made such a second sale without calling new tenders. But at no time was a sale

No Private Bond Sale Under Old Government Manson Tells Members

Never in its twelve years of office did the Liberal Government sell Provincial bonds privately, as the Tolmie Government has done recently, and never did it pay commissions like those recently paid, A. M. Manson, Liberal, of Omimeca, declared in the Legislature yesterday, when he replied to a speech on Government financing by Hon. W. C. Shelly, Minister of Finance.

Mr. Manson sought to prove that Mr. Shelly had misled the House in his statement that the former ministry had made sixteen private bond sales during its life. He also defended the former ministry's refusal to float bonds after it had been defeated at the polls and immediately before, a policy which Mr. Shelly had vigorously assailed.

Going back to the days of the Liberal Government's election in 1916, and recalling the difficulties of financing then, Mr. Manson said the Brewster ministry had decided to do away permanently with fiscal agents like those used recently by Mr. Shelly, and also had ceased to pay any commissions on bonds like those recently paid.

NO COMMISSIONS

"Never once did we pay a commission on the sale of bonds," the former Attorney-General asserted.

Conservative members, declared Mr. Manson, had no right to go into these matters at that point under the rules of the House, but after a long argument he was allowed to proceed. He declared that the former ministry had sold its bonds by public tender and not privately, as was done recently.

"And," he added, "the prices we received improved so much that recently B.C. bonds sold at a better rate than those of any province and sometimes better than the Dominion."

Mr. Shelly wanted to know when the Province got a better price than the Dominion, and Mr. Manson said he had a distinct recollection of the case, but could not quote it off-hand. In any case, prices for B.C. bonds were better than those for the securities of other provinces.

initiated without the calling of tenders, so that anyone might bid, he asserted. All the sixteen sales referred to by Mr. Shelly would be found to be in this category, Mr. Manson said.

Now, for political purposes, and to injure the Opposition, Mr. Manson charged, the new Government was ready to sacrifice the good financial name of

the Province through statements like Mr. Shelly's.

Mr. Shelly had suggested Mr. Manson went on, that the former Government should have gone into the bond market and sold up to \$20,000,000 in bonds early in 1928, according to advice received from financial authorities. Such a course, Mr. Manson replied, would have brought down the price of Provincial securities several points and would have been unwise.

UNCONSTITUTIONAL PLAN

As for the suggestion of the Finance Minister that the Government should have sold bonds after the election when the market was good, Mr. Manson declared that such a proceeding, after the Government's defeat, would have been entirely unconstitutional.

"If the leader of the Conservative Party had been consulted and agreed to a sale of bonds, what then?" asked Mr. Maitland.

"Why, it would have been almost tantamount to insolence to the Lieutenant-Governor to have told him we had consulted Dr. Tolmie and asked him to approve a bond sale," Mr. Manson retorted.

When all the details were boiled down, Mr. Manson concluded, the fact remained that "under a Conservative Government the country is paying more for its money than under a Liberal Government."

ATURDAY, JANUARY 26,

HOUSE TOLD OF EMPLOYEES IN LIQUOR BOARD

Opposition Wants to Know of Immigration Plans; Minor Bills In

Details of the employees of the Liquor Board were given to the Legislature yesterday by Attorney-General Pooley. He said 297 persons were employed by the board on August 20 last, just before the present Government took office, and of these 117 were returned soldiers. Now 301 persons were employed and 118 are returned soldiers. Six returned soldiers have been appointed since last August and one has been discharged.

The Opposition is asking the Government whether it has made any definite immigration proposals to the British or Canadian Governments. It is also anxious to know about the Government's reported plans for a road from Alberni to the West Coast of Vancouver Island at or near Tofoino.

Minor legislation introduced by the Government yesterday provides that all beekeepers must register with the Department of Agriculture without charge. Another bill clarifies the Contagious Diseases (Animals) Act. Some technical changes in the Conditional Sales Act are proposed by Attorney-General Pooley.

The day started quietly enough and everyone figured on winding up the week in a couple of hours. But there was lightning and thunder in the air from the start. In fact, as Mr. Shelly opened his discussion of Government financing he was so calm and quiet about it, as if he were addressing a board of directors, that the House sensed something behind it. There was something behind it and emerged without delay.

The Government, it was soon clear, intended to make this its day exclusively, just as the previous one had been the Opposition's (Governments always like to get their innings on Fridays so that the newspaper-reading public may ponder these things over the week-end). The Government was going on an offensive of its own after taking all Mr. Pattullo's thrusts on Thursday.

Mr. Shelly was not quiet and subdued long. He soon opened an attack which showed that the new Finance Minister knows how to take care of himself in debate as in business. While trying out his wings in oratory in the rare atmosphere of the House, however, he wisely did not scorn to use the artificial aid of a carefully-prepared manuscript, which strictly speaking, is not according to Hoyle, as Capt. Mackenzie was kind enough to point out. With this manuscript Mr. Shelly was able to deluge the House with figures and facts until its head swam. After listening to him toss millions around the average member wondered why he was bothering with a \$2,000 indemnity.

Finally the House voted down the motion to adjourn. If Mr. Manson could not adjourn the debate other Liberals thought they could. They were wrong. Capt. Mackenzie, with many biting remarks about free speech and brute majorities, moved an adjournment so that he could speak Monday. Mr.

Speaker Jones said he was out of order. Mr. Manson said Mr. Speaker Jones was quite wrong and surprisingly rash for so new a Speaker. "Order! Order!" thundered the indignant Conservatives in protest against such a remark about the new Speaker.

"How about doing some business?" suggested Hon. Rolf Bruhn, who has no use for these wrangles, but his was a voice crying in a wilderness of argument and was instantly lost in the clamor. Mr. Bruhn subsided in despair. The whole Cabinet subsided. The new Conservative members sat back with a puzzled look in their first baptism of fire and let the old-timers carry on the fight. The old-timers carried it on with a will.

By this time the House was sunk without trace in questions of procedure. Everyone was looking up the book of rules, which are new to most of them. Mr. Manson's desk was littered with authorities and he and Mr. Davie and Mr. Pooley and Mr. Mackenzie were all speaking at once.

During a moment's pause while both sides looked up some obscure point which no one understood, Mr. Pattullo, who was enjoying himself hugely, rose to plead for "the decencies and courtesies of debate." He added significantly that these courtesies and decencies would save a lot of time later on. That threat did not escape anyone, for the Opposition had already demonstrated its ability to tie the House up in knots and delay the adjournment hour.

Blocked in other channels, Mr. Manson was resourceful as usual. He suggested patiently that Mr. Speaker think his ruling over during the week-end and see if he hadn't made a mistake, but Mr. Speaker had no such intention. Put to his first test, Mr. Jones, of South Okanagan, did not budge an inch. He remarked sharply that it was time the House recovered some sense of dignity.

Folled again, the Opposition made its last gallant stand. One by one each of the seven Liberals rose and moved an adjournment and one by one were ruled out of order. Dr. Wrinch was solemn and deliberate as he asked time to prepare a speech for next week. Mr. MacPherson was indignant. Mr. Kergin was logical. And Mr. Buchanan was a picture of resignation as he hurled himself into the breach to suffer the same fate as the others. All were out of order. Even Mr. Uphill found himself in the same plight as he protested loudly in his brogue.

ACROSS THE BAY

The First Week Finishes in a Storm, and If There Is Much More Weather Like This Ahead the House Won't Get Home Until the Spring

The Seventeenth Parliament of British Columbia finished its first week yesterday; and if the last day of its first week is anything like the days to follow, the Seventeenth Parliament of British Columbia is going to be a turbulent one.

The week finished in a first-rate row, in a paroxysm of protest from the Opposition, in a grim determination on the face of the Government, in a score of resolutions, counter resolutions and amendments, in a bewildering wrangle over points of order and finally in the Government's first victory by twenty-nine votes against a group of eight, who fought like wildcats to the last breath.

The ebb and flow of that struggle will never be known except to those who witnessed it and they will never remember it all. They will be lucky indeed, if they remember what it was all about in the first place. There is no Hansard to record the events of the day and even a Hansard could never paint the picture of the new House in its first battle array.

There will never be any record of Mr. Manson's wrath, or Mr. Pattullo's plea for the courtesies and decencies of debate, or Mr. Pooley's blunt refusal to yield an inch, or Mr. Davie's demands for order, or Colonel Peck's comments in the far corner, or Mr. Mattland's sarcasm, or Capt. Mackenzie's rolling r's or Mr. Uphill's insistence in a rich brogue that he be heard as the leader, the rank and the file of the Labor Party, or Mr. Speaker Jones's stern rebukes, or Mr. Buchanan's despair of many other things that filled Friday afternoon.

All the votes and proceedings will say is that the House had two divisions and a few motions and adjourned. They will not tell the people of British Columbia how the representatives battled for the faith within them. They will not tell either that if we are going to have many more battles like this we won't be home until pink blossom covers the orchards of Okanagan.

It is always comforting to have the full force of a big majority behind you on such occasions and Mr. Shelly had it at his back as he charged into the Opposition. Again and again the Conservatives pounded their desks with delight. "The Leader of the Opposition could give me all the cards in the pack and beat me hands down in this game," cried Mr. Shelly and then proceeded to tell the House what he thought of "this young man who aspires to be Premier," this "remaining remnant of the Brewster Government." And when he waved aloft a document which purported to prove that Mr. Pattullo with his own signature had authorized a private loan which he now condemned, the Conservatives went fairly wild, even though the statement was promptly denied.

"The din of desk thumping was so deafening that Mr. Uphill remarked wearily, "Look here, Mr. Speaker, sir, I want to say if you don't stop this here we're going to need new furniture and that's a fact."

After Mr. Shelly came Mr. Manson and he came to life with all his old fire, all his old mastery of words, all his nervous gestures, all his passion for the truth. Mr. Manson answered Mr. Shelly but that was only the beginning of the real trouble. The real trouble started when he sought to adjourn the debate so that he could say some more on Monday. There the Government put its large, heavy foot down with a thud.

Mr. Manson insisted on adjourning, Mr. Pooley insisted that a vote be taken on Mr. Pattullo's no-confidence motion and for an even hour the battle raged.

SAYS WARNOCK DISMISSED FOR DISOBEDIENCE

Dr. David Warnock, former Deputy Minister of Agriculture, was dismissed from office "for deliberately refusing or neglecting to carry out the instructions of the Minister." This was the explanation made to the Legislature yesterday by Hon. William Atkinson, Minister of Agriculture, in answer to questions from Dr. H. C. Wrinch, Liberal of Skeena. "The usual notice given in such circumstances," was given Dr. Warnock, Mr. Atkinson said. Asked what remuneration was given to Dr. Warnock in lieu of notice, Mr. Atkinson said: "The matter is under consideration and held in obedience pending receipt of proper detailed expense account in the premises."

Government Majority Throttles Attempt to Postpone Bond Debate

The Tolmie Government, with its big majority, voted down a want of confidence motion by 29 votes to 8, in the Legislature yesterday.

This vote was preceded by one of the most stubborn fights the House has seen in years, as the Opposition sought by every means to gain a larger discussion of Government financing. One by one every Liberal member formally moved to adjourn the debate, and one by one they were ruled out of order. Attorney-General Pooley insisting that an immediate vote must be taken by the motion of T. D. Pattullo, Opposition Leader, attacking the Government's recent bond deals.

SEEKS ADJOURNMENT

The trouble started originally when A. M. Manson, Liberal of Omineca, concluded his speech on the want-of-confidence motion, moved by his Leader, as an amendment to the address in reply to the Speech from the Throne. After speaking on this amendment, Mr. Manson sought to adjourn further discussion so that he could resume his address on Monday.

This request for an adjournment brought instant cries of "No! No!" from the Government benches.

At no time in the history of the Liberal Government did we thus refuse the Opposition the fullest opportunity of discussion," Mr. Pattullo protested.

Attorney-General Pooley, leading the Government in Premier Tolmie's absence, declared that under the rules Mr. Manson could not adjourn the debate after having spoken on the amendment, and added: "So far as this Government is concerned, we propose to see that the rules are observed."

MUST BE SETTLED

Mr. Manson said Mr. Pooley was quite wrong about the rules, but the Conservative floor leader replied that the motion of no confidence in the Government must be settled during the day and not left over for further discussion.

"It must be settled to-day," Mr. Pooley repeated.

"Perhaps it will and perhaps not," retorted Mr. Manson.

Mr. Pooley protested that Mr. Manson had no right to speak further, having concluded his address and Mr. Manson sat down.

Mr. Manson still pressed his motion to adjourn the debate, however. Mr. Pattullo asked for a division on it. The division was duly taken and Mr. Manson's adjournment motion was defeated by 29 to 8, Thomas Uphill, Labor mem-

ber for Fernie, voting with the Liberals. There were five pairs.

Capt. Ian Mackenzie, Liberal of North Vancouver, immediately moved to adjourn the debate on the want of confidence motion, but Mr. Speaker Jones ruled him out of order on the ground that such a motion could not be made again after being once defeated.

SAYS SPEAKER WRONG

Mr. Manson was on his feet instantly declaring, "Mr. Speaker, you are absolutely and entirely wrong," adding that he was surprised Mr. Speaker could be "so rash" as to make such a ruling.

This was greeted with cries of "Order" from the Conservative benches and Mr. Speaker rang his bell for order.

After a good deal of argument, Mr. Pooley quoted the rules to support Mr. Speaker's ruling, and Mr. Pattullo intervened with a plea for the "courtesies and decencies of debate." He added significantly that if the Government would extend these courtesies to the Opposition it would save a great deal of time in future.

Mr. Pooley insisted that the Opposition should have been prepared for the situation and that the issue of non-confidence must be settled at once.

Mr. Uphill sought also to adjourn the debate and Capt. Mackenzie declared that while the Government had allowed one of its own members, M. E. Rutledge, of Burnaby, to adjourn the debate on the preceding day, it would not accord the same privilege to a Liberal.

Finally, Mr. Speaker protested: "We have had enough of this sort of thing. The proceedings should be carried on with some dignity."

Mr. Manson suggested that Mr. Speaker think over the situation during the week-end, and possibly correct his ruling, letting the debate stand meanwhile.

ALL REJECTED

This idea being unacceptable to Mr. Speaker, Dr. H. C. Wrinch, Liberal of Skeena, moved the adjournment of the debate so that he could speak on Monday. He, too, was ruled out of order. H. F. Kergin, Liberal of Atlin, moved an adjournment and met with the same ruling. F. M. MacPherson, Liberal of Cranbrook, took the same course and was ruled out. J. A. Buckham, Liberal of Columbia, the remaining Liberal member, moved the same motion and also was rejected, after he had declared that not in his memory had the right of adjournment been refused to a member.

This was the Opposition's last protest and a division on the Pattullo non-confidence amendment was taken. This like the Manson adjournment motion, was lost by 8 to 29. Mr. Uphill voting with the Opposition.

STATE HEALTH INSURANCE IS GIVEN SUPPORT

Burnaby Member Champions It in Maiden Speech

State health insurance, Government-assisted industries and the present Workmen's Compensation Act were vigorously championed by W. R. Rutledge, Conservative, member for Burnaby, when he made his maiden speech in the Legislature yesterday.

The member opened with a glowing description of his own riding, which he claimed was second to none in the Province, holding a more important situation than any other riding. He pointed to its Burrard and Fraser waterfront and trackage on the Canadian Pacific Railway and B.C. Electric Railway and the great agricultural area adjacent. It had, he believed, the largest population of any riding in the Province which was mainly composed of working men.

INDUSTRY SITES

In the Burnaby riding, he said, could be found the best locations that could be obtained for any industry that wished to come to the Province, and he assured the Government he would do all in his power to support it in any effort to secure industries for that riding.

Burnaby, too, needed roads, he said. It needed good trunk roads leading into Vancouver. The Grandview Road was not completed and the citizens of Burnaby wanted it completed. Kingsway was not wide enough to carry the traffic that went over it, and because of this there had been many accidents. The single track of the B.C. Electric on this road had drawn vigorous criticism and he hoped the Government would support Burnaby in its fight against this track running along the right side of the road and dangerous to automobile traffic.

Coming back to the subject of industries, he said Burnaby had a population of working men. Many of them were casual laborers and often out of employment. He offered the suggestion that the Government encourage industries and assist them, if necessary. "I say this Government cannot do better than assist industries of any kind when you have such facilities for industries as you have in the riding I represent."

Regarding school taxation, he said Burnaby was dissatisfied with the present method, believing the burden did not fall on the right shoulders, and he hoped attention would be given to this.

He referred to 400 acres of land almost in the centre of Burnaby. Thirty acres had been cleared in 1916. Nothing had been done since and these thirty acres were now almost grown over again.

UNEMPLOYMENT

He hoped the Government would face the problem of unemployment to keep sons and daughters of the Province at home, and, in this respect, expressed sympathy with returned soldiers, mentioning he was the father of three veterans. "I want to say my sympathies are 100 per cent with the returned men and I will do all in my power for them," he added.

On the subject of immigration, he remarked: "Though I may stand alone in this, I want to say that any privilege or favor that is offered an emigrant must also be offered to any citizen of British Columbia who wishes to take it up." He doubted, however, if any system of assisted emigration to British Columbia would be successful under present conditions.

Referring to Mr. Pattullo's charges of vicious patronage, he said it reminded him of the boy who yelled before he got a thrashing in the hopes that he would not get one.

"I don't want to interrupt," interposed Mr. Pattullo, but I understand we are to get two or three hundred more lashes after this session."

Mr. Rutledge charged there had been vicious patronage under the Liberal Government in connection with beer parlors and liquor vendors.

Doctors and insurance men might not like it, he remarked, but he was all in favor of state health insurance, and asked why nothing had been done since the Government was asked for a report in 1921. Canada was fifty years behind in this respect, he charged. In passing, he praised the Workmen's Compensation Act, which he said was an excellent act working splendidly. He hoped before the House adjourned

to move the appointment of a committee to investigate conditions under which health insurance could be put into effect.

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B. C. UNION ASK CHANGED LEGISLATION

Public Utilities Commission and School Aid Asked By B.C. Municipalities

Hunter Combination Ballot Is Recommended to Speed Up Elections

A list of thirty-three points which the Union of B.C. Municipalities will ask leave to take up with various committees of the Legislature has been prepared and shows legislative changes asked in respect to a large number of matters of municipal concern. The creation of a public utilities commission and greater help with school costs are the major issues of the case to be presented.

Prominence in the list is given to the combination ballot plan, devised by M. F. Hunter, City Clerk of Victoria, and which has been approved by the union as an improved and less costly method of taking municipal polls. The Hunter ballot would substitute a set of four ballots for the four separate, colored ballots formerly used. It is claimed for the plan that it would speed up election returns and reduce costs by eliminating the time now used in sorting. The voter would draw one set of ballots, attached in a file and complete voting in one operation.

CHANGES SOUGHT

The union is also asking control of the licensing of fox farms in regard to the choice of sites; a clearer definition of the duties of returning officers in the use of a casting vote; reduced license fees for ambulances, road repair trucks, and similar public vehicles; elimination of the gasoline tax paid by municipalities; definition of improvements in respect to oil tanks and other works, for assessment purposes; tighter property qualification laws for municipal candidates; reduction of tax penalties from 15 to 12 per cent; closer definition of compulsory advertising money-by-laws, and a number of other points.

The union also asks the repeal of the \$5 per day charge for the upkeep of prisoners in provincial jails; revision of the cost of road construction between the Province and the municipalities; provision for the destruction of noxious weeds along highways; and a number of changes in various acts dealing with subdivision registration, land titles, etc.

LIGHTEN SCHOOL COSTS

The union has prepared a determined case in regard to school costs, asking that the Province lighten the burden of educational costs either by taking over the schools, or else by increasing the basis of taxation so that greater aid may be given to the municipalities. Pointing out that teachers' salaries have risen fifty per cent in some place in ten years, the union asks an increase grant under this head.

WANT COMMISSION

Provision for a public utilities commission is also sought, with effective powers to control rates, capitalization and contracts. The exact scope of the proposed utilities commission is not defined, but general powers are asked to control all rates that may apply, in the best interests of the public at large.

Altogether the union has a full programme to lay before committees of the House, on behalf of the sixty-two municipalities of the Province.

FITZSIMMONS LEGISLATION IS PROTESTED

Bill Validating Kaslo Member's Election to Meet Strong Opposition

When Government legislation legalizing the election of Capt. James Fitzsimmons, Conservative, of Kaslo-Slocan, comes up in the Legislature, it will be met with the concerted attack of the Opposition, it was learned at the Parliament Buildings to-day.

The bill will be attacked on the ground that it opens up highly dangerous possibilities by validating an election which the Government apparently considers illegal. Capt. Fitzsimmons, it is explained, held a ferry contract from the Government just before being nominated, and while he assigned his interests to a company, no provision for such assignments exists in provincial legislation. On this account, the Government proposes to clear away all doubt about the legality of the election by the passage of a blanket bill declaring it in order.

SEEK ANOTHER ELECTION

Liberals will oppose this measure in the House in the belief that the Government's proper course would be to

call another election in Kaslo-Slocan and allow Capt. Fitzsimmons to seek election again. In this way the Government would avoid the danger of establishing a precedent under which any election could be violated. In the present case, of course, there is no suggestion of improper conduct on the part of anyone, but under a bill similar to that now before the members, the House could legalize any election no matter how corrupt.

In addition, it is thought the House may have no power to pass the new legislation, and that it may be thrown out as ultra vires. The consequences of this would be serious, as all the proceedings of the present session might

be interpreted by the courts as ineffective should a member not properly elected vote on them. For the sake of the business of the session as well as for the advantage of Capt. Fitzsimmons the Government will be urged not to go ahead with its legislation.

TOLMIE NOT BACK AT OFFICE YET

Premier Tolmie was reported as better to-day but owing to the inclement weather did not venture from his home. It is expected he will return to his office during the next two or three days and will take part then in the debate on the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne, now under way in the Legislature.

CARSON PLEADS MINERS' CAUSE

Wants Consumption Made Occupational Disease For Compensation

What the people of British Columbia desire is the opportunity of building up homes and earning their daily bread, and not promises, declared E. C. Carson, member for Lillooet, and the youngest member of the House, in his maiden speech in the Legislature on Monday.

"Much has been heard of the famous freight rates case of the last Government, and I am sure that the Liberals would have fared better had they started their fight for lower rates closer at home."

He rapped T. D. Pattullo, Opposition Leader, for his having asked the other day what further information was required by the Government on the resources of the country traversed by the P.G.E. other than that which was on file. He argued Mr. Carson, this information was complete, why had not the Liberal administration done something to assist in the solution of the problems of lack of development and tonnage?

AID FOR MINERS

Mr. Carson made an eloquent plea for the inclusion as an occupational disease which would be given compensation, miners' consumption. He pictured the life of the miner underground and insisted that miners' consumption was a hazard of the calling that was worthy of consideration.

"On the broader question of pecuniary compensation," he went on, "for all classes of workers, I am strongly of the opinion that the percentage of earnings on which is based the amount of compensation payable under the Workmen's Compensation Act should be raised to at least 65 per cent, or, if possible, 70 per cent. While I have made specific reference to miners' consumption, which is not covered by the provisions of the act, it is hardly necessary for me to state that I hold no brief for any one class of worker, coming as I do from a constituency of such diversified resources and occupations."

TWIGG CHAIRMAN PRIVATE BILLS

Petitions Passed Upon at First Meeting This Morning

West Kootenay Power Bill Among First on List

At the first organization meeting of the Private Bills Committee of the British Columbia Legislature this morning, petitions on several private bills were accepted and the advertising ruled upon as sufficient.

H. D. Twigg, of Victoria, was named chairman of the committee. J. H. Beatty was elected secretary.

The amount of \$5,000,000 was accepted as capital of the Provincial Telephone Company for the purpose of fees. Standing orders were complied with in connection with the bill.

The petition of the Royal Plate Glass Insurance Company of Canada on its bill to increase its capital from \$100,000 to \$200,000 and embrace other lines of insurance including automobile insurance, fire, sickness and accident was accepted.

The preliminaries regarding the bill of the West Kootenay Power and Light Company seeking extension of their territory to do business in any part of British Columbia were approved. The advertising of the private bill of the Chartered Commercial Company of Vancouver was approved.

A resolution was carried to the effect that unless circumstances arise that necessitate an adjournment, the committee will proceed with one bill until it is completed. This is for the convenience of counsel and other parties interested coming from a distance.

SCHOOL TRUSTEES ASK LEGISLATION

Qualification and Estimates Suggestions Before Municipal Committee

Two requests from New Westminster School Board were dealt with by the municipal committee of the B.C. Legislature this morning. One urged that February 15 was too early a date for school boards to be required to have their annual estimates ready for the council. Members of the committee said councils did not usually hold trustee boards to the strict letter of the law and it was decided action was not necessary unless the complain was more general.

New Westminster also pointed out that school trustees were subject to disqualification if companies in which they held stock did business with this board. Mayors and aldermen were not subject to this disqualification and the trustees asked that ban be lifted from them. The committee approved the principle and forwarded its resolution to the Minister of Education.

Deputations having representations to lay before the legislature a municipal committee must meet the committee before February 19. It was decided that after all requests have been received, the committee's views may be laid before the Attorney-General in time for legislation to be prepared and acted upon at the present session.

The executive of the Union of B.C. Municipalities will appear before the committee on February 5 and meetings will be held daily, if necessary for the next two weeks to hear the views of any public body having business to bring forward.

GRAND FORKS PETITION

Request from the City of Grand Forks for legislation enabling it to own the stock of the Grand Forks Light and Water Co., a former Grandby concern whose rights and property the city has acquired, was presented to the committee to-day by F. A. McDiarmid. The city wished to keep the company alive in order that its water licenses might retain their priority, he said. Robert Baird, municipal inspector, urged that safeguards be put in any legislation granted requiring that the affairs of the company be treated as a part of the municipality's business subject to the same audit and publicity. To this Mr. McDiarmid agreed. The committee requested Mr. McDiarmid, however, to ascertain the views of the Attorney-General on the question and to appear at a later date.

FITZSIMMONS TALKS BRIEFLY

Another maiden speech in the House yesterday was that of Capt. James Fitzsimmons, Kaslo-Slocan, who, after advocating several measures of special interest to his constituency, concluded with the observation that the public were more interested in good business government than they were in reading of able and eloquent speeches in the House on points of order.

After telling of the great progress of mining in Slocan, Capt. Fitzsimmons urged the following three measures:

1. Setting aside an appropriation for roads and trails to the mines so that the work could be started as early in the Spring as possible.
2. Provision for clearing and improving old existing trails that have fallen into disrepair.
3. Greater governmental assistance

to rural hospitals so that those unable to pay might avail themselves of proper treatment facilities.

Shelly Mised House Says Liberal Leader Moving For Censure

Declares Finance Minister Misinformed Members in Statements About Private Bond Sales Under Liberal Government; No Such Sales Were Made, He Asserts; Motion Attacking Shelly Ruled Out of Order

Private sale of Government bonds, the most absorbing topic of the present session, bobbed up again in the Legislature yesterday before any business could get under way when T. D. Pattullo, Opposition leader, moved to censure Hon. W. C. Shelly, Minister of Finance, for making false statements about the financing of the former Liberal Ministry.

In the end, the motion was ruled out of order by Mr. Speaker Jones, but by that time the Opposition had got over to the House all the facts it desired in another of the free-for-all wrangles on procedure which took up most of last Friday's session.

Mr. Pattullo raised the issue as soon as the House met by rising on a question of privilege to resent Mr. Shelly's statements and to move that "This House regrets that the Honorable the Minister of Finance, dealing with the question of sale of provincial securities during the course of his speech on Friday afternoon, January 25, submitted to this House incomplete and erroneous information which was misrepresentative of the real facts."

DENIES STATEMENT

Mr. Pattullo recalled that when he objected to the recent sale of Government bonds privately, Mr. Shelly had replied that the former Liberal Ministry had made many such sales; and that one of these sales had been authorized by Mr. Pattullo himself as acting Minister of Finance.

"There is nothing in the order-in-council quoted by the Minister of Finance and signed by me to specifically authorize sale of debentures by private sale and I wish the House to know as a matter of fact that the debentures which were sold under the authority of the order-in-council were part of a larger issue which had been sold by public tender and the issue referred to in the order-in-council, namely, \$310,000, was awarded to the syndicate which had secured the larger award by public tender at the price of the public tender," he said.

"In the statement submitted by the Minister of Finance, it is indicated that some \$18,000,000 of securities of the Province were sold by private sale by our administration. That statement is very misleading."

"Of the sixteen items quoted by the Minister as having been sold by private sale, in five of them, aggregating \$1,100,000, the sale was made to the Workmen's Compensation Board. I do not think that anyone will look upon a sale of British Columbia securities to the Workmen's Compensation Board as a private sale."

P.G.E. STOCK

"The item of \$5,900,000 quoted by the Minister consisted of Pacific Great Eastern collateral stock guaranteed by the Province. The Pacific Great Eastern is a corporate body of itself and the guaranteed collateral stock was in an entirely different position from the ordinary securities of the Province."

"Another item mentioned by the Minister of \$4,000,000 was nothing more nor less than a six-months' note of hand and was disposed of just as an ordinary treasury note is sold to the Bank of Commerce and cost only 437 per cent."

"Of the balance of approximately \$7,500,000 referred to by the Minister as having been sold by private sale, this additional amount was only awarded after tenders had first been obtained by public tender."

its "mechanical majority," the Opposition had set itself right with the country.

Thomas Uphill, Labor member for Fernie, protested against "this spectacle," which, he said, was a bad example to everyone and indicated that the members had not been where they should have been over the week-end.

Finally Mr. Speaker ruled that the Pattullo motion was out of order, as the matters raised did not constitute a question of privilege and the incident ended there.

LIBERAL POLICY

"During the time that our administration was in office, we disposed of over \$9,000,000 of securities, direct obligation of the Province, and approximately \$6,000,000 indirect obligation, guaranteeing P.G.E. collateral stock. Of this amount of \$98,000,000, the Minister of Finance only alleges that we sold \$18,000,000 by private sale, so that even if his statement were correct, which it is not, that would leave approximately \$80,000,000 sold by public tender, which is an indication beyond question of just what our policy was."

"The statement of the Minister in connection with the amount of \$18,800,000 is grossly misrepresentative and I trust that I have made it clear to the House that the statement which I made as to our policy was in no sense incorrect and on the contrary the Minister of Finance gave a very wrong impression as to my personal attitude upon this issue."

Mr. Pattullo's motion censuring Mr. Shelly and his speech launched the House on nearly an hour's rather hectic debate on questions of order. C. F. Davie, Conservative, of Cowichan-Newcastle, insisted that the Pattullo motion must have two days' notice before being voted on, but Mr. Pattullo said it must be considered immediately under the rules. Attorney-General Pooley supported Mr. Davie, but A. M. Manson, Liberal, of Omineca, quoted many authorities to prove that the motion must be considered forthwith.

Mr. Davie went further and insisted that Mr. Pattullo had not discussed a question of privilege, was "trying to put something over on the House," and he did not propose to let him do so.

Ian Mackenzie, Liberal, of North Vancouver, delivered a vigorous address in support of his leader, accused Hon. Joshua Hinchliffe of his "customary sophistries" in supporting Mr. Davie's view, and attacked H. D. Twigg, Conservative, of Victoria, who shared the Conservative viewpoint.

"MUSCOLINI TACTICS"

When Mr. Davie interrupted, Mr. Mackenzie turned on him and called him "the new dictator," and said it was too bad the Cowichan-Newcastle member was not in the chair where he could "exercise his Mussolini tactics." This brought instant objection from Mr. Speaker Jones, who held that it was unparliamentary to call a member "Mussolini" or "dictator."

Mr. Mackenzie concluded by remarking that even if the Government smothered the Pattullo motion, with

WARNS AGAINST CONCESSIONS TO B.C. LUMBERMEN

Lister Warns Government Against Decreasing Forest Revenue

Asks Help in Meeting Costs of B.C. Irrigation Schemes

Pleading for relief for districts in British Columbia under Government irrigation schemes, Col. Fred Lister, Creston, in the debate on the speech from the Throne yesterday, gave warning that he had a lot of wants for his district, and if he did not get them he was going to be an ornery customer to handle. He touched in passing on the anticipated appeal of lumbermen for concessions and charging that some of their losses were through their own mismanagement, urged the Government to go slow before making any steps which would decrease the revenue the Province received from its forests.

In opening, he congratulated Mr. Pattullo on his election as Leader of the Opposition.

"He is a man well fitted for the job, and I hope he will stay there a long time," he said. Of improved conditions in British Columbia, he remarked that it was not because of the late Government, but in spite of them. Mining was improving because, as we got farther away from the war, more money was available for development.

THEIR OWN FAULT

Lumbermen would come to this Government asking for concessions for their industry, he said. What was the matter with the industry? It was true logs did not fetch the price they did four years ago. He believed one of the reasons, however, why the lumbermen were not making as much money as they should do was to a great extent their own fault. They were not paying sufficient attention to overhead and in many instances there was mismanagement.

He urged the Government to give serious consideration before they took any step to lower the revenue the Province received from the lumber industry.

He was glad to note that the Leader of the Opposition had changed his mind in regard to help for irrigation districts. Some of these districts were totally unable to pay the charges levied against them and would ask the Government for assistance. It was up to British Columbia to decide whether the fruit industry was worth anything to the Province, to decide how much it was worth, and then decide to what extent they were prepared to help.

MANTS MORE MONEY

"I am going to ask this Government for more money for irrigation for my own district, and if I do not get it, I will be an ornery customer to handle," he said.

Touching on the Produce Market Act, he said it had not been a success in its present form. A lot of lawyers had made money out of it, he commented. No doubt the Committee of Direction would come to the House seeking amendments. They would have his support, as some such scheme was necessary.

He charged the member for North Vancouver was late in coming out as a champion of returned soldiers, and had refused to support him on previous occasions when he had pleaded for returned soldiers of Creston. The settlement schemes were a monument of failure to the last Government, he said, in drawing a dismal picture of the Creston settlement with deserted farm houses, cattle running wild, and noxious weeds spreading all over the district. He asked the Government to do something to combat the weed nuisance created by the abandoned farms. Some settlers were packing water two or three miles, he said, and he would ask the Government to put in a domestic water supply. A system was essential to get settlers to stay on farms there, he said.

On the subject of patronage, he said there had been only one man dismissed in his constituency. "I don't know if I agree with that," he said. "I also wish to criticize, mildly, the Attorney-General. I notice he says he has divorced the Provincial Police from politics. He should have taken the politics out of the police before he did that. He charged long service men had been overlooked in the matter of promotion and new men had early risen to high ranks."

He warned the Minister of Public Works that he would have a lot of wants including roads and trails, the trails especially, for the use of prospectors.

ACROSS THE BAY

The House Comes Back Out-of-sorts—Provincial Bonds Still Causing Trouble—And Points of Order Hold Up Business Again—While Mr. Speaker Frowns on Mussolini

The House came back to work on Monday as out-of-sorts as it went home for the week-end after Friday's fuss. Perhaps, indeed, after wading through the new-fallen snow and slipping on the icy driveway, it was feeling a little worse. This was unusual, for after its weekly holiday the House generally comes back quite human.

Whatever was the trouble, it could not get down to business for over an hour, and in those sixty hectic minutes the honorable members had got to calling themselves "Mussolini," "dictator" "obscure-headed" and other kind things until Mr. Speaker Jones at last called off the whole show.

It was all over the sale of provincial bonds again. Evidently that subject did not end in the exchanges between Mr. Shelly and Mr. Pattullo last week. They did not end yesterday either for that matter. Mr. Shelly had on his desk a long list of figures, which suggested that he, like Mr. Pattullo, would have a lot more to say when the time came.

The House is so worked up over the merits or demerits of the private sale of bonds that it keeps reverting to them again and again. This time Mr. Pattullo delivered a speech on a question of privilege to prove that Mr. Shelly had misrepresented him. And not with any hope of it passing, but to conform with an ancient rule which has never been conformed with before. Mr. Pattullo moved a motion censuring Mr. Shelly for so doing.

This offered alluring and irresistible bait to the pundits and the authorities on procedure. The Conservative authorities were quite sure Mr. Pattullo had no right to press his motion, at least without two days' notice. The Liberal authorities, curiously enough, were quite sure Mr. Pattullo was right. Nothing would satisfy these few gentlemen, who alone know anything about the rules and alone are interested in them, until they told what they knew from beginning to end. As everyone knew something different to be the only possible truth, the process was lengthy.

Mr. Davie, who would sooner worry a point of order than adjourn for dinner, thought Mr. Pattullo was trying to put something over on an innocent House and assured the House that he would protect it if he could. Mr. Manson came back with a dozen authorities to show that Mr. Pattullo was not trying to put anything over but was having something put over on him. He even went to Bourinot, authority in the Canadian Parliament, page 432, but Mr. Pooley cut him short by saying he ought to confine himself to May, the British authority, page something else. The House could not get enthusiastic about either.

Mr. Twigg thought it could not be a question of privilege. Mr. Hayward thought it would be a good idea to do some business. Mr. Pattullo thought his veracity had been challenged. And the rest of the House thought the snow would be two feet deep on the lawns before it could quit for the day if this went on much longer.

In vain was the soothing voice of Mr. Hinchliffe raised for the first time during the session to prove with his inimitable logic, that Mr. Pattullo must, in order of nature, be out of order. Mr. Ian Mackenzie lit into him as of old time in a speech full of passion and Scottish eloquence. Mr. Hinchliffe, said Mr. Mackenzie, was relating to his "customary sophistries." As for Mr. Twigg (whom he icily called the junior member for Victoria even though he is Deputy Speaker) well, Mr. Twigg was the greatest time-waster the House had ever known. Also Mr. Mackenzie, despite his ignorance, felt he was as good a judge of common sense as Mr. Twigg—and of courtesy, he added, leaning his tall figure out over his desk at the Victoria member. This, of course, was the inevitable revival of an old feud and sounded familiar to members who recollect the sessions of 1927 and 1928.

Mr. Mackenzie got warmer as he thought of the injustice that had been done to his leader. He found to his horror that Mr. Davie's head was obtrusive, which brought a sharp rebuke from Mr. Jones. He found to his horror also that the privileges of Parliament had been violated and he pounded a pile of rule books as he said so. And he concluded by declaring that Mr. Davie was a "new dictator" and that it was too bad Mr. Davie was not in the Speaker's chair where he could exercise his "Mussolini tactics."

At this point, which must be forever historic, Mr. Speaker stepped in with a ruling which will go down in the records among the really important rulings of Speakers of the British Columbia Legislature. He ruled that to call a member Mussolini is unparliamentary and unpardonable. So far as is known British Columbia is the first political entity in the world thus to disapprove of Fascism in so brutal fashion that an honorable member dare not compare another honorable member to the leader of that movement.

In the end Mr. Mackenzie sat down with a smile, having as he was at pains to point out, accomplished the result desired by getting Mr. Pattullo's voice over to the public despite the "mechanical" and "brute" majority of the Government. This latter remark, he added, when objection was taken to it, was used, of course, as the House would understand, in the best Pickwickian sense, and had been used by no less a person than Sir John A. Macdonald himself. This silenced objection to it.

Mr. Uphill had listened to all this with quiet resignation, but he could contain his Irish soul no longer. "I am afraid," he said, "that the honorable members haven't spent their week-end as they should or we would not have seen this here spectacle." He graciously accepted on behalf of everyone present "the Government's apology," which the Government had not made; and as the Government had "seen the error of its ways and repented," he would support it, which the Government probably did not desire.

Mr. Speaker cut him short by ruling the Pattullo motion even more out of order than the Conservative authorities had suggested. The Opposition accepted this ruling with fortitude for

the motion already had served the purpose. It had enabled the Opposition to say all it wanted to say anyway and no one regretted its premature burial.

That is not the end of bonds, however. We shall hear more and more of them and of Mr. Shelly and Mr. Pattullo and private sales and rates of interest before the snow melts.

After this argument the House started to plough doggedly on through the debate on the Speech from the Throne with four short but worthwhile addresses. Mr. Carson, of Lillooet, who is said to be the baby of the House and is a clean-cut young chap, introduced the P.G.E., which is not altogether a new subject, but on which he had some new ideas. Dr. Borden, of Nelson, gave a business-like talk on the interior country. Colonel Lister, of Creston, who says what he has to say in blunt soldier style, brought up his favorite topic of soldier settlement. Then Capt. James Fitzsimmons, of Kaslo-Slocan, capped the day's speaking with the best speech of the day. He said the people of British Columbia were more interested in good business in government than in eloquent speeches on questions of procedure. This nasty dig from so unexpected a quarter made the House feel that it had had enough for the day, and it adjourned. But not before it became pretty clear that the Government is deliberately sitting back and drawing out the Opposition to plan which so far has been remarkably successful.

These things and the importation of a large new armchair for the return of Premier Tolmie, whose figure does not agree with the smaller ones generally provided, formed the full programme. Until the Premier fills this big and better chair the House will do much talking but little business.

B.C. PLANS TO UNLOAD LOANS TO INDUSTRIES

Government Will Get Out of Commitments as Rapidly as Possible, Members Hear

Public Accounts Committee Starts Annual Investigation of Department

The policy of the Provincial Government will be to unload all its industrial loans as rapidly as possible without injuring any business. This was indicated today when the Public Accounts Committee of the Legislature started on its annual investigation of the Industries Department.

"My idea," said George A. Walkem, chairman of the committee, "is not to shut down any business, but I would like to see the industries which are in good position and which have loans from the Government, secure money from somewhere else and let the Government out."

"We are agreed on that," said A. M. Manson, head of the Liberal representation on the committee. Mr. Walkem added that the Government had no business to "nurse" highly competitive industries, when other industries of a similar kind, without Government loans, were having a hard time to finance.

CLEANING UP NOW

Colonel D. E. Martyn, Deputy Minister of Industries, explained that the Government was in the process of "cleaning up" its loans to industries of this class.

"Many of these more successful industries assisted by the Government could get money by floating securities to private investors and pay off the Government," Mr. Walkem explained.

The sooner the Government gets out of the loaning business the better, Mr. Manson declared.

While the committee reserved for a further hearing figures on the total results of the Industries Department's operations, Colonel Martyn supplied the information that twenty-five loans had been paid up in full and \$100,000 had been written off as loss in the total amount loaned so far.

TOLD OF LOANS

The committee questioned Colonel Martyn in great detail on each of the department's loans and secured exhaustive figures on them. In some cases Colonel Martyn admitted that there would be losses, while in many others he reported that the Government would get back all its advances and that the industries established were making a success and employing substantial numbers of men.

The committee will proceed with its inquiry into the Industries Department tomorrow when it will secure from Colonel Martyn a statement showing the net results of the Government's industrial loans.

When Mr. Walkem asked members of the committee to-day if they wanted anything else brought before them for investigation there were no suggestions and so far the committee's programme relates entirely to the Industries Department.

POOLEY FIRM ON CENSORSHIP

Turns Theatre Men Down Flatly on Appeal For Amendments to Bill

His bill for a censorship of moving picture advertising will stand exactly as he drafted it, Attorney-General Pooley emphatically told a delegation representing moving picture theatres and picture exchanges of British Columbia who waited upon him this morning.

Mr. Pooley refused point blank, according to R. Rowe Holland and J. Muir, prominent theatre men of British Columbia, to make any amendments to the bill.

The delegates pointed out to him that the attracting of patrons to a theatre was a business which had been built up through years of experience and not only in the shows that were offered, but in the manner in which they were announced, the public had to be satisfied. In addition to the censorship that the theatre men established, the newspapers in addition exercised a strict censorship over their advertising columns.

"You now intend to displace this dual control of advertising by some forty-five-dollar-a-week clerk," the delegation told the Attorney-General.

His reply was to the effect that the bill would be put through the Legislature as it was at present drafted.

BORDEN TELLS OF DOUKHOBORS

Sons of Freedom Are Those Making Trouble, He Says

Asks Government to Vote Money For Roads to Mines

The House applauded Dr. L. E. Borden, Nelson, vigorously, when he declared that if the Doukhobors intended to settle in some of the best parts of this Province and enjoy its advantages they must obey the laws of the country.

For the information of the House he gave a comprehensive review of the whole Doukhobor situation. There were three elements—the community Doukhobors, who lived in the community, the independents who were making homes for themselves and sending their children to school, and the Sons of Freedom, the disturbing element who were evidently inspired by a former resident of British Columbia named Rabin, whom the leaders of this group have been visiting in California. It was the Sons of Freedom who were holding the parades and making the present trouble, he stated. Since Peter Veregin's death, there had been no strong leader of the sect and dissension was rife within its ranks, he asserted.

He claimed the right to ask money for his district for roads and trails by virtue of the fact that it contained sixty per cent of the mineral wealth of the Province and paid one-tenth of the total taxation. There were ninety mines shipping and many in a state of development, but not shipping, which needed encouragement.

ACROSS THE BAY

The House Is Deadly Dull as It Pushes on Through the Throne Speech Debate—Mr. Uphill Quotes Shakespeare—Mr. Mackenzie Tells What He Thinks of Our Climate—And Fewer Strangers Attend

It was deadly dull in the House yesterday. Except for a small explosion, which would have gone unnoticed on a livelier day, it seemed as if all the assembly's fire has burned out in its two previous days of excitement. There wasn't a joke worth re-telling, nor a single moment of suspense, and no one called anyone else anything that could make Mr. Speaker's order bell ring.

In this uninteresting atmosphere, however, some progress was made, and by the end of the day the order paper, except for Government legislation, was almost clear. Evidently, though, things are not moving quite rapidly enough, for Attorney-General Pooley issued a warning that the present general debate must be closed up and an address presented to the Lieutenant-Governor, thanking him for his speech from the Throne, early next week. Not that the Lieutenant-Governor is pressing for any thanks, of course, but until that is done the real business of the session will have a wait.

The debates on the Throne Speech yesterday did not go far. There were only two speakers and no interruptions. The House got to know Roderick Mackenzie of Cariboo for the first time as the discussion resumed. He is a tall, thin, grey Scotsman, who talks informally with a slight burr. He told about the great open spaces of Cariboo, where, he said, you could drop one of the large coast constituencies into a small lake and it would only make a tiny island.

Among other things Mr. Mackenzie told the world what he thought of the climate of the coast, about which most members are thinking their share at the moment. Since coming here, he said, he had reached the conclusion that the ice-bound Cariboo had the best climate in the Province. The other up-country members, who had just walked through the snow that lies eight inches deep on Parliament Square, thumped their desks in approval.

The trouble with the coast, Mr. Mackenzie added, is that it has no honest thermometers, for when the mercury registers eight degrees of frost here, under similar conditions it would record twenty below zero at Quessnel. To which someone replied that the hot air emanating from across the James Bay at this season warms the Victoria atmosphere like the Japan current.

Tom Uphill of Fernie returned to the field for the first time this year with one of his old-time speeches, but was more effective than usual. With much waving of his arms, pounding of his desk, quotations from the Old Testament, a unique sentence structure which defies reproduction and a great earnestness, he told the House that British Columbia's widely-heralded prosperity is only a thin layer on top of a great mass of poverty. Mr. Uphill evinced sarcasm of a broad and frank sort as he told how the Tolmie Government was preaching high tariffs and opposing duties on American coal, while Nova Scotia and Alberta Liberals, who preached low tariffs, were busy advocating these very duties.

"Ah," quoth Mr. Uphill ascending for a moment to Shakespeare's level, "consistency, thou art a jewel!" And when the House smiled, he insisted that he was entitled to respect as the real Leader of the Opposition, the Leader of the Labor Party and the rest of the Labor Party as well.

The debate on the Throne Speech stalled there for want of speakers, and the Government seized the opportunity to push along resolutions and make some use of the rest of the afternoon.

The first was that standing in the name of Mr. Manson of Omineca, asking for an investigation into the recently-reformed absentee vote. Mr. Manson thought the House should see how the new election law worked in the poll of July 18 last, when it worked wonders for the old Government's enemies. Mr. Hinchliffe could see no use in such an investigation, but indicated that there would be further changes in the Election Act, among them the removal of transparent ballot papers, which Conservatives have disliked for years.

All this seemed friendly enough until Col. Peck dropped a spark which set off a minor Opposition explosion. Mr. Manson said two members of the House had not received a majority of the vote of their constituents, and Col. Peck wanted to know their names, so that the ballots in question could be preserved and not burned, as was the custom of Mr. Manson's Government. This Mr. Manson called a smart remark, typical of the gallant member for the Islands, and the House should know by this time that the old Government never buried ballot papers before their time and often held them long afterwards.

With these few remarks the House rejected the idea of an election investigation by thirty-two votes to ten. This verdict alone saved it from another of those interminable and highly moral debates on the absentee vote which in the past have made the average member's life more insupportable than usual.

Meanwhile the House committees, where much of the real work is done, are getting down to business. The public accounts committee has started in a strangely genial frame of mind this year. George Walkem is the new boss of the committee, where a great part of the dirt of the session is usually sifted. Under him the committee swings along in friendly style, everyone calling everyone else by his first name and no politics so far. "Now, then Alec, it's this way," says Mr. Walkem to Mr. Manson of Omineca, and "Yes, yes, George," says Mr. Manson to Mr. Walkem as neighborly as can be. There is an air of frankness and commonsense about these informal committee meetings, a freedom from politics which speeds up business. The House, under similar

circumstances would be stalled in the ruts of procedure, convulsing itself over political considerations and wondering what the public was thinking of. The public never sees the committees and they can devote themselves entirely to work.

The public attendance at the House is growing smaller and smaller. The crowds that watched the opening ceremonies, many of them because it was the thing to do, have been replaced by a few earnest souls who lean over the railings and drink in the wisdom which ascends to them from below. There is the usual brigade of elderly gentlemen who listen with hands to ears in wrapt attention to every syllable about some question in which they can have no possible interest, and the corps of ladies who ply knitting needles assiduously and whisper to one another about how handsome Attorney-General Pooley is getting, and what a nice suit Mr. Mackenzie is wearing.

Some of the spectators, however, have been a little too boisterous lately, that is to say boisterous for a solemn place like the Legislature, where only honorable members are entitled to such privileges and exercise them frequently, too. There have been several reprehensible outbursts of applause from friends of members anxious to show their appreciation of some bright sally. This is a grave crime in a British parliament, "strangers" even if they are your own friends, being tolerated only so long as members fail to see them. When any member actually discerns the people sitting in plain view in the gallery and informs Mr. Speaker of this shocking phenomenon, it is his duty to have them removed.

There won't be any more bursts of applause from the misguided galleries under Mr. Speaker Jones. Mr. Speaker has strong ideas on the dignity of the House and a fine Sergeant-at-Arms staff to carry them out. All this staff are returned men who wear in the form of half a dozen medals each, the evidence of service to their country in more dangerous places than the Legislature.

SAYS MASS OF PEOPLE POOR

Prosperity For Few Want For Majority in B.C. Now, Uphill Declares

Reviews Tolmie Government's Inconsistent Policy on Tariff

Surface signs of prosperity in British Columbia disguises the poverty which prevails among the great mass of the people, Thomas Uphill, Labor member for Fernie, assured the Legislature yesterday in an earnest address in support of the needs of the working men. "On the stock exchanges you will find prosperity but in my district in twenty-four hours before I left for the Coast, five people who were up against it, came to me for assistance, and four of them were British harvesters," Mr. Uphill said. "A few people are reveling in luxury, but the great mass are in poverty."

To support this statement, Mr. Uphill recalled the campaign conducted by Vancouver newspapers for Christmas funds a few weeks ago. The facts told by the papers to secure money for their funds, he said, were the true facts of the situation.

"Men who fought and bled for their country are in dire need," he asserted. "The people conducting these Christmas funds endeavored to give these people a feed at Christmas, but that is not sufficient. There are 365 days in the year, and we cannot say our country is prosperous when many men don't know where they are going to get their next meal."

The same condition prevailed in the United States, judging by the appeals for Christmas funds in American cities, where they have high protection it makes no difference."

COAL DUTIES

Mr. Uphill was sarcastic as he referred to the tariff policy of the Tolmie Government. He had understood, he said, that the Conservative Party favored protection, but had found he was wrong, for the Tolmie Government had recently spent money to send counsel before the Tariff Board to ask for the removal of duties on United States coal moving into Canada. He himself favored the removal of these duties, to prevent the United States retaliating and shutting British Columbia coal out of its markets, but he could not understand the attitude of the Government. Turning to Shakespeare to express his feelings, he added: "Oh, consistency, thou art a jewel!"

On the other hand, the Liberal Party stood for free trade, he understood, and yet the Liberals of Nova Scotia and Alberta were asking for higher coal duties.

IMMIGRATION POLICY

Turning to immigration, Mr. Uphill demanded that the Government grant residents already here exactly the same concessions that it grants to immigrants. This Province, he said, can support millions with its rich resources, but he could not understand why, during periods of over-production, many people had to go in want.

"I do not go so far as to say that the state owes me a living," he explained, "but I do say it owes me the opportunity for a living. And if it cannot give me that opportunity, that it is for the state to see that I and my family don't go hungry, and without the stigma of poverty. Among savages you will never find anyone going short when there is over-production."

Mr. Uphill delivered a vigorous attack on tariff protection, which he said never benefited anyone but the manufacturer and never helped labor. Protection, he said, was a lot of "bosh."

TOLMIE TO COME TO OFFICE SOON

Premier Tolmie was so improved in health to-day that he will return to his office and his seat in the Legislature to-morrow or Friday, it was stated at the Parliament Buildings.

The Premier has left his bed and is doing much of his regular work at his home. He is expected to wind up the debate on the Speech from the Throne early next week.

SEEK CHANGE IN PENSION LEGISLATION

Civic Employees Would Make Important Amendment to Superannuation Act

Amendments to the Superannuation Act insofar as the legislation affects municipal workers are being sought by a delegation representing policemen, firemen and other civic employees of Vancouver, Victoria and other important cities. Their requests were laid before H. D. Twigg, member of the Legislature for Victoria to-day, and he is explaining them to the Cabinet.

The civic employees ask that the basic figure for long service employees who are approaching the age limit be increased so as to give them larger retiring allowances; that arrangements be made to permit the transfer of fund credits from one municipality to another in the event of an employee changing his civic employer, and that the changes sought be made retroactive.

WOULD ALTER BASIS

Under the present legislation which came into force within the last year, this basis of seventy-five is used in computing the amount payable to a long service employee from the special fund set up for the retirement of veterans who had served years in municipal employment. This fund is in addition to that which is currently set up by the employees and the municipal treasuries. It consists of a one per cent charge in the payrolls of each municipality where the superannuation scheme is in operation, and is for the purpose of making an allowance to the employees who had served many years prior to the coming into force of the act.

In computing the allowance the basic figure of \$75 is taken. This is divided into the average annual wage paid to an employee, and is then multiplied by the number of years the pensioner has served, and the result is the yearly amount of the pension. The request of the delegation is that this basic figure be reduced to fifty, resulting in an increase in the annual allowance. They ask that this change cover existing contracts as well as future pensions.

SEEKING FACTS ON SETTLEMENT

Government Asked For Information on Soldier Areas; Game Law Costs Questioned

Detailed questions about soldier settlement schemes launched by the former Liberal Government and their results to date are being asked in the Legislature by Colonel Fred Lister, Conservative, of Creston. He wants to know the total sums of money expended on these schemes, the amount of land sold and the number of settlers established on the land.

In answer to questions from A. M. Manson, Liberal, of Omineca, Attorney-General Pooley said that such expense "as may be necessary" will be involved in the Government's new system of game law enforcement. Mr. Pooley added that estimates covering the scheme would be brought down later. Salaries to be paid to the new game commissioner and inspectors are "under consideration."

Mr. Pooley informed Dr. H. C. Wrinch, Liberal, of Skeena, that Dr. H. H. MacKenzie was removed from the position of jail surgeon at Nelson for "activity in politics." No notice of removal was necessary and no remuneration was given Dr. MacKenzie in lieu of notice. Dr. W. O. Rose, was appointed to the position. Asked whether Dr. Rose was formerly a Conservative member of the Legislature, Mr. Pooley suggested that Dr. Wrinch "see Journals of the House."

CHANGE IN SENIORITY LEGISLATION

ees Would Make Amendment to Duration Act

to the Superannuation the legislation affects are being sought in representing police and other civic em- ployees, Victoria and cities. Their requests H. D. Twigg, member for Victoria to-day, ing them to the Cab-

employees ask that the long service employees being the age limit be to give them larger re- s; that arrangements at the transfer of fund to municipality to an- ent of an employee employer, and that might be made retrac-

BASIS

sent legislation which within the last year, twenty-five is used in amount payable to a employee from the spe- for the retirement of d served years in mu- ent. This fund is in which is currently set ves and the municipal s of a one per cent ayrolls of each mu- the superannuation ration, and is for the ad an allowance to the ad served many years ing into force of the

the allowance the basic is taken. This is et- average annual wage eyes, and is then mul- number of years the ved, and the result is at of the pension. The elegation is that this reduced to fifty, re- crease in the annual ask that this change ntracts as well as fu-

FACTS SETTLEMENT

Asked For Infor- Soldier Areas; Costs Questioned

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informed Dr. H. C. of Skeena, that Dr. H. surgeon at Nelson s. No notice of p- ssary and no remain- Dr. MacKenzie in his W. O. Rose, was p- sition. Asked whether rmerly a Conservative Legislature, Mr. Pooley Dr. Wlach, "see Jour-

Hon. S. L. Howe, Provincial Secretary, informed Ian Mackenzie, Liberal, of North Vancouver, that his department employed 494 persons when he took office 130 being returned men. Now 431 are employed and 132 are returned men. Two returned men have been appointed under the present Government and none dismissed.

Press Martyn To Draw In Factory Loans

Government Wants to Get Out of Loaning Business, Says Walkem

Politics Divorced From Public Accounts Debate, Says Chairman

The policy of the Government as announced through G. A. Walkem, chairman of the Public Accounts Committee of the British Columbia Legislature, of clearing up all loans made by the Department of Industries either by collection or transferring them as soon as arrangements can be made by interesting new private capital, featured the meeting of the committee this morning with all members present.

The chairman of the committee declared his intention at the close of the meeting to keep politics out of the discussions. The public accounts committee was one that should be absolutely free from politics, he said. So much so that it was the custom in England to name a member of the opposition as chairman. A. M. Manson and Ian Mackenzie cordially agreed with him.

LOANS REVIEWED

Lieut.-Col. Don Martyn presented another list of loans with particulars of the standing of the industries which were rapidly reviewed. He came in for some criticism from the chairman for advancing loans to competitive industries, "putting the Government in the position of competing against itself in some instances or helping to finance an industry to compete against an established industry in other instances." This situation had arisen to a great extent through sympathy with returned soldiers, Colonel Martyn explained.

Figures of the Department of Industry were before the committee and will be reviewed again to-morrow, while the clerk of the Finance Department who prepared them, will be asked to explain them in detail.

BALANCE DUE \$886,565.15

They show that up to December 31 the department has advanced \$1,573,684.88. The repayments amounted to \$687,319.71. The sum of \$100,000 had been written off to which may be added another \$50,000. The balance due the department was \$886,565.15.

Against this taxes and payroll should be written on the credit side, Mr. Manson claimed.

The chairman protested that to do that it must be assumed that the plants and industries would have been idle but for Government assistance. The competitive side of some of these industries must also be taken into consideration, he said.

TO HELP VETERANS

There was no justification for assisting a competitive industry Colonel Martyn stated, and immediately asked by the chairman why he had done so, said it had been done at a time when returned soldiers were being helped in industries.

Another list of industries helped, the amounts loaned and the repayments made to the Government with notations of the business done by the industries was presented to the committee. As they were examined the chairman repeatedly asked why the loans could not be cleaned up or why other interests could not be secured to invest in the companies and clear the Government from being troubled with them further.

IS DOING WELL

With the Pacific Bolt Manufacturing Company loan under review the records showed the business was prospering and payments were being made on time.

"That industry is doing well. It would be no trouble to them to clear the loan. They could raise the money," Major Walkem told the industrial commissioner. This was an instance, he said, where an assisted industry was competing with an established industry. "Competition is the life of trade," commented Capt. Fitzsimmons.

Except for an advance to the Growers' Wine Company no loans had been made by the department since 1924 the commissioner told the committee. This excluded loans granted for insurance by the Government to protect its equities.

MAY GET RID OF PLANT

The Peerless Brick and Tile Company loan of \$46,000 made in 1920 was under review and Colonel Martyn stated that there were good prospects of getting rid of the plant of which the Government was now in possession.

"We don't want to disturb these in-

dustries but the Government wants to get out of the loaning business," the chairman said emphatically when a member of the committee said reports of the Government's plan had given some concern to small industries.

Reviewing the Vivian Gas Engine Company loan the chairman remarked that it was a good business but scored Colonel Martyn for bonusing another industry in competition with it.

The Welsh Anthracite Company loan drew a protest from G. Pearson of Nanaimo as a representative of a coal mining district against assisting a firm bringing in Welsh coal but it was explained the company handled all kinds of coal. It was financed in taking over

property which the Government had on its hands.

Giving figures for last year Colonel Martyn said the total loss was \$61,872.66 in principal and \$19,725 in interest.

HOUSE ASKED TO CONFIRM SAANICH BUS SETTLEMENT

Confirmation of the agreement between Saanich and J. S. H. Matson, covering the operation of bus lines within the municipality, is sought in a bill to be introduced in the Legislature by C. F. Davie, Conservative of Cowichan-Newcastle. The bill sets out the bus line agreement in full and declares it to be binding on all parties.

WOULD CONTINUE P.G.E. BUILDING

Cariboo Member Asks Government to Go Ahead With Construction

The old demand for construction of the Pacific Great Eastern Railway on to Prince George was revived in the Legislature yesterday by Roderick Mackenzie, the newly-elected Conservative member for Cariboo.

"Construction should be started on the northern end of the line as soon as possible," Mr. Mackenzie declared during the debate on the Speech from the Throne. "On the southern end, until we know exactly what is going to happen to the P.G.E., its needs are not the same as in the north."

He explained that navigation from Vancouver to Squamish, the present terminus of the line, is not difficult, whereas at the northern end of the railway, Prince George has no direct communication with the Coast.

Mr. Mackenzie urged that the interior be divided into hospital districts, which would pay levies necessary to support hospitals. For the benefit of settlers in outlying districts, he suggested the inauguration of a traveling clinic.

"More roads and better roads are the great need of the Province," Mr. Mackenzie asserted, as he told of the road needs of his own constituency.

"I am not sure but that we are spending a little too much on main

ASK BOUNTIES ON ALL KINDS OF B.C. IRON

Government's Plan Provides Aid For All Classes of Production Here

Legislation by which the Government will be able to pay bounties on all kinds of iron and steel produced in large quantities in British Columbia was introduced in the Legislature yesterday by Hon. W. A. McKenzie, Minister of Mines.

It repeats all former steel bounty legislation and allows the payment of bounties as follows:

(1.) In respect of pig iron manufactured from ore, on the proportion produced from ore mined in the Province up to \$3 a ton.

(2.) In respect of pig iron manufactured from ore on the proportion produced from ore mined outside the Province up to \$1.50 per ton.

(3.) In respect of steel shapes of commercial utility manufactured in the Province a bounty not to exceed \$1 per ton.

"Bounty," says the act, "as on pig iron under this act may be paid upon the molten iron from ore which in the electric furnace, Bessemer, or other furnace enters into the manufacture of steel by the process employed in such furnace; the weight of such iron to be ascertained from the weight of the steel so manufactured."

Bounty on steel shapes will be paid only on articles manufactured in a rolling mill having a rated productive capacity of at least 20,000 tons a year. No agreement under the act may remain in effect for more than five years and not more than \$2,000,000 shall be paid out for the first two classes of product. In the case of the third class, up to \$20,000 a year may be paid or \$100,000 in the aggregate.

AMENDS ACT TO CONTINUE WAR ON SPECULATORS

McKenzie Stiffens Regulations in Bill Before Legislature

Revision of the Mineral Survey and Development Act undertaken by Hon. W. A. Mackenzie, the new Minister of Mines, proved of such a drastic nature that when his bill was presented in the Legislature Tuesday, it took the form of a new act, the old one being repealed.

Chief interest centres in the stiffening of the regulations giving the Minister the right to issue warnings, public or private, against untruthful and misleading prospectuses and advertising material respecting mining properties.

INCREASES POWER

The Minister's powers are made somewhat more comprehensive and companies are required to file their prospectuses or other advertising literature with the Minister as well as with the resident engineer. It has been found, Mr. Mackenzie explained, that the filing with the district engineer sometimes fails to produce results, as the engineers are away from their offices for long periods at a time on actual investigation.

Hon. William Sloan's policy of dividing the Province into mineral survey districts with an engineer in charge of each, is being continued and extended by taking the definition of the boundaries of the districts out of the act and giving the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council power to change the boundaries from time to time as experience may warrant and to add to the number of districts if necessary.

REPEALS PROVISION

A provision enabling the department to diamond drill properties and charge the cost to the owners is repealed, as it has produced little result in the past, according to the Minister. The clauses for the protection of wage earners are revised in the interests of clarity, but with little change in meaning, it is claimed.

MANSON RAISES DOUBTS OF TWO SEATS IN HOUSE

Meets Government Opposition on Plan to Correct Election Act Errors

Resolution For Investigation By Select Committee Fails

While they were perfectly in agreement with ex-Attorney-General A. M. Manson that there were errors that should be corrected in the present method of conducting elections in British Columbia and that the secrecy of the ballot was not preserved, Mr. Manson's resolution for a select committee of the House to inquire into the operations of the Elections Act met the full force of the Government's opposition and went down to defeat by thirty-two votes to ten.

MINISTERS LEAD ATTACK

T. D. Pattullo, leader of the Opposition, and George S. Pearson, member for Nanaimo, made speeches in support of Mr. Manson's plea. J. A. Buckham seconded the resolution and the weight of Hon. Joshua Hinchliffe, Minister of Education, Hon. W. McKenzie, Minister of Mines, and Attorney-General Pooley was thrown against it.

In the course of his remarks, Mr. Manson drew the attention of the whole House when he said he had been informed that there were two seats secured by men now sitting in the Legislature who did not secure a majority of the votes cast in their constituencies.

Names were called for, but Mr. Manson declined. He did not feel called upon to give the names if the committee to investigate was not to be named. When Mr. Pooley suggested the Court was the place to take up such a matter, Mr. Manson promptly replied that this would be so were it a case of fraud or corruption, but this was not alleged against the members.

He promptly met Col. Cy Peck's taunt when the member for the Islands asked that the names might be given. "The Government will then know not to burn the papers as your Government did."

"SMART REMARK"

"That is a very smart remark of the type we are getting from the member for the Islands," said Mr. Manson. "I want to say that the last Government burned no election papers before the time prescribed by the act and saved many longer than the time called for."

In first speaking to the resolution, Mr. Manson said the British Columbia ballot paper differed from that used by other provinces and that used in Federal elections. He was told that because the ballot paper was not entirely in black with a white space prescribed for the elector's cross that many voters had marked their ballots in a way which caused them to be rejected. They had tried the absentee ballots on two occasions, but there might still be room for improvement. Deputies in some instances, he believed, had not quite grasped the workings of it. He suggested now was the time to take up the matter. The election had only just been held. Its conduct was familiar to them and party animus was at rest. The person who could assist most in the investigation, he said, was the Chief Electoral Officer, now the Deputy Provincial Secretary. The thinness of the ballot paper, permitting the cross to be seen through it, was commented upon by Mr. Manson.

SEES NO REASONS

Mr. Hinchliffe could see absolutely no reason to appoint the committee at this time. In 1924 there were a lot of complaints about the absentee ballot. In the 1928 election there were few complaints. Now there were none, Mr. Manson came forward and suggested an investigation. Conservatives when in opposition, had drawn attention to the thin ballot papers through which the cross could be seen. Regarding the cross, he doubted if it was necessary that it should be on a particular side, and believed it had been ruled that it could be on either.

Regarding Mr. Manson's comment that deputies had not grasped the absentee ballot, "I understand," said Mr. Hinchliffe, "that that is not the fault of the act, but because the Liberal Government named deputies to whom it was impossible to explain it." The Chief Electoral Officer had traveled a great deal and had all the information necessary. He thought it would be a waste of time to name a committee."

Mr. Manson, George S. ... the ballot was not ... himself had been told of ... voted against him. He knew ... of an employer of labor who had ... of employees who had voted ... him, and, fortunately for them,

he was firm-minded about it. Regarding the place to put the cross, he thought if electors knew how many ballots were lost through this, they would demand a change.

Attorney-General Pooley said he had drawn the attention of the Government to the flimsy paper used for ballots. Mr. Manson was complaining of the quality of the paper his Government used in face of Conservative protests. "This Government will see that the secrecy of the ballot is preserved and the rights of the people protected," he said.

ASKS NON-PARTIZAN ATTITUDE

Mr. Pattullo pleaded for the matter to be approached on a non-partisan basis. The last Government had appointed a committee and had made changes which had inspired confidence in the election machinery. Judging from the remarks made, more changes were necessary. A great deal of good might be done by the committee hearing complaints and suggestions and surely no harm could result.

The Minister of Mines agreed on the flimsy nature of the ballots. In the last election, friends told him how scores voted. If the absentee voting was to be maintained, changes were necessary, he said. It didn't require a committee of the House to inquire into the matter. It was well-known to everyone. He ventured to say a clever returning officer could tell how ninety per cent of the votes were cast, the way voting was conducted at the last election. He quoted the Grand Forks election, where a judge ruled the cross must be in the prescribed place. The last Government had an opportunity to make the changes, he said.

"We want them now," commented Mr. Pearson.

PROMISES CHANGE

"I think I can promise my honorable friend from Nanaimo that the changes will be made before the next election," said Mr. McKenzie.

Mr. Manson, replying, said the Minister of Mines had put a case which was strong for the resolution. He also thanked him for his correction of Mr. Hinchliffe on the question of placing the cross on a ballot. The Minister of Education had led the opposition to the resolution in a partisan spirit, he said, and his remarks charged inefficiency regarding officers came with very poor grace, and would not be appreciated by many admirable men who served the Province in this connection. The Election Act previously had been left to the late Premier and the Minister of Finance as experts. If, however, something had been left undone that was no reason why it should not be corrected now.

STUDY OF HEALTH INSURANCE ASKED

Skeena Liberal Member Calls For Naming of House Committee

Dr. H. C. Wrinch, Liberal member for Skeena, gave the lead to the Legislature Tuesday in asking consideration of the need for a health insurance act. He moved a resolution asking for a committee of five members of the House to investigate the workings of successful acts elsewhere and to report to the House. G. S. Pearson, of Nanaimo, seconder of the resolution, adjourned the debate until a further sitting as the hour was late when Dr. Wrinch concluded.

The member for Skeena pointed out that a similar resolution had been adopted last session unanimously, but that owing to the election no committee had been appointed because of the possibility that its members would not be returned to present their report.

EXHAUSTIVE INQUIRY

Inauguration of such a far-reaching measure as state health insurance, the member contended, would require exhaustive investigation. The question of the contribution to be made by the citizens who would benefit must be studied thoroughly. The effect on hospitals and other public institutions which would be called upon for increased service must be examined to see what charge would be imposed on the public treasury in order that this service might be rendered efficiently. The effect on insurance companies must be ascertained.

The question of cost was also important, he said. Somebody had projected the idea that the public cost would be \$8,000,000. Dr. Wrinch disagreed with this, but it was important that the facts be ascertained in view of the effect that fear of such a heavy charge would have on the public mind.

The member noted that three Government supporters had already spoken strongly in favor of health insurance in the House and urged the advisability of committee investigation at the earliest possible time.

SEEKS RIGHT TO INSPECT QUARRIES

Bill Introduced to Legislature By Minister of Mines

Provincial Secretary Wants Act to Validate Appointments

Two new measures introduced into the Legislature to-day by members of the cabinet were a new act to regulate the working of quarries and an amendment to the Civil Service Act. By the former, Hon. W. A. McKenzie, Minister of Mines, takes the power to inspect the operation of quarries in the inter-

ests of the safety of workmen. In the latter, Hon. S. L. Howe, Provincial Secretary, seeks to validate various appointments under the Civil Service Act believed to have been made irregularly. With respect to this measure it is explained by the Minister that owing to the wording of the former Civil Service Act a great number of appointments in the Department of Education have required the certification of the Deputy Minister, although until the superintendent of Education was recently given that rank, there was no such dignitary.

HEALTH INSURANCE AND HOSPITALS

DR. WRINCH'S MOTION RECOMMEND-

ing the appointment of a committee to study the working of state health insurance should be approved by the Legislature. Whether British Columbia is ready for legislation of this kind remains to be proved; but no harm would be done in collecting all the information that is available on the subject.

While the Skeena member's resolution is before the House it is to be hoped that an opportunity will arise for a discussion of the question of hospital finance in this province. Some of our hospitals seem to get along fairly well; others nearly always are hard up and seem to find considerable difficulty in obtaining enough funds to maintain the all-essential efficiency.

The Times always has deplored the fact that many of our curative establishments are compelled to depend altogether too much upon private philanthropy and tag days for a good deal of their means of subsistence. This is a poor system at best. It is not fair because it often happens that the same people open their purses on each occasion. It is beside the point to suggest that those who give large sums to the hospitals are in a position to afford it. It is a poor argument to suggest that nobody misses the small sum that is dropped into the tagger's box. At best these subterfuges represent precarious financing.

After all, the human asset is the most valuable asset a nation possesses, and it should concede the right of every citizen to such facilities as will assist him to preserve his health and procure for him adequate care when illness overtakes him. Delay in the calling in of medical advice often has been attended by serious results; the thought of the bill of expense usually is responsible for it.

The Legislature might well discuss the feasibility of a general hospital tax if it is not inclined to go as far as the Wrinch resolution would like it to go. It is not to be supposed that even this provision would solve all the problems the hospitals at times have to face; but it at least would more evenly distribute that part of their financial burden which a comparatively small number of citizens are generous enough to shoulder.

WHY UNPARLIAMENTARY?

WHEN CAPTAIN IAN MACKENZIE

called Mr. C. F. Davie a Mussolini Mr. Speaker Jones ordered him to retract. It was unparliamentary, he declared, for one member to call another a Mussolini or dictator. That is to say, no member is permitted to reflect upon another member in that way.

Mr. Speaker Jones may hear from Mussolini about this. Il Duce may want an explanation of that ruling. In what way, he may ask, did Captain Mackenzie reflect Mr. Davie in likening that member to him? He may want to know if in the British Columbia Legislature there is any member audacious enough to try to be like him, and if there is, he may order Mr. Speaker Jones to require that member to try to look like somebody else, since it is not permissible for anybody except Mussolini to look like Mussolini.

We are not certain that Mr. Davie resented Captain Mackenzie's remark. He may have felt complimented, in which case he ought to have challenged the Speaker's ruling. What if Captain Mackenzie had called Mr. Davie a Cromwell, who was a much greater man than Mussolini is likely to be, but who was very plain-featured? Or a Bismarck? Or a Li Hung Chang? Would it have been permissible for the Captain to have called the member for Cowichan a Caesar or an Alexander the Great?

It may be that Mr. Speaker questioned Captain Mackenzie's remark on the ground of inaccuracy and not because he has anything against Mussolini. Obviously Mr. Davie is neither a Mussolini nor a dictator, since Mussolini holds seven portfolios in his Cabinet, and Mr. Davie was not able to dictate himself into one ministerial seat.

WALKEM PUTS MAILED FIST TO LUMBERMEN

Wants Vigorous Collection Policy of Royalties and Stumpage Dues

Sympathetic Delay Unfair to Workers and Other Creditors, He Says

Less sympathy to logging operators and more action in the collection of timber royalties and stumpage dues was vigorously advocated by G. A. Walkem, chairman of the Public Accounts Committee of the British Columbia Legislature, at the meeting of the committee this morning.

Emphasizing that the Government had first claim in the matter of collection, Mr. Walkem charged that the policy in the past seemed to be for the Government not to worry as it was sitting pretty and would always realize on the assets when a company got into financial difficulties.

SAYS ATTITUDE UNFAIR

This attitude he charged was unfair to workmen or other creditors not secured as they could be left high and dry while the Government collected. The Canadian Credit Men's Association, which he frequently quoted, were deeply concerned he said. They were prepared to give all the credit a firm

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WALKEM PUTS MAILED FIST TO LUMBERMEN

(Continued from page 1)

was entitled to, and more, as long as they knew the Government was insisting on up-to-date payment of dues.

Shoestring mills that should never have started received sympathetic treatment from the Government on payment of dues. When they went out of operation there was nothing left for the workmen in arrears on wages and nothing for other creditors after the Government had collected its first claim. The Government should operate on strict business principles of collecting royalties when they were due.

The preferential claims of the Government and the method of collecting dues tended to work the hand-logger out of business, Mr. Walkem declared. Machinery dealers could not afford to sell machinery if there were any chances of liens. He suggested the act should be amended so the Government ranked as an ordinary creditor.

WOULD WORK HARDSHIP

Presenting the other side of the case A. M. Manson and J. A. Buckham claimed that a lot of industries were worth nursing, and the demand for immediate payment would work a hardship on them. Royalties would be demanded often before the logs were sold. The Forestry Department was tightening up in its collections each year, Mr. Manson said. If the Minister of Lands tried to be too strict he would be as popular as a skunk.

G. S. Pearson, Nanaimo, offered a suggestion that a list be made available for the guidance of merchants showing what mills were in arrears and the amount they were in arrears. They could be guided by this in giving credit to the logging operators. It could also be applied to other industries where the Government had claims.

S. W. Barclay, Chief Inspector of Forestry, appeared before the committee and quoted cases of arrears and the action taken by the department. It had never been the policy to force the collection of the Government's bill at the expense of workmen, he claimed. He quoted one case where the sheriff was placed in charge of a plane and lumber shipped was taken illegally by a firm on a contra account. The department had no control over this. Too strict methods in the collection of dues brought an outcry from the operators that the Government wanted to close the camp.

WOULD CLOSE THEM

"I would say yes," said the chairman. "If they can't pay royalties, it isn't fair to the workers and ordinary creditors to allow them to run along so long."

Mr. Manson said if the semi-monthly payment of Wages Act were being complied with it would eliminate the

trouble as far as the workmen were concerned. It had been found impossible, however, to get the workmen to notify the Government when wages were in arrears.

Mr. Walkem again emphasized that he believed that some reasonable time should be established as the maximum for the Government to allow dues to be outstanding. He suggested that if merchants and workmen knew that the Government had only three months to collect dues they would know they had a reasonable chance of collecting for themselves in the event of failure.

BILL ABANDONS NEW JUDICIAL DISTRICT PLAN

Pooley Would Scrap Statute Providing For Comox District

Opposition to Attorney-General Pooley's bill to strike from the statute books the legislation providing for part of Nanaimo to be created a special judicial district was voiced by former Attorney-General Manson when the bill was before the House for the second reading yesterday.

Mr. Pooley said his bill provided for the repealing of the act which had not been put into effect. There was a clause in the act leaving it to the Lieutenant-Governor when it should be put into operation, and this had never been done.

"I am afraid," said Mr. Manson, "the Attorney-General has never practiced in outlying parts or he would not be so hasty to repeal a statute put on the books by the unanimous voice of the Legislature."

British Columbia, he said, was a rapidly-growing Province with its population increasing rapidly. In view of the increase, a redefinition of boundaries was natural. Before the statute was put on the books the Legislature representations from the party of Nanaimo concerned and the members for Comox were listened to. The member for Comox advanced it. It was not a question of majority or strength. If the north of Nanaimo had not grown sufficiently for the act to be put into effect making it a county, it might do so some time.

"I wonder if there is not a little of the spirit of the child coming to the surface?" The last Government did something. "Must we undo it?" asked Mr. Manson.

WANTS A HANSARD

In reply, Hon. Joshua Hinchliffe paid a tribute to the fairness of Mr. Manson in his dealings with him on many occasions when Mr. Manson was Attorney-General. But he thought he was not being so fair now as he would like to when he said it was passed unanimously. It was a case where the "No's" were not recorded, as the Opposition saw no reason to waste the time of the House when they were so overwhelmed. "If we had a Hansard in the House, some of these little unfairnesses might be rectified," remarked the Minister of Education.

"There were no speeches on the second reading of the bill. Let's not cavil about it," said Mr. Manson.

The act was set down to come into effect at a date set by the Lieutenant-Governor. Evidently it was not urgent, as no date had been set. Perhaps this Government held a rosy view of the future to a greater extent than the last Government. It might need four more counties than had been provided for in the act it was now sought to repeal.

"I beg to move the Minister of Education go up to the head of the class," said Mr. Manson before the motion for the second reading and sending the bill to committee of the next House passed.

COMMISSION ON INSURANCE OF HEALTH PLANNED

Government Moves to Start Investigation Into Whole Question

Members Would Go Into Systems in Effect in Other Provinces

The Provincial Government intends to appoint a commission of members of the Legislature to investigate plans for the inauguration of health insurance and maternity benefits in British Columbia. This plan, it is understood, is behind the motion to that effect filed in the House by W. R. Rutledge, Conservative, of Burnaby.

Mr. Rutledge's motion, which is understood to represent the view of the administration and as such will be passed, is an amendment to Dr. H. C. Winch's proposal that a select committee of the House investigate health insurance matters.

Mr. Rutledge suggests that the commission of members serve without remuneration under the Public Inquiries Act. They would go exhaustively into health laws in effect in other countries, collect facts as to the operation of these laws, ascertain what this Province needs for the insurance of its health, how much it would cost and how the cost should be distributed between employers, prospective beneficiaries and the provincial treasury. The commission would report at the next session of the House.

HON. R. H. POOLEY ASKS PUBLIC TO FEED THE BIRDS

Attorney-General Pooley, as head of the provincial game administration and a keen sportsman himself, issued an appeal to British Columbians to-day to feed the birds during the present cold snap. "If every family would make a practice of leaving some crumbs, suet or grain for the birds thousands of them would be saved from starvation," Mr. Pooley said. "The present weather is particularly hard on game birds and they are suffering acutely. But in feeding them people should be sure to include some grit or sand with the food, as they cannot digest it otherwise and may die of indigestion."

WANTS ROAD TO ALBERTA

Michell Advocates New Highway Up North Thompson River

Construction of a highway up the North Thompson River to the boundary of Alberta was advocated in the Legislature yesterday by J. R. Michell, Conservative, of Kamloops.

Mr. Michell told of the agricultural and other development possibilities of the North Thompson country, but explained that the people there were hampered by lack of road facilities. He advocated the construction of a bridge across the North Thompson at some convenient point to replace the present system of ferries, which are inconvenient and at times dangerous.

Mr. Michell told the House in some detail of the progress of his city, and remarked, incidentally, that one of its proudest products was the Premier of British Columbia, chosen Conservative leader at the celebrated Kamloops convention.

The Kamloops member urged the Department of Mines to assist the development of the very valuable mineral resources of his riding.

BILL SCRAPPING ELECTIONS FOR MINISTERS READ

Abandoning Custom That Goes Back to Queen Anne, Pooley Says

Second reading of Attorney-General Pooley's bill to amend the Constitution Act to abolish the necessity of Cabinet Ministers appealing to their constituencies for re-election and to correct an oversight by which, it is alleged, for years the Speaker and Deputy Speaker of the House have been voted allowances without proper authority, was given in the Legislature yesterday afternoon. T. D. Pattullo, leader of the Opposition, adjourned the debate.

The custom of a Cabinet Minister being forced to seek re-election was an ancient one going back to the time of Queen Anne, Attorney-General Pooley explained. It was brought down then to protect the rights of the people, but times had changed and the necessity that arose then through the dispute between the Crown and the people no longer existed. Most of the British

Dominions had made the change. The Imperial Parliament, in 1926, brought down legislation that no Cabinet Minister need go back to the people for election by reason of his being appointed to the Cabinet. Most of the provinces of Canada had similar legislation, some specifying no Cabinet Minister appointed after a certain time need appeal to the people.

SINCE QUEEN ANNE

"It is a long time since Queen Anne died," said Mr. Pooley. "It may be a long time before a Liberal Government gets back, but even then they may find this change acceptable." If such legislation had been in effect before, Vancouver could have had Cabinet representation when the Liberals were afraid to open the seat.

"Is there any intention," asked Mr. Pattullo, "to open any seats now?" "We are not afraid," rapped back Mr. Pooley, "to open any seat, even that represented by my friend opposite. He cannot come into the House and crow

now over the majority he got in Prince Rupert."

Regarding the amendment to legalize the allowances that had been paid to Speakers and Deputy Speakers in the past and in the future, Mr. Pooley said that in the incorporation of the Indemnity Act and the Constitution Act this provision had not been made since 1923, but the allowances had been voted.

"May I inquire what is to become of the leader of the Opposition?" asked Mr. Pattullo.

"You have a special dispensation," replied Mr. Pooley, quoting the section of the act. "I might say that in the last few years we have had wide awake men as leaders of the Opposition who have protected their interests."

Mr. Pooley said he would not worry the House with a lot of records, but he had a memorandum which Mr. Manson might see.

"Thank you. It will refresh my memory. I drafted part of that memorandum," said Mr. Manson.

PRODUCE ACT UNDER REVIEW

Agricultural Committee Will See Delegations Up to February 19

Delegations wishing to interview the agricultural committee of the Legislature must do so before February 19, it was decided at the organization meeting of that body to-day. J. W. Berry, Delta, was elected chairman, and Col. Fred Lister, Creston, secretary of the committee. The central executive of the farmers' institutes will appear before the committee Friday with its annual budget of recommendations.

The committee held an informal discussion on the fruit growers' marketing problem to-day at which it was made apparent that sentiment is growing strongly in favor of establishing of a central selling agency.

B.C. GAME BOARD BILL HELD OVER

Other Bills Given Second Reading By B.C. Legislature Yesterday

Second reading was moved to a number of bills by the British Columbia Legislature yesterday with the outstanding one of Attorney-General Pooley calling for complete re-organization of the Provincial Game Board held over.

Dr. H. C. Wrinch moved the adjournment of three agricultural bills moved for second reading by Hon. W. Atkinson, Minister of Agriculture. A bill to amend the Agricultural Act calling for the elimination of the words in writing in a clause regarding inspectors notifying the department of unsprayed trees so that the department could have the spraying done and charged up to the farmer. The elimination permits telegrams to be sent to get quicker action, Mr. Atkinson explained.

Another moved by Mr. Atkinson was to amend the Contagious Diseases Act. This is with the object of preventing overlapping between that act and the Milk Act on the same matters. The third was an amendment to the Apries Act calling for registration of all beehives in the Province to eradicate diseases among bees.

On the motion of Hon. F. P. Burden, Minister of Lands, second reading was given to a bill to amend the University Lands Endowment Administration Act to provide for proportional payment of taxes on lands in the University area which had been sold.

FRUIT MEN IN BAD WAY NOW

Government Must Act to Save Interior Industry, Kingston Warns

The fruit industry of the British Columbia interior is in a serious plight, due to unsatisfactory markets and prohibitive shipping rates, Dr. C. M. Kingston, Conservative, of Grand Forks, Greenwood, warned the Legislature yesterday, as he urged the Government to relieve the irrigationists of his own riding and give attention to fruit growers' problems generally.

The Interior, Dr. Kingston said, is not envious of the growth of the large Coast cities, for it saw in them potentially valuable markets for its own products. At present, however, his own riding was experiencing serious difficulties so far as agriculture was concerned, because it was bounded on the south by a prohibitive United States tariff and on the east and west by prohibitive freight rates.

Dr. Kingston told in some detail the struggles of the fruit growers of his district.

"The irrigationists of this area," he said, "expect relief from the Government, because unless it comes rapidly they cannot hold on any longer. They are holding on now by their teeth. Unless the relief granted is radical and drastic the Government is going to have every acre of Dist. No. 2 in the district back on its hands in the near future."

The Government, he said, should take action to relieve the situation now before the settlers were forced to vacate. It was far better, he said, to assist those already on the land than to bring in strangers.

Besides relief in irrigation costs, the fruit growers needed relief from burdensome freight rates on their shipments, he said.

"If the fruit industry is to be saved from ruin, freight rates must receive very serious consideration," he said.

"The railways surely do not wish to kill the goose that lays the golden eggs, but that is what is being done now, and the fruit industry is being charged more than it can stand."

STATE HEALTH INSURANCE IS VITAL SUBJECT

Essential to Support Workmen's Compensation, Legislature Told

Nanaimo Member Champions Provincial Scheme in Able Speech

State health insurance found an able advocate in the House yesterday in G. S. Pearson, member for Nanaimo, who seconded Dr. H. D. Wrinch's motion for a committee to investigate systems of health insurance and maternal benefits. Mr. Pearson gave an effective speech, in which he showed the economic problems a wage earner faced through sickness in his family, and brought out other telling arguments in favor of a scheme.

Mr. Pearson contended that there was no incident in the economic life of the wage earner of this Province which had so serious an effect in making it difficult for him to maintain a reasonable standard of living as the incident of sickness. It might be difficult, for those whose incomes were sufficient to take care of reasonable needs and comforts to visualize just what it meant to the average wage earner to be faced with a serious illness impairing his earning efficiency; or the illness of his wife or his children; or to have to take care of crippled children or mentally deficient children.

ECONOMIC BANKRUPTS

"Not only does this make of this man an economic bankrupt, who is ashamed to look the world in the face, but it impoverishes his soul and either entirely breaks his spirit or makes him a social degenerate, sore at himself, sore at the world and a ready victim to the nostrums of any glib-tongued social orator."

"You may think I have painted this picture black, but this is the story of scores of lives in any industrial centre in this very Province. Is it not a fact that the reason hospitals in this Province have such difficulty in financing is because in cities such as Vancouver and Victoria approximately fifty per cent of all the patients who enter those institutions are unable to make any contribution towards their treatment, and even in the smaller industrial centres where workmen's compensation and workmen's benefit funds help considerably, still fifty per cent of these patients using public wards are unable to contribute towards the cost of their treatment?"

"This condition, I submit, is a serious reflection upon a great, prosperous country such as ours, and, while I am one who does not believe in undue governmental interference in business and industry, I, nevertheless, believe that if business and industry cannot

so distribute the production of wealth, which, as the honorable member for Fernie yesterday so ably pointed out, is actually greater than our needs, then it is the bounden duty of government to see that the interests of all people are protected.

SPECIALISTS

"Is it not also true that, due to the natural practice of eminent medical men locating in large centres of population where the opportunity of greater returns from their practice is possible, it is made impossible for the low and moderate wage earners of the small centres to avail themselves of the best medical advice available, and, further, is it not also a fact that even in the centres where these eminent medical men are located, only those who are comparatively wealthy can avail themselves of their advice or services?"

"Surely this should not be so; surely it is in the economic interest of this Province that the health specialist should be reasonably available to all our people, and if it were possible for a short time to forget economic interest, is there not a greater reason—a humanitarian reason—why the best health advice should be available to our people?"

"I hope I shall not be misunderstood. I am not one who believes that those who give exceptional service to the country, and have thereby accumulated wealth, should be deprived of the comforts that wealth makes possible, but I am one who believes that a full measure of health, a reasonable degree of comfort and a full opportunity to develop the best that is in him should be placed reasonably within the reach of every citizen of this country, however humble he may be, and I do not consider these conditions can obtain until we have given our citizens the fundamental basis of possibility—good health.

WARNS AGAINST DELAY

"It may not be advisable that this Legislature should rush into a measure covering this matter, but it does seem advisable that we assure ourselves of a commencement that will assure the scheme of success, and it does seem advisable that no delay be allowed in preparing the foundation of this scheme.

"There are undoubtedly many questions tributary to this health insurance measure which will require very careful consideration; for instance, the Workmen's Compensation Act, which unquestionably requires improvement; yet I do not believe workmen's compensation will ever be properly administered until it is supported by a state health insurance measure.

"The honorable member for Skeena suggested a very heavy cost for health insurance, no doubt, but all good things cost heavily, and I am prepared to suggest that the additional cost of this insurance will not be as great as it may at first seem. As I have already noted, there is a very great loss to hospitals to-day through indigence, the cost of which is ultimately paid by the state in one form or another; and then I am of the opinion that the citizens of this Province will expect this measure to be a contributory measure; that is to say, they will expect to contribute an amount regularly which will not be a burden towards the cost of this scheme. At the present time, in centres such as Na-

naimo, Cumberland and Ladysmith, and perhaps in many others, the workers of the chief industries of those centres have a partial health insurance scheme of their own devising, now under operation.

"This is a matter of vital importance, and I should like to see this House rise to the occasion, drop appearances of partisan interest and support this resolution to a man."

FACTORY LOANS COME UP AGAIN

Interest Earned Item Explained to Public Works Committee

The Department of Industries affairs for a short time occupied the attention of the Public Accounts Committee of the British Columbia Legislature this morning. J. Fisher, statistician of the Finance Department, was called to give the members further explanation of the statement of the department as presented to the committee yesterday.

The statement up to December 31, 1928, showed \$1,586,884.86 had been granted in loans. Repayments had been made to the extent of \$600,319.71. The amount written off was \$100,000 which would probably be increased by another \$50,000. The statement included an item interest earned of \$415,716.99.

This latter amount was questioned by the chairman, G. A. Walkem. The Government paid interest on the money it borrowed to make loans to industry and collected less interest than it paid, he said. There was about one per cent difference so that there was really a loss instead of interest earned, he said.

Mr. Fisher informed the committee that he had not presented the statement as a profit and loss statement. Administration costs had not been charged either. The members were generally agreed that the Government did not expect to make money out of the industries department and a suggestion that a profit and loss statement be compiled was passed over as unnecessary.

TOLMIE BETTER BUT NOT BACK AT OFFICE YET

Premier Tolmie did not return to his office to-day as had been hoped and may not leave his house until Monday as there is only one more working day in the Legislature this week. He is carrying on his work at his home with his secretaries.

Legislature Asked to Inquire Whether Two Members Should Sit

Manson Moves for Select Committee to Investigate Status of Fitzsimmons of Kaslo-Slocan and Michell of Kamloops; Did Returning Officers Carry Out Verdict of Electors? He Asks; Speaker Holds Up Motion for Consideration

That the Legislature appoint select committee to investigate the right of Capt. James Fitzsimmons, Conservative of Kaslo-Slocan and J. R. Michell, Conservative of Kamloops, to sit in the House, is the demand made by A. M. Manson, Liberal of Omineca, in a resolution filed with Mr. Speaker Jones last night. The resolution did not appear on to-day's issue of the House journals as Mr. Jones is still considering whether it is in order or not. News of the resolution caused something of a sensation.

The suggestion that the result of the poll of July 18 last in Kaslo-Slocan and Kamloops did not implement the wishes of the electors is made in Mr. Manson's resolution in the following words:

WILL OF ELECTORS

"Whereas it is alleged that in the recent provincial election in the constituencies of Kaslo-Slocan and Kamloops, the returning officers in their declarations as to the result of the polls, did not give effect to the will of the bona fide electors, as expressed by their ballots at the polls in the said constituencies.

"And whereas it is desirable that the will of the electors should prevail.

"And whereas the electors had no opportunity of bringing their grievances in connection with the said declarations into the courts of the Province.

"And whereas this court of Parliament is the appropriate court in the circumstances.

COMMITTEE PROPOSED

"Now therefore be it resolved that a select committee of this House be appointed forthwith to inquire as to whether this House should permit James Fitzsimmons, Esquire, and J. R. Michell, Esquire, to sit as members for the constituencies of Kaslo-Slocan and Kamloops respectively.

"And, further, as to whether it is not right and just that C. S. Leary, Esquire, and J. R. Colley, Esquire,

(Concluded on page 14)

LEGISLATURE ASKED TO INQUIRE WHETHER TWO MEMBERS SHOULD SIT

(Continued from page 1)

should be declared the duly elected members of the aforesaid constituencies.

"And be it further resolved that the said committee be empowered to send for persons, papers and records to examine same. And to take evidence under oath and to report their findings and recommendations to this House."

ON TECHNICAL GROUNDS

Behind the Manson motion lies the discontent of Liberals in the two interior ridings over the result of the election last July. In Kaslo-Slocan it is alleged that Capt. Leary, the Liberal candidate, was deprived on technical grounds of nearly 100 votes because the crosses on the ballots were not placed in the column provided for them, but immediately next to the candidate's name. On this account, they were rejected, according to Liberal members of the House.

What complications are alleged in Kamloops has not been revealed, but the vote there, as in Kaslo-Slocan, was very close.

Apart altogether from the ballots is the question in Kaslo-Slocan of the eligibility of Capt. Fitzsimmons as a member because of a steamboat license which he held from the Government before the election and which he assigned to a company. The Government is asking the House to remove any doubt about Capt. Fitzsimmons right to sit in the assembly on this account, and has introduced a bill on the subject. The Opposition will oppose it on the ground that it would create a grave precedent to legalize any election which is not in strict accordance with the law. Nothing improper on Capt. Fitzsimmons part, of course, is alleged in this connection.

ACROSS THE BAY

The House Waits for Tolmie and Talks Meanwhile—New Members Are Heard—No One Loves the Movie Bill—Mr. Walkem Enunciates a Pious Policy—And Mr. Atkinson Surprises His Friends

As Wellington waited at Waterloo for night or Blucher, the Government, waits the return of Premier Tolmie. Meanwhile the House marks time and talks, so that by the time the Doctor turns up it ought to have relieved its mind sufficiently to be all ready for the real battles of the session. Meanwhile the talk goes on and not much else.

The House continued as unexciting as it was respectable Wednesday. There were three speeches in the Throne debate, which begins to pall, and some odd bits of legislation, but the proceedings only served to emphasize the fact that until Dr. Tolmie arrives the Government at least won't move very far. It is said, indeed, that genial Bill Kennedy, the Conservative whip, whispered to the members on the speaking list that they could speak just as long as they liked, but none of them took undue advantage of this extraordinary opportunity.

Mr. Cornett of South Vancouver, a good-looking young man with a fine speaking voice and excellent presence, delivered his maiden speech and appeared to be one of the most promising of the new members. He was nervous at first, but, warming up to his subject of municipal problems, he spoke fluently and well. He was wise in keeping strictly to subjects which he understood and offered some sound advice on them.

Mr. Michell of Kamloops, who speaks with some bashfulness in the confined atmosphere of Parliament, so unlike the great open spaces of his own riding, contented himself for the most part with a description of Kamloops. He did not fail either to point out that Kamloops in a sense produced the Conservative Government, for it was there that Dr. Tolmie's leadership was born in storm and tribulation, and without the desire of Dr. Tolmie.

Dr. Kingston of Grand Forks-Green-

wood was the third newcomer to greet Mr. Speaker. Dr. Kingston speaks with the calmness of a perfect bedside manner, choosing his words deliberately and standing with finger tips together as if he were diagnosing a case. He diagnosed the case of the interior of the Province with good sense. Dr. Kingston will add nothing to the color and passion of the Legislature, but he will be useful when it comes to doing business.

The House also got acquainted for the first time with Mr. Atkinson, the Minister of Agriculture. Mr. Atkinson, who is more at home on the business end of a plough than in the field of oratory, started to read some notes on legislation which he is sponsoring. Mr. Pattullo suggested that reading a speech was out of order, and if he wanted to see what the new minister could do he was not disappointed. Throwing aside his notes, Mr. Atkinson plunged into his subject with a fluency and clearheadedness which surprised his friends. Evidently he is going to be able to take care of himself.

The rest of the day was taken up with what the harder-boiled members call legislative chicken feed, for none of the big bills is for advanced yet. The less spectacular measures must be got through, of course, and Attorney-General Pooley is showing them on with great industry. So that apart from the fact that Mr. Uphill, being in jovial mood, appeared in the front row of the

(Concluded on page 14)

ACROSS THE BAY

(Continued from page 4)

Conservative benches wearing Mr. Kirk's celebrated pince nez, with their alarming black ribbons, and gazed across the floor with an air of unutterable statesmanship, the House offered little to amuse or instruct.

While all thus seemed at peace in the House, Mr. Manson was laying another of his mines which will explode in due course. He wants a committee to investigate the right of Capt. Fitzsimmons of Kaslo-Slocan and Mr. Michell of Kamloops to sit in the assembly at all, on account of the way the election of last July was handled in these ridings. The House won't be so dull when this resolution comes up for consideration.

The new House, as a matter of fact, is just beginning to find its feet. It is moving cautiously in public until it gets better used to the hang of this business, which is new to many of the members. During the process, the real ideas of the Seventeenth Parliament are being shaped in the evenings, after the day's work, when a few members gather together for a quiet chat.

If you want to find out what is really brewing, go over to the Empress Hotel any evening. There you will find little groups, Conservatives and Liberals usually mingled without regard to politics, evolving the policies of the Province. Around the fire in the Empress lobby of an evening you will hear the younger members talking earnestly of many things, Mr. Walkem discussing the business of the country with a frankness which is refreshing. Mr. Dick and Mr. Kirk laying down the law to a Cabinet Minister or two, Colonel Lister saying what he thinks about everything, and if you don't like it you can leave it, and Jim Schofield listening without a word, for he has seen Governments and Legislatures come and go until he has lost track of them, and is not likely to get excited over anything that can happen now.

Where two or more members are gathered together, that unwanted child of the Government, the bill to censor movie advertising is sure to come up. There seems to be no one who can work up any enthusiasm for the measure, and among those who were expected to be its friends there is a depressing coldness. If some good fairy would come along and adopt this founding which Mr. Pooley left on the doorstep, the whole family would be relieved.

The other ideas that have crystallized so far are few, but very definite. The average member wants more roads. He wants relief from the cost of education. He wants relief for the fruit industry. He wants something done about the P.G.E., but is not sure what. He wants agricultural marketing put on a better basis. He wants industrial development. He wants parks preserved. And he wants taxes reduced. These ideas are fairly articulate already in the House, and they are uppermost in the minds of everyone.

The latest news broke, as we say, not in House but in the Public Accounts Committee. There Chairman Walkem enunciated the unusual theory that there should be no politics in the committee's work. There hasn't been much else in the last twelve years, and it will be hard for the committee to get used to the new orientation. May be it won't have to.

CHEAP AT THE PRICE

THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE finds that the total loss to the province as a result of government assistance to industries will be something like \$282,000 on loans aggregating \$1,573,884. Last year's loss is put at \$82,000, which, added to previous amounts written off totaling \$100,000, brings the deficit up to \$182,000. The remaining \$100,000 is the estimated amount of principal and interest which the Department of Industries considers it will not be able to collect.

The province may consider itself fortunate that this venture has not cost the people of British Columbia much more than it has. As a government undertaking the creation of this Department never was considered very sound economic policy. But those who remember the scene enacted at the Parliament Buildings during the session of 1919 realized at that time that the course which the Government took was one determined by a set of grave circumstances which demanded prompt and effective action. Hundreds of former members of the Canadian Expeditionary Force had returned to this province only to discover that the Union Government at Ottawa had made little or no arrangement for their re-absorption by the labor market. Many of them were in dire straits, hard up, and with practically no prospect of employment. A delegation composed of a large number of these men "waited upon" the Government—in a mood quite different from that in which delegations usually make known their requests to governments. The late Mr. Oliver, who was then Premier, and his colleagues met the situation in about the only way that would give promise of much-needed employment. The passage of the subsequent legislation, incidentally, was aided by the opposition, the urgency of the matter submerging political partizanship.

After ten years, therefore, we learn that the total loss the province will sustain as a result of accepting an obligation which should have been discharged by the Federal authorities will amount to something like one-sixtieth of the sum which our people—as is their right—spend on liquor in one year. In writing off this sum we shall have to charge it to abnormal post-war conditions. It was a cheap escape from a delicate and ominous situation. But it is more than that; many of the industries which drew financial assistance from the Department took healthy root and now are among the important producers of the province on a paying basis.

COUNCIL ORDERS FIGHT DELAYED

Pattullo Will Stage Fight When Premier Returns to House

Attorney-General Pooley yesterday failed to spare Premier Tolmie from

the keen fight over the right of access to orders-in-council which T. D. Pattullo, leader of the Opposition, plans to stage in the Legislature.

Mr. Pattullo, whose advance fire indicates that he plans to make it a subject of pointed observations, asked leave and secured permission to hold over his resolution on the subject until the Premier returns to the House. His resolution asks that orders-in-council, or certified copies, be made available for perusal by anyone at any time during office hours within the general office or the department of the Provincial Secretary. He has frequently pointed out with emphasis that these orders-in-council are often of more importance than acts of the Legislature itself.

Mr. Pooley at first saw no need for the resolution to be held up. The Premier was familiar with it and knew all about it. There was no reason why it should not be proceeded with.

"The Opposition has some rights," declared Mr. Pattullo. "I am asking, as a matter of courtesy, that it stand over. I see that the Premier will be back Thursday or Friday."

Consenting for the resolution to stand over, Mr. Pooley informed Mr. Pattullo: "We are not going to ex-

ercise the club as severely as it was exercised upon us."

BILL CHANGES SCHOOLS' ACT TAX SYSTEMS

Hinchliffe Strives to Read-just Education Burden

Only British Subjects May Be Trustees and Electors

Many changes in the school law of the Province are contained in a bill introduced to the Legislature Wednesday by Hon. Joshua Hinchliffe, Minister of Education, amending the Public Schools Act.

For the first time the term "elementary school" is applied to schools from Grades I to VIII. One type of assisted rural school district is wiped out, that being the type where the inhabitants are not called upon to tax themselves. Hereafter such schools will be administered directly by the department.

Statutory authority for various institutions already of long standing is given. Correspondence courses, Summer schools and text books have been furnished by the department hitherto without such authority, in the Minister's opinion, and he has drafted sections to cover them. A section authorizes the recent appointment of Miss Lottie Brown to supervise the conditions under which rural school teachers live.

An effort to equalize school taxation is made by providing that all assisted school districts shall tax themselves three mills on their assessed value for the purpose of applying on the teachers' salary. The Government pays the rest. Under the former law, it was explained, some comparatively wealthy districts could escape any contribution and other poorer districts were paying more. The exemption from contributing to teachers' salaries enjoyed by rural school districts in the E. & N. Railway belt on Vancouver Island is wiped out.

BRITISH SUBJECTS ONLY

School trustees and electors must be British subjects and their school taxes must be paid up. They must also be of the full age of twenty-one years. Under certain circumstances all of these conditions could be evaded under the former act, it was found.

At the same time, two disqualifications are removed. In one case, school trustees were disbarred if a company in which they held shares did business with the board, although aldermen

NEW SYSTEM OF FINANCING B.C. SCHOOLS URGED

Steps Must Be Taken to Relieve Taxpayers, Cornett Tells House

Drawing upon his experience in municipal affairs, J. W. Cornett, Conservative, of South Vancouver, in the Legislature yesterday went exhaustively into the burden of educational costs on the ratepayers of cities and organized municipalities, and advocated that some more equitable system of financing should be evolved. He also pictured the need for the encouragement of industries as a means of providing opportunities for the boys and girls whose education had cost so much.

"In the case of the Municipality of South Vancouver, now a part of Vancouver," he said, "the struggle was one that I will not forget, for more than one-half of the revenue derived from taxation had to be allocated for the maintenance of the educational system. It is obvious that other municipalities are approaching a condition similar to that which South Vancouver weathered. But, he asked, is it reasonable to expect from the ratepayers in other municipalities the same staunch loyalty that characterized those of South Vancouver, who stood behind their elected representatives and paid their taxes when many of them could ill afford to do so?"

"I contend," he went on, "that this splendid loyalty displayed by the ratepayers of South Vancouver was in support of a wrong principle—the principle that the people within a municipality should be held liable for the cost of the education of their children.

"Young men and young women are assets to this Province, and not necessarily of a municipality in which they are educated. It is, in my opinion, the duty of this Province and not of the municipality to bear the cost of their education, and the acceptance of this principle by the Legislature would be but common justice.

RELIEF URGED

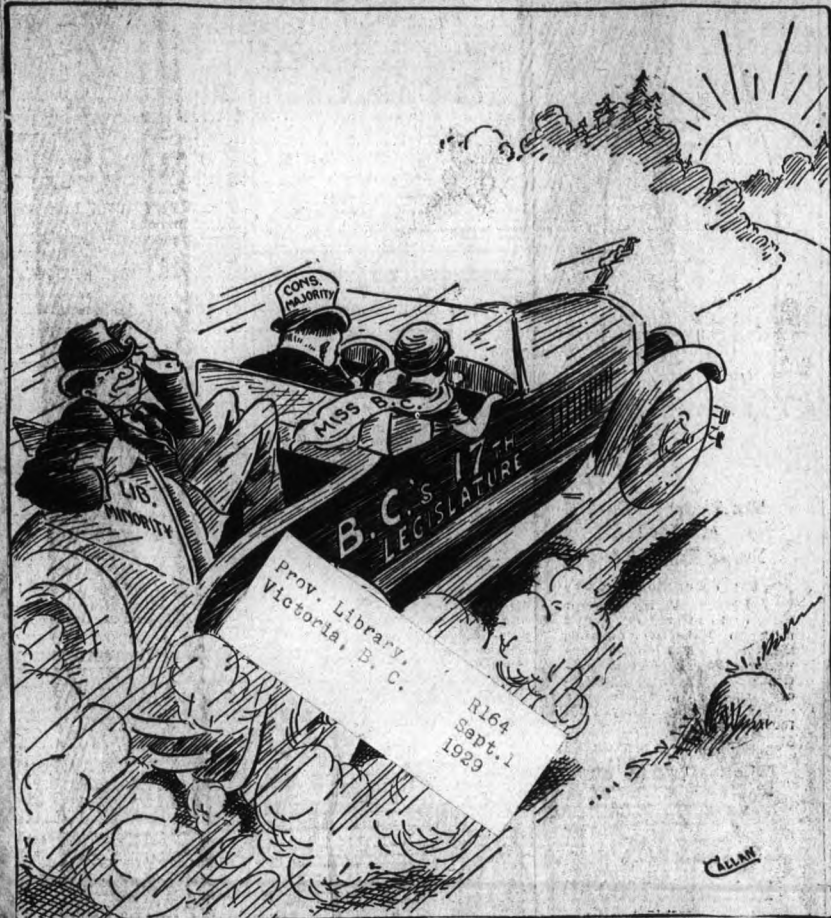
"I urge upon the Legislature the necessity for relief for the municipalities from this intolerable and wholly unjust burden, and ask that a condition be brought about in this Province whereby those who have benefited from the educational facilities should pay for such facilities for the succeeding generation, and pay in accordance with the benefits received as reflected by their ability to pay.

"If we in British Columbia," he added, "are ever to reach the prosperity that our raw material resources entitle us, we must turn our attention to using these resources in local plants, factories and mills. We must evolve a plan to encourage industries in British Columbia, not in Tacoma and

J A N

1929

WELL, THEY'RE OFF!



15-Gun Salute to Welcome Governor to Legislature

Opening Session Is Full Dress Affair

VICTORIA, Jan. 22.—Premier S. F. Tolmie fulfilled in every way the expectation arranged by his campaign slogan, "It's time for a change."

The seventeenth legislature got under way this afternoon and the program arranged by the government was a decided change from the simplicity that has marked the opening ceremony in recent years. The innovations consisted chiefly in revivals of customs that had been abandoned by the democratic John Oliver.

An outstanding feature that had not disturbed the quiet atmosphere of Victoria for many years in the welcoming of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor at the Parliament buildings with a salute of 15 guns by the 58th Field Battery. The 58th Canadian Scottish Battalion provided the guns of honor, while naval and military officers formed a personal escort for His Honor.

In talks and in other similar ways the opening was made a distinctly full dress affair, a circumstance which was evidently appreciated to some extent, for an unprecedented number of visitors from out of town accepted invitations to be present and swarmed into the capital this morning.

QUAINT TRADITIONS

The actual opening ceremony follows the quaint but significant traditions evolved through centuries of parliamentary history in England. His honor enters the assembly hall by the bar of the house and passes through the crowd of visitors and members to the throne, where, as soon as he is seated, the provincial secretary announces that because the house has not yet elected a speaker his honor withdraws the members together until that office has been filled. The governor then leaves the chamber.

With the clerk in the chair Premier S. F. Tolmie then nominates J. W. Jones of South Okanagan as speaker, and upon that motion being carried Mr. Jones departs to don his robes and cocked hat.

Somewhere outside the new speaker is introduced to the Lieutenant Governor, who thereupon finding him acceptable, agrees to return and deliver his address.

The speaker follows his honor into the assembly hall and in appropriate terms publicly announces his election. The reading of the address follows, and his honor departs.

RIGHTS ASSERTED

It is customary that the speech from the throne is the first business to be considered by parliament, but for the purpose of asserting its right to do otherwise if it wishes, the legislature then proceeds to transact a series of formal items of business which occupy perhaps five minutes of time.

The premier moves that the address be considered at the next sitting. The attorney general presents a bill. Some other minister presents a report and a resolution naming committees is presented for consideration.

Then the house adjourns until Wednesday when W. F. Kennedy and Dr. G. K. MacNaughton, as mover and seconder, will open the debate on the address in reply to His Honor's speech, this address being a formal and itemized expression of thanks.

New-old flourishes of a social nature have been provided this year as symbols of the fact that the government is once more in the hands of the Conservative party. Premier and Mrs. Tolmie are holding a reception to the members and their wives at the Empress hotel in the late afternoon and appended to the state dinner at Government house there is to be a reception to several hundred invited citizens.

25 Members of Government Novices

VICTORIA, Jan. 22.—The brand new legislature which opened today has newness written all over it. Of the 48 members, no fewer than 25, an actual majority, are new in every sense of the word, never having sat in the house before. There is a new government and there is a new leader of the opposition.

The new government has set a precedent in its numerical size, its membership of 11 being three greater than the next largest cabinet the province has ever known. Of its 11 members, seven are not only new to the cabinet but to the house.

Premier S. F. Tolmie, Hon. S. L. Howe, Hon. W. C. Beatty, Hon. N. S. Louder, Hon. Fred Burden, Hon. William Atkinson and Hon. E. L. Mathias have never sat in the legislature of British Columbia before.

In matters of procedure, Dr. Tolmie's experience at Ottawa may be more of a pitfall than a help, for the rules of order in British Columbia are quite different, following those of the British parliament much more closely.

TOLMIE STANDS ALONE

Dr. Tolmie is the only member of the new cabinet who has had experience in present government business to parliament, none of his colleagues having had cabinet experience before.

Of the 23 former members who have been returned, only three have had experience in the political duties they assume today. Hon. R. H. Fosley, Michael Manson and the veteran J. H. Schofield all date back to the McBride days and have had experience in supporting a government.

The other old Conservative members have had all their parliamentary experience as oppositionists. On the other hand the Liberals who arrived in a body from Vancouver this morning headed by their new leader T. D. Pattullo, are all new at the opposition game.

NEW SPEAKER

There is a new speaker, a new sergeant-at-arms and a new sessional staff. The caucus rooms will have new tenants and many other innovations have been made.

It will take the next six or eight weeks, however, to disclose what new ideas of government Premier Tolmie and his colleagues have in mind for the province and what new obstacles their plans may encounter.

\$7,465,006 of Liquor Sold in 6 Months

VICTORIA, Jan. 22.—Total sales by the liquor control board during the six months ending September 30, 1928, were \$7,465,006, according to the semi-annual balance-sheet tabled in the legislature this afternoon by Attorney General R. H. Pooley.

Sales to the public were \$6,068,322, and to beer licensees \$1,408,334. Deductions for discounts to druggists, breakages of \$10,786, and shortages of \$505 account for the slight difference.

Net profit for the six months after deducting \$20,763 for law enforcement, and one or two minor items, is given as \$1,909,513.

WEDNESDAY,
JANUARY 23, 1929

M'Kenzie Takes Up Cudgels for Vets

Special to The Vancouver Sun
VICTORIA, Jan. 23.—A phase of the new government's firing and hiring of civil servants is to be brought under the spotlight by Captain Ian MacKenzie, member for North Vancouver.

Notice already has been filed by him of questions directed to the ministers of public works tends aid the attorney general, enquiring how many returned soldiers have been released from employment and how many engaged since the new government took office.

PRIMROSE IDEA IS REVIVED BY GOVERNMENT

VICTORIA, Jan. 23.—An old custom was revived by Attorney General R. H. Pooley at the opening of the legislature when he provided each of the Conservative members with a bouquet of primroses from his own garden.

The event has three separate and distinct significances, he informed the curious.

Years ago Disraeli adopted the primrose as the floral emblem of the Conservative party.

The fact that primroses grown out of doors should be available on January 23 was emphasized as a tribute to Victoria's climate.

The third circumstance of significance was the attention it drew to Mr. Pooley's own lovely garden, where the flowers were grown.

The new ministers were all arrayed in morning coats and top hats, an event which was duly honored by a photographer who led the cabinet out of a side door to have a permanent record of the gorgeous scene made in nitrate of silver.

This was the second day in succession the cabinet has been photographed, Monday's function being unsatisfactory because of the absence of Hon. R. L. Maitland, K.C. and the wearing of mere business suits.

T. D. Pattullo and Premier Tolmie Speak Thursday

Special to The Vancouver Sun
VICTORIA, Jan. 23.—Ottawa procedure is to be substituted for the time-honored customs of the B. C. legislature, it is learned, in the matter of the debate on the reply to the speech from the throne. T. D. Pattullo, leader of the opposition, is to speak Thursday afternoon, immediately after the mover and seconder, who will have Wednesday to themselves. Premier S. F. Tolmie is expected to follow Mr. Pattullo either Thursday or Friday.

For the leader of the opposition and the premier to follow the mover and seconder on the debate has long been the custom at Ottawa and Westminster, but in Victoria the custom grew up that these two important dignitaries wait until the debate.

Throne Speech Indicates Prosperity in All Aspects Of British Columbia Life

Gov't Plans to Assist Establishment of Steel Industry

Public Utility Board Also Foreshadowed by Governor

(Throne speech appears on page 4)

By C. NORMAN SENIOR
Sun Staff Correspondent

VICTORIA, Jan. 23.—Amid a scene of unparalleled splendor the seventeenth legislature of British Columbia was launched upon its way on Tuesday afternoon by His Honor R. Randolph Bruce, lieutenant governor.

Decision to assist the establishment of an iron and steel industry; To expedite colonization of government land;

To organize a marketing division of the agricultural department; To extend the exemptions under the Succession Duties act;

To amend the Game act, the Male Minimum Wage act, the Schools act and the mineral survey and development act, was indicated in the speech from the throne.

(The text is published in full on page four of this issue.)

Further surveys and investigations of the P.G.E. situation; of ways and means of modifying the incidence of taxation; of better controlling public utilities; of conserving the salmon industry, and of other matters of public importance were announced.

BUSINESS GOOD

The new government acknowledged with gratification that business conditions in the province are showing rapid improvement, a condition which its candidates for office vigorously repudiated during the election campaign six months ago.

"There are indications that the aggregate output of our basic industries in the present year will surpass all previous records," said the address on this point. "The bank clearings and building statistics of our leading centres also reflect the general prosperity."

The ceremonies of opening the new provincial parliament were carried through without a hitch, despite the obvious nervousness of some of the new ministers and members who had no experience of such formalities.

JONES IS SPEAKER

J. W. Jones was unanimously elected to the speakership on motion of Premier S. F. Tolmie and Hon. N. S. Lougheed and was given an ovation when from the steps of the dais he thanked the members.

His honor duly granted the house its ancient privileges before reading the address, and the house proceeded to exercise those privileges by adopting the first reading of a bill introduced by Attorney General R. H. Pooley before the premier's motion to consider the address from the throne at the next sitting was put.

ELECTIONS RECORDED

The clerk of the house read the election returns, which, on the motion of Hon. S. L. Howe, are to be spread on the journals and certain formal resolutions, naming the standing committees, deciding to proceed against anybody elected by corrupt practices and authorizing the speaker to arrange for printing the votes and proceedings, were adopted.

The various ministers then presented their annual reports to the number of 31, Mr. Pooley heading off with the 31 that come from his department.

Even the new leader of the opposition, T. D. Pattullo, managed to get in a word by asking when the interim report of the auditors who have been examining the province's accounts would be tabled. He urged haste and Hon. W. C. Shelly revealed that he has grasped the rudiments of parliamentary style by saucily giving the assurance that it would be presented at the earliest possible moment.

RESUMES TODAY AT 2:30
The legislature resumes at 2:30

p.m. today to hear W. F. Kennedy North Okanagan, and Dr. G. K. Mac Naughton, Comox, move and second the address in reply.

Never in the history of the B. C. legislature has so large and distinguished an assembly of prominent citizens attended the opening of a new house. Judges of the Court of Appeal in their robes, several former cabinet ministers, a former lieutenant governor and the widowers of three others, senators and members of the house of commons, mayors and aldermen of the leading cities and others occupied guest chairs on the floor of the assembly hall during the ceremony.

Among the interested spectators were Sir Frank and Lady Barnard, former occupants of government house; E. D. Barrow, A. D. Paterson, Hon. T. G. Coventry, Major Alan Lyons, D.S.O., members of the last house; J. W. Weart, former Speaker; Mayor W. H. Malkin of Vancouver and Col. the Rev. G. O. Fallis.

B.C. MAY ASK REDUCTION OF LIQUOR DUTIES

Emphasis Laid Upon Heavy Imposts in Report Tabled in House

Special to The Vancouver Sun
VICTORIA, Jan. 23.—Possibility that the Tolmie government will make a drive on the Dominion government to bring down the heavy taxation imposed upon liquors purchased by the provinces is hinted at in the stress laid on this phase of the liquor board's costs in the annual report tabled in the legislature Tuesday by Attorney General R. H. Pooley.

Profits from the operations for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1928, were 3,763,711 on sales totaling \$13,956,909, whereas it is pointed out that the total amount paid to the Dominion government in duty, excise and sales tax was \$3,311,161.

Some members of the new government are said to favor reducing the price of liquor, and it is believed they intend asking the Dominion government to share with them the loss of revenue entailed as each government is obtaining practically the same amount under present conditions. In other words, the British Columbia government will probably express willingness to cut its profits if the Dominion will cut the tax on liquor.

LIBERALS SHOW SURPLUS OVER LAST ESTIMATE

Revenue Was \$1,380,000 Greater Than Total Anticipated

Special to The Vancouver Sun

VICTORIA, Jan. 23.—The buoyant position of the public finances of British Columbia was strikingly illustrated in the public accounts tabled in the legislature Tuesday by Hon. W. C. Shelly, minister of finance, when it was shown that during the last complete year of the Liberal regime actual revenue exceeded the estimates by \$1,379,056.

The accounts further show that the government utilized this money in the public service along with another \$723,229, which constitutes the excess of expenditures over revenue in that year.

The bulk of this latter sum is represented in a capital account item covering the failure of beneficiaries under the Soldiers' Land act and Department of Industries act to meet due payments.

The excess of revenue over the estimates made by the then minister of finance, Hon. Dr. J. D. MacLean, is the more remarkable in view of the substantial reductions in various rates of taxation made the preceding year.

The estimated revenue was \$19,757,296 and the actual revenue was \$21,136,348, a surplus of \$1,379,056.

Row Looms Over Hazelton Bridge

VICTORIA, Jan. 23.—Controversy in the vicinity of Hazelton over the location of the proposed new bridge at that place is likely to be aired in the legislature. The bridge at Old Hazelton and the bridge at Hagwilget, near New Hazelton, have both reached the end of their usefulness.

Plans for a new steel bridge to replace both the old ones have been prepared by the public works department in the hope that one bridge might serve the purpose of both. Neither community is greatly pleased at this solution, however.

AT OPENING OF LEGISLATURE



HIS HONOR, LT.-GOVERNOR BRUCE, is shown inspecting his naval guard of honor from the Royal Canadian Naval dockyards at Esquimalt in connection with the formal opening of the Provincial legislature Tuesday. —Canadian Pacific railway photo.

RETURN OF LANDS

"My government, represented by the premier and the minister of public works in conference with the Dominion government has succeeded in making further progress toward the restoration to the province of the railway belt lands and the Peace River block. Further conferences are to be held with a view to the completion of the transfer.

"The future of the Pacific Great Eastern railway is receiving the earnest attention of my government. Information as to the resources of the railway-grant lands is being collected and a thorough survey of the location and assets of the railway is being made.

TO BRING SETTLERS

"My government is seriously considering the question of land settlement and for the purpose of expediting the settlement of reclaimed and government-owned lands, has appointed a commissioner of immigration and colonization, whose duty it will be to inaugurate plans for the disposal of lands to suitable settlers in the best interest of the province.

"In accordance with a plan so inaugurated, a portion of the reclaimed lands at Sumas has already been placed on the market by the dyking commissioner on terms that should encourage settlement and increase our agricultural production. Irrigation problems will be given careful consideration.

MARKETING BRANCH

"Recognizing that the success of agriculture largely depends upon the profitable marketing of the products of the land, my government contemplates the immediate organization of a marketing branch in connection with the department of agriculture.

Milk Control Bill Proposed by Enquiry

Fraser Valley Milk Co. Suggested as B.C. Standard

VICTORIA, Jan. 23.—Report of the Milk Enquiry Commission presented over by Dean F. M. Clement, tabled in the legislature at its opening sitting Tuesday, constitutes a notable victory for the big co-operative Fraser Valley Milk Producers' association, and will likely provoke a vigorous debate when it comes to be considered by the agricultural committee and the house.

The report recommends the creation of a committee of equalization to be financed by the industry through a direct charge on milk fat produced.

Taking the standard of the F.V.M.P.A. as a basis for comparisons of efficiency it is proposed that the committee require all distributors to accept equal responsibility with respect to maintaining milk supply and the manufacture of surplus into by-products and development of foreign markets for these commodities.

REGULATE SPREAD

It is recommended that the price spread be regulated on the basis of the F.V.M.P.A. for all distributors and that milk routes be reorganized so that competition will be on a service basis at fixed prices. Amalgamations should be encouraged, the report urges.

The report recommends that the committee of equalization, to be known as a Committee of Direction, have associated with it an advisory committee representing producers, distributors and consumers, any one of which elements shall have the right of direct appeal to the Lieutenant Governor in council from any ruling of the committee of direction.

The committee would be financed by a direct assessment on the pound of milk fat to be collected through the distributing companies. Producer vendors are not intended to be charged on this basis, but would be licensed at a stated rate per producing cow it is proposed.

F.V.M.P.A. STANDARD

Recognition is urged by the commission of the Fraser Valley Milk Producers' association as the standard for efficiency in wholesale and retail distribution in Vancouver in view of its efforts to increase the supply and take care of by-products. All other distributors are conceded the right to do business provided they accept their equal share of the above mentioned burdens now borne by the members of the F.V.M.P.A.

Price regulation is to be effected it is recommended, by independent distributors operating on the same spread estimated monthly as that found in the F.V.M.P.A.

The price would be set according to fat content and milk solids and would vary according to season.

The commission suggests that in this way at the end of three years the co-operative shippers would be gradually brought up to the point where all would be on equal basis through the operations of the committee of direction.

Amalgamation should be encouraged, it is suggested, to reduce hauling costs. Two or three large companies and a number of producer vendors are stated to be adequate.

The commission suggests that a proportionate share of the fluid milk market be open to all producers inside and outside the tuberculosis free area, providing they can produce standard quality milk and are so located that they can deliver for sale on the fluid market.

Amendments to the Milk act are suggested, with a review of the bacterial count, and competition among individual farmers is recommended on a basis of quality production and lower production costs.

TORIES DEPART FROM PRECEDENT

Bill No. 1 Not Formal, But Debatable Measure

Special to The Vancouver Sun
VICTORIA, Jan. 23.—Bill No. 1 introduced to the legislature at the formal opening session Tuesday afternoon by Attorney General R. H. Pooley, constitutes a departure from precedent in that it proves to be a controversial measure. It is styled

An Act to Amend the Counties Definition act and its purport is to repeal an act passed last session creating the new judicial county of Comox.

The act was passed to create machinery whereby the people of northern Vancouver island might have access to county island without the expense of journeying south to Nanaimo, but Conservative members suggested the idea was to create a position on the bench for Paul P. Harrison, independent member for Comox in the last house.

The strong antipathy which the new Conservative government has shown towards Liberals holding public office is believed to account for the decision to try and repeal last session's enactment.

Speech From the Throne

Delivered by Hon. R. Randolph Bruce, Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia, at Opening of Legislature, Victoria, January 23.

"Mr. Speaker and Members of the legislative assembly:

"In welcoming you to the first session of the seventeenth parliament of British Columbia, it is with pleasure that I note the improvement in the condition of His Majesty the King.

"Throughout his serious illness, his loyal subjects in this province have followed with deep anxiety the reports upon His Majesty's condition, and we are all rejoiced to learn of his steady progress toward recovery.

"This trying period has served to bring out in a most striking manner the affection with which His Majesty is regarded by his subjects, and our prayer is that he may yet be spared to us for many years.

"Since the legislature last met the province has suffered a severe loss in the death of the former lieutenant governor, the Hon. W. C. Nichol. He was a generous and public-spirited citizen, who represented the crown with honor and distinction, and his passing is sincerely mourned.

"Within the past year the province has received visits from the foreign secretary in his majesty's imperial government, the under secretary for the dominions, the leader of the British Labor party and the British empire parliamentary association. These visits are very gratifying and should do much to create a better understanding between the different parts of the empire.

BUSINESS GAINING

"It is with pleasure that I observe that business conditions in the province are showing rapid improvement. There are indications that the aggregate output of our basic industries in the present year will surpass all previous records. The bank clearings and building statistics of our leading centres also reflect the general prosperity.

"In harmony with the general advancement of the province, the city of Vancouver and the municipalities of South Vancouver and Point Grey have been amalgamated into a Greater Vancouver which takes a proud place among the leading cities of the Dominion.

"Its purpose will be to co-operate wherever possible with existing agencies for the better marketing of farm products with a view to perfecting as nearly as possible the facilities for trade in these commodities. For this purpose you will be asked to vote an appropriation.

"An audit of the accounts of the province is being made by a reputable firm of auditors for the purpose of clarifying our financial position and their interim report will be placed before you.

"In view of the growing importance of public utilities, the question of the advisability of providing some measure of stricter control is

receiving the consideration of my government.

"Provision will be made to meet the province's immediate needs in connection with highway facilities in such manner as to encourage the greater development of our natural resources, agricultural production, production undertakings and tourist travel with a view to interesting the settlers of the best type.

"Arrangements are now being entered into between Canada and the United States for a conference concerning the conservation of the salmon and it is earnestly hoped that lasting benefits to the industry will result therefrom.

"My government is diligently carrying out a thorough survey of the provisions of the taxation act to the end that the incidence of taxation may be modified.

NAMES LEGISLATION

"You will be asked to consider legislation intended:

(a) To extend exemptions under the 'succession duties act.'

(b) To give assistance to the establishment of the iron and steel industry in this province.

(c) To amend the 'male minimum wage act,' the 'game act,' the 'companies act,' the 'mineral survey and development act' and the 'public schools act.'

"The reports of the various departments of my government will be laid before you.

"The public accounts and estimates for the coming year will be submitted to you.

"I leave you in the hope that the first session of this new parliament will, under the blessing of Providence, result in the enactment of such measures as will prove of benefit to all our people."

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DEFICIT CHARGE FARCICAL

Tory Propaganda on Liberal Debt Exploded

'Accumulated Losses' of \$13,000,000 Ridiculed

Special to The Vancouver Sun
VICTORIA, Jan. 24.—Propaganda disseminated by the Conservative press when the public accounts were tabled in the legislature this week conveys the impression that the unfortunate Mr. W. C. Shelly is faced with the task of finding \$13,000,000 to pay off accumulated deficit of the late Liberal government.

There could be nothing sillier than adding together the surpluses or deficits of succeeding years. If there is a surplus one year it is used to meet the next year's running accounts.

If there is a deficit it is paid off out of the next year's revenue. The government in a spring conference said it would be meticulous in the expenditure and revenue for a given period happen to balance exactly.

As a matter of record the Liberal government left no deficit behind it. On the contrary, in almost every year of its regime it earned a substantial surplus which was applied in two ways—either to pay off debt or to provide new and permanent public utilities.

METHODS ILLUSTRATED

The way these imaginary deficits of Mr. Shelly's (or his propagandist's) are arrived at can be illustrated from his assumption that there was a deficit in the last fiscal year of \$722,000.

According to the public accounts the current revenue in that year was \$20,335,123 and the current expenditure \$19,692,000. The ordinary running account of the province thus shows not a deficit, but a surplus of \$643,123.

Of this surplus the accounts show that \$1,525,521 was put into the sinking fund. In other words it was used to reduce the mortgage, to pay off the debt.

This is shown in the accounts as an expenditure under the heading of capital. Certain sums used to provide permanent roads and properties, which will be used for many years to come, also were entered in accordance with ordinary business practice as capital expenditures.

'DEFICIT' REVEALED

The alleged deficit is reached by adding current and capital expenditures together and comparing them with current revenue.

The situation with respect to a small business firm will illustrate the supposed mismanagement more clearly.

Let it be assumed that the firm made \$20,000 in its year's operations. Its running expenses were \$18,000. That leaves a surplus of \$2,000. In the course of the year it buys a new machine for \$1,000. It pays \$500 off on the mortgage and pays \$500 on account for the machine, and since this balance is so small it decides that rather than increase its capital debt the remaining \$500 for the machine will be carried over into next year's accounts and paid off out of next year's income.

REVENUE WORKS

The reality of that firm's \$2,000 surplus is gone, but less because it decides to use part of the sum to increase the plant instead of declaring a dividend. Besides governments don't declare dividends. It is their duty to make every dollar of revenue work for the people.

In every year of its history the Liberal government had a surplus of current revenue which was used to pay off debt.

In the year in which it had to borrow to meet a deficit was its first year of office. It had \$1,000,000 left over when the government in 1918 was elected to that way.

AID FOR FARMERS SOUGHT

Okanagan Unable to Pay Irrigation Costs

Premier's Policy Is Lauded in Debate on Speech

By C. NORMAN SENIOR
Sun Staff Correspondent

VICTORIA, Jan. 24.—Insofar as the pronouncements by the mover of the address in reply to the speech from the throne may be taken as foreshadowing government policy, the remarks of W. E. Kennedy, member for North Okanagan in the legislature Wednesday, gave only one clue to probable action by the new administration.

That was his downright assertion that the farmers of the Okanagan found it utterly impossible to carry on under the present charges for irrigation.

"Irrigation is one of our major problems," he said. "I am glad to learn from the speech from the throne that this matter will be given careful consideration during this session. If the great volume of business coming from the fertile Okanagan valley means anything to our province, then it will be necessary for our government to come to their assistance by giving a measure of relief which will enable the farmer to remain on his land."

EXPENSES LISTED

He listed the expenses incident on producing and distributing the annual apple crop, compiling a total of \$9,142,000 in freight charges, box material, paper, nails, spray, fertilizer, irrigation water, picking, packing, hauling, handling, selling, etc., all of which had to be met before the producer got his returns.

From this fact he asked the house to recognize that the problems of the fruit growers were the problems of British Columbia.

Agricultural problems occupied a considerable portion of Mr. Kennedy's attention in the opening speech of the debate. Otherwise he contented himself with expressing gratification that the various matters mentioned in the speech from the throne were to be dealt with, not omitting to point out that these fulfilled the premier's campaign pledges, and he quoted some interesting statistics illustrative of the notable prosperity experienced by the province as a whole.

AGRICULTURE PROBLEM

Of the many problems confronting the province, that of agriculture was, in Mr. Kennedy's opinion, the chief. For this reason he expressed gratification that the new premier was specially qualified by experience and training to deal with that industry. Congratulations were extended to the premier and cabinet, to Mr. Speaker Jones and to the leader of the opposition on the honors conferred upon them.

Dealing with the enhancement of the province's prosperity he quoted the following facts:

Revenue from productive industries totalled \$6,840,273,995, giving B. C. the lead among the provinces of Canada in her per capita income.

Mineral production increased \$4,000,000 in 1928, and the year saw the largest distribution of dividends in history.

Fisheries production increased \$1,000,000.

The lumber industry showed signs of revival in the last six months from an apparent depression early in the year. He urged the legislature to consider earnestly the problems of this industry.

An unequalled volume of hydro-electric development was launched during 1928.

BANK CLEARINGS GAIN

Vancouver's bank clearings showed an average daily increase over 1927 of \$600,000, her port trade increased 10 per cent and her building activity showed a marked increase, circumstances in which he said the whole province

took pride as Vancouver's advancement was a reflection of the general prosperity of B. C.

Agricultural production increased by \$4,000,000 making the total greater than that for mining and second only to that of lumber. Live stock production increased by \$1,000,000, fruit by \$1,000,000 and agricultural imports by \$250,000, while exports increased \$1,000,000.

Live stock increased by 34,000 head of cattle, 40,000 head of sheep, 4000 swine and 600,000 poultry.

GOVERNMENT LAUDED

Urging the necessity of procuring a better return for the fruit growers, Mr. Kennedy complimented the government on its decision to set up a marketing branch in the department of agriculture.

The speaker pointed out that the Okanagan is well suited to mixed farming, and argued that development in this direction would benefit the valley.

The dairy industry is growing rapidly in the Okanagan, he said, being second only to the Fraser valley. This year more than 1,000,000 pounds of butter were produced on which the farmers received 40c a pound for butter fat content, the return being excellent, as of every dollar expended the producer received 80c.

"We have a country well suited to dairying; we can produce feed cheaper than in most parts of Canada, and the production per cow is well above the average," he said.

DR. M'NAUGHTON URGES B.C. TO AID WORKLESS

Finding of Employment for Citizens Held First Duty of House

Special to The Vancouver Sun

VICTORIA, Jan. 24.—While not advocating further tax on importations of fuel oil, Dr. G. K. MacNaughton, member for Comox, seconding the address in reply to the speech from the throne in the legislature Wednesday, declared that the competition of this commodity has brought disaster into the coal mining districts of the province.

Villages had been deserted, schools and houses boarded up, and many thrown out of employment by substitution of this foreign fuel, he said.

As a ray of sunshine, he commented favorably on the efforts of the minister of mines continuing the policy of his predecessor, Dr. W. H. Sutherland, to find new uses for king coal by research activity.

EMPLOYMENT SOUGHT

A first duty of the government, he said, should be to find employment for the sons and daughters of British Columbia families who too often are following the natural resources of the province into foreign countries where these raw materials are being manufactured.

He counselled against too generous an immigration policy until employment had been provided for those already here.

BETTER ROADS URGED

He complimented the government on its success in negotiating the return of the railway lands and expressed the hope that the P. G. E. might yet, like Fortia, have many suitors. More and better roads were demanded by the speaker in urging especially an extension of the island highway at Mensies bay.

In the proposed amendments to the game act, Dr. MacNaughton urged that the interest of the farmers be considered with reference to the depredations committed upon their crops by game birds.

Tolmie, Ill, Plans Two Days' Rest

VICTORIA, Jan. 24.—Although Premier Tolmie's health is said to be better today, it is expected that he will not return to his office in the parliament buildings or take any part in the legislature for the rest of this week.

Attorney General Podley will continue to discharge that function. The premier is suffering from a severe cold.

PATTULLO WILL SPEAK TODAY IN THRONE DEBATE

Opposition Members Have to Aid New Speaker on Technical Phrases

VICTORIA, Jan. 24.—Opposition members gave notice in the legislature Wednesday that they intend to be heard from.

T. D. Pattullo, the leader, set a precedent when he adjourned the debate on the reply to the speech from the throne immediately after the seconder had concluded, thereby indicating his intention of speaking on the debate today. Hitherto opposition leaders have preferred to close the debate.

A. M. Manson, K.C., has also filed the first opposition resolution asking for appointment of a committee of the House to examine the workings of the Elections Act during the recent election. A number of amendments were tried out for the first time last July and Mr. Manson intimates that it is desirable to enquire into the success or otherwise of their operation.

Various opposition members came to the assistance of the new deputy speaker, H. D. Twigg of Victoria, who, despite his legal training, found difficulty in his first experience getting his tongue around the stereotyped expressions prescribed for chairman of committees.

Mr. Manson also enquired why the chairman was not provided with a chair, when this omission was noted, and Mr. Pattullo had to complain that bills were not distributed to members when leave for their introduction was granted.

G. A. Walkem, Vancouver, although not an oppositionist, registered a kick from the back benches that owing to the poor acoustics and worse ventilation members in his end of the house were most uncomfortable.

PERSONNEL OF COMMITTEES IN HOUSE NAMED

Spencer Heads Group Which Will Consider C.N.E.R. Rail Plea

Special to The Vancouver Sun

VICTORIA, Jan. 24.—After much negotiation between the whips of the respective parties and many readjustments to accommodate the members who wish to have a say in matters of importance to their districts, it is learned that the personnel of the standing committees of the legislature has been decided upon.

Interest centres chiefly in the chairman who, it is expected, will be: Agriculture—J. W. Berry, Delta; Private Bills—H. D. Twigg, Victoria; Public Accounts—G. A. Walkem, Vancouver; Municipal—Reginald Hayward, Victoria.

Mining—Dr. L. E. Borden, Nelson; Forestry—Dr. G. K. MacNaughton, Comox.

Railways—Col. Nelson Spencer, Vancouver.

Printing—Col. C. W. Peck, V.C., The Islands.

Col. Spencer is a logical choice for railways because of his membership on the directorate of the P.G.E. This committee will have to deal with the application of H. H. Stevens for an extended charter for his Canadian Northeastern railway, which asks leave to build into the Peace River.

Many, even of the government members, question the wisdom of granting this charter for fear of the adverse effect it may have on the prospects of utilizing the P.G.E. as a link in the transportation service for the Peace River.

Two members, who were strongly supported for cabinet rank, find themselves chairmen of the committees dealing with the departments over which their supporters hoped to see them preside as ministers. These are J. W. Berry and Dr. Borden.

CANNERY INDUSTRY MENACED

M.P. Objects to Gov't Curtailment of Licenses

Urges No Move Until Courts Settle Question

Opposition to any curtailment of canneries in British Columbia waters, and demand that the federal and provincial governments co-operate so that the industry may not be interfered with pending final settlement of the question of jurisdiction over fishing and canning, was voiced today by Olof Hanson, Liberal candidate for the federal riding of Prince Albert.

"I want this made clear because there has been some misunderstanding as to where I stand on these important questions, and any misrepresentation of my stand might be taken as reflecting the views of other people in the north," Mr. Hanson said.

"In the early days there was a monopoly among the canneries, which was broken, largely through the efforts of the Liberals of the province.

FEARS MONOPOLY

"If the Cannery association's request that no more canneries be allowed to start up were granted, another monopoly would be created. This is not favorable or proper, in my opinion.

"Everyone who complies with the law, should be free to invest his money in a cannery or any other business, should have a perfect right to do so. If it comes to a question of too many canneries, or fishing becomes too intensive, then it is purely a matter of regulation by the department as to closed season, quantity of fish caught," Mr. Hanson submits.

The member takes the stand that at present the licensing of canneries is a matter for the provincial government to deal with.

"In view of various court decisions in the Millard case," he says, "the question of canneries is one for the provincial government to deal with. While the judgment of Mr. Justice McDonald of the Supreme Court of B. C. was final, the federal government referred the questions involved to the Supreme Court of Canada for opinion, and his decision was upheld. Now it has been taken to the Privy Council. It must be considered that the old law bearing on this matter has been declared null and void as far as the federal government is concerned.

NEED UNIFORM RULES

"This being so, it is respectfully suggested that pending the final clearing up of this issue, the federal government refrain from issuing any licenses for new canneries. It is further suggested that until a final settlement of this matter the federal government co-operate with the provincial government to bring about uniform regulations governing the salmon canning industry."

Mr. Hanson, who came to Vancouver some days ago to attend the meeting of the provincial Liberal executive, leaves for Prince Rupert tonight with H. F. Glassey, delegate from the Prince Rupert provincial Liberal association. Both expressed complete satisfaction with the action taken at the executive meeting, particularly as to formation of a committee from all parts of the province to direct activities of the party in both federal and provincial fields.

BILL PROVIDES 1 COMMISSIONER FOR GAME DEPT.

Hon. R. H. Pooley Presents Bill With Drastic Reorganization

Special to The Vancouver Sun
VICTORIA, Jan. 24.—Attorney General Pooley's scheme for reorganizing the game administration of the province was laid before the legislature Wednesday in a long eight-page bill to amend the Game Act.

After repealing the legislative authority for most of the present basis of organization he provides for the establishment of one game commissioner for the entire province. Sub-districts are to be set up with a district inspector in charge of each. The inspectors are to engage their own game ward-

ens and all salaries are to be fixed by order-in-council.

Many other amendments to game laws are proposed, among them being one giving greater permanency to the trap line rights let by the government to trappers. The trap lines are to be good for five years, with the right of renewal for five years, providing the trapper looks after the game and does not deplete the resources of his territory.

Another amendment provides for licensing game farms where licenses may raise pheasants and other game for sale to the market.

Under this legislation Mr. Pooley plans to carry out the re-organization which he attempted shortly after coming into office only to find that he had no power to dismiss the existing advisory game board. The new organization sets up an entirely new and separate department for game administration, and abolishes the economy effected by the late government in having certain game supervision duties discharged by provincial police officers.

POOLEY URGES ABOLITION OF BY-ELECTIONS

Provision Made for All But Opposition Leader in New Bill

VICTORIA, Jan. 24.—Abolition of ministerial byelections is proposed in a bill presented to the legislature Wednesday by Hon. R. H. Pooley, K.C.

The constitution act is to be amended so that members taking salaried offices either as cabinet ministers, speaker or deputy speaker, are not thereby disqualified from continuing to sit in the legislature until they have been confirmed by the electors at a by-election.

The bill also purports to validate all past errors arising from the fact that speakers and deputy speakers have for many years been paid special honorariums, the implication being that this has likewise incapacitated them from sitting.

No provision is made in the bill, however, for the leader of the opposition, who also draws down an extra sum over and above his indemnity and has been doing so from very early days.

Further sections of the bill incorporate into the constitution act the provisions now found in the rules of the house providing for the election of a deputy speaker and describing his functions.

BILL LEGALIZES M.L.A. ELECTION

Kaslo Member Disqualified for Holding Ferry Contract

Special to The Vancouver Sun
VICTORIA, Jan. 24.—As foreshadowed at the time of his election the government has found it necessary to introduce a bill validating the election of Captain James Fitzsimmons, as member for Kaslo-Slocan.

It was contended at the time that Captain Fitzsimmons was disqualified from being a member because he was the recipient of a government subsidy for operating a ferry on the Arrow lakes.

A bill introduced into the legislature, Wednesday, by Attorney General R. H. Pooley provides that Capt. Fitzsimmons is freed from all penalties which he might suffer by reason of any irregularity arising from this fact.

The preamble recites that he assigned his license and grant to the Beaton Boat company, but that the Ferries act did not contemplate the validity of such an assignment.

Hon. N. S. Lougheed introduced a further bill amending the Ferries act making ferry licenses transferable.

NOTICE GIVEN OF TELEPHONE BILL

Measure Would Allow Radio Rights to Company

Special to The Vancouver Sun
VICTORIA, Jan. 24.—Notice of the first of the series of private bills to be submitted to the legislature was given Wednesday by Col. Neilson Spencer, Vancouver, when he was granted leave to present a petition for acceptance of a bill to incorporate the Provincial Telephone company.

This measure, which is in effect an application by the B. C. Telephone company for a charter to operate a private wireless telephone system in the province, is expected to provoke a lively discussion in view of the controversy now existing with respect to radio jurisdiction.

Commission Urged On False Creek Plan

VICTORIA, Jan. 24.—Foreshadowing the appointment of another investigational commission, there appears on the sessional order paper today a notice of motion by Major G. A. Walkem, Vancouver, urging an announcement from the government that no long-term leases will be granted on False creek or other vested rights created in private individuals until a commission has been appointed to investigate the proposed plans for the improvement of False creek.

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PATTULLO CENSURES SALE OF B.C. BONDS

Want of Confidence Vote Asked by Liberals

By G. NORMAN SENIOR
Sun Staff Correspondent

VICTORIA, Jan. 25.—Revelation that the Toimie government, within a month of taking office, had entered into a compact with a private syndicate, giving its members a monopoly of selling all the government's bonds up to \$20,000,000 for a stated period at the usual profits, plus a commission of one per cent, was made to the legislature yesterday by T. D. Pattullo, opposition leader.

The far-reaching nature of the relations between the government and the syndicate which handled the two recent bond sales of \$5,000,000 each, uncovered by Mr. Pattullo as the result of his investigation of government orders-in-council, to which for several weeks the ministers refused to grant him any access, had not been suspected until the opposition leader barred them in the house today.

The gravity of the disclosure was indicated by the step with which Mr. Pattullo concluded his exposure.

DISAPPROVAL URGED

Although the session is but two days old, he said he felt it his duty at the first opportunity to ask the legislature to express its disapproval of this flagrant breach of trust, and promptly moved a want of confidence motion in the following terms:

"This house strongly disapproves of the administrative policy and action in connection with the recent sale of provincial securities in that the sale was made privately, imperceptibly and contrary to recent public policy."

This motion was in the form of an amendment to the address in reply to the speech from the throne.

OBJECTIONS LISTED

Mr. Pattullo's denunciation of the transaction covered the following grounds:

It was a departure from the sound business policy of inviting the highest possible bid in the open market.

It was the first time in 12 years that the province had had to pay a commission on the sale of its bonds.

The contract took away the government's authority over its fiscal policy and surrendered it to private interests.

It allowed a double profit to the fiscal agents.

The sales of \$12,000,000 worth of securities already made had cost the province money in that the prices received were the poorest for many years and were lower than Manitoba received for a sale made at the same time.

The commission of \$120,000 coming out of the proceeds of the bonds, which are to be repaid over 40 years, will cost the taxpayers \$500,000, while the \$200,000 commission on the whole amount will cost the people \$1,400,000 over 40 years.

Hon. W. C. Shelly, who as minister of finance is the member of the government directly affected, took copious notes during Mr. Pattullo's speech.

GOVERNMENT SURPRISED

Mr. Pattullo's procedure in moving a want of confidence motion on so serious an issue on the second day of the session took the government by surprise and Conservative members hurried into caucus as soon as the house rose.

The motion came at the conclusion of a broad review of the subjects discussed in the speech from the throne, in which the opposition leader took occasion to demand from the premier some indication of the government's policy on various other matters which he said he followed through into the legislative session.

In the House

T. D. Pattullo, moves amendment to address denouncing private sale of bonds.

G. A. Walkem continues debate on address.

Standing committee of house appointed on motion of attorney general.

Petitions presented for introduction of private bills as follows:

Canadian North Eastern railway, charter extension.

West Kootenay Power and Light Co., charter amendment.

Provincial Telephone Co., new charter.

Royal Plate Glass Insurance Co., charter amendment.

Burnaby Municipal act amendment.

MANSON SHOWS DEFICIT CHARGE IS UNFOUNDED

Public Accounts Show Actual Saving of \$567,000, He States

Special to The Vancouver Sun

VICTORIA, Jan. 25.—Statements appearing in a Vancouver Conservative evening paper that the public accounts for the year ending March 31, 1928, showed the late Liberal government to have expended \$2,300,000 more than the legislature authorized, were described by A. H. Manson, K.C., former attorney general, in the house today as a grave misrepresentation of the facts.

The public accounts, he said, showed that there had been an under-expenditure of \$567,000 and he expressed surprise that the minister of finance had not himself taken steps to correct so glaring an error in reporting a document which he had presented to the house.

Mr. Manson hesitated to believe that Hon. W. C. Shelly should himself have inspired the statement.

The newspaper had said the finance department, among others, had over-expended its appropriation almost twice.

The facts, as shown by the public accounts, he said, were that the department was allotted \$1,640,000 to spend and actually spent \$1,623,000, a saving of \$17,000.

"The public has been disposed as has the opposition," said Mr. Pattullo, "to give the administration reasonable opportunity to initiate legislation and give evidence of administration in the interests of the people. But the government has already evidenced the character of administration to be expected from it. Extreme partisanship, has been exhibited both in appointments and dismissals, which can but result unfavorably upon the efficiency of the public service."

Premier Toimie Still on Sick List

VICTORIA, Jan. 25.—Premier Toimie, although convalescing, did not leave his home to come to this afternoon's session of the legislature.

No other minister cared to assume the responsibility of replying to the attack launched Thursday by T. D. Pattullo, leader of the opposition, so the afternoon was given over to private members on the Conservative side.

W. R. Rutledge of Burnaby spoke first followed by Col. Fred Lister, Creston. Owing to the tight program, a number of mainland members were absent in Vancouver.

Definite Statement of Policy Is Demanded

VICTORIA, Jan. 25.—Request for definite statement of policy from Premier Toimie upon many of the subjects which formed the theme of his criticisms of the late Liberal administration was voiced by T. D. Pattullo in his first speech as leader of the opposition.

Continuing the debate on the speech from the throne in the house today, Mr. Pattullo assured the government that in such matters as the proposed assistance to the iron and steel industry, provision of a marketing branch to assist the farmers, establishment of a public utilities commission the opposition would lend its best assistance to enactment of useful measures.

But where, he asked, were the measures promised in the Conservative campaign speeches which were to remedy all the alleged abuses of the Liberal regime?

"Surely if the criticism which was levelled at our administration was justified there is a grave dereliction of duty on the part of the present administration in not indicating some action in these matters," he suggested.

WHAT ABOUT THESE?

Among the subjects upon which he said Premier Toimie and his colleagues might be expected from their campaign utterances to have taken action were the following:

What has the government done to change the administration of justice?

What change, if any, has been made in liquor administration except to introduce party patronage into the liquor purchasing as never before?

What is being done about reforestation, about preventing waste in logging operations, is the carrying of axes to be prohibited? Is the miner's license fee to be abolished, as promised in the Conservative platform?

In view of criticism of the late government's attitude to public parks, does the government intend to purchase large stands of timber for the purpose of maintaining natural scenic beauty?

What does the government propose to do about state health insurance and maternity benefits?

EDUCATION POLICY

What is to be the policy of the education department? Is loyalty to be encouraged through inculcation of prejudice or upon the broad basis of knowledge?

What action does the government intend taking to keep at home the young men and women who graduate from our schools and universities?

What taxation reductions are to be made? What economies have been effected, and what do they amount to in dollars and cents?

The absence of any pronouncement on these subjects, all of them much discussed by members of the present cabinet during recent years when they were out of office suggested that the government held the old cynical view that "platforms were made to get in on, not to stand on," said the speaker.

Mr. Pattullo remarked upon the extraordinary change of mind experienced by the government since taking office with regard to the condition of the province's prosperity and its public finances.

GLOWING REFERENCES

Premier Toimie had been an apostle of blue ruin in opposition, but today he put in the speech from the throne glowing references to the great progress made by the province in the past 12 years.

After criticizing the Liberal government's finances the new government was now advertising in its efforts to sell bonds that the finances of the province were in excellent shape and quoted the very figures prepared by the Liberal government which a few months ago the Conservatives had denounced as false.

Private Bills Put On Order Paper

VICTORIA, Jan. 25.—Private bills began to make their appearance on the order paper in the legislature today.

C. F. Davis, Cowichan-Newcastle, presented the petition for leave to introduce the West Kootenay Power & Light company's measure; W. R. Rutledge, Burnaby, a bill to amend the Burnaby act of 1923; Major G. A. Walkem, Vancouver, a bill to amend the charter of the Canadian North Eastern railway to enable it

to build into the Peace River from Stewart within five years, and Col. Nelson Spencer, Vancouver, presented the petition of the Royal Plate Glass Insurance Co. for leave to amend its charter.

WALKEM URGES 8 SINGLE SEATS FOR VANCOUVER

Constituents Know Nothing of Candidates Under Group System

Special to The Vancouver Sun

VICTORIA, Jan. 25.—Describing the present system of plural voting in Vancouver as archaic, Major G. A. Walkem, sixth member for that constituency, urged in the legislature today the division of Greater Vancouver into eight single member seats.

Constituents should know the candidates they are voting for, and that condition did not prevail in Vancouver last election to the extent of 5 per cent, he believed.

Recent amalgamation of three electoral districts within the city made this situation more acute, and he expressed the hope that the matter would be dealt with before next election.

He added that he had worked out a plan by which the Conservatives could always elect six, and usually eight members, if that would make the government like his scheme any better.

Major Walkem also criticized the recent removal of the boiler inspection and electrical works department from the public works department to the workmen's compensation board, saying that the service received by the public was inadequate, due to the members of the board insisting upon usurping the functions of the inspectors and thereby delaying action.

He also urged removal of the boiler inspection office from New Westminster to Vancouver.

IN THE B.C. LEGISLATURE

House Proceedings Friday

Chartered Commercial Co., petition asking private bill presented by T. H. Kirk, Granby Cons. company, petition asking amendments in West Kootenay company private bill presented by Dr. C. H. Kingston.

Hon. W. C. Shelly and A. M. Manson, K.C., debate private bond sale.

Government forces Pattullo amendment condemning bond agreement to vote. Amendment defeated, 29 to 8.

W. R. Rutledge and E. C. Carson continue debate on address. First reading given to following bills. To amend Agricultural act, Hon. R. Atkinson to amend Contagious Diseases (animals) act, Hon. W. Atkinson.

To amend Conditional Sales act, Hon. R. H. Pooley.

To amend Moving Pictures act, Hon. R. H. Pooley.

To amend Agriculture act, Hon. W. Atkinson.

To amend University Endowment Lands act, Hon. F. P. Burden.

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Confidence Rushed

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TORIES BLOCK DEBATE

Appeals of Liberals Shouted Down in House

Confidence Vote Is Rushed Through on Bond Deal

By C. NORMAN SENIOR
Sun Staff Correspondent

VICTORIA, Jan. 26.—Right of debate was curtailed by the government forces in the legislature Friday in a manner which veteran members said had never been known before in a British parliament.

Exercising its heavy majority, the Conservative party flatly refused opposition members the usual courtesy of adjourning a debate. The adjournment was desired for the purpose of checking up statements of fact made by Hon. W. C. Shelly.

Pandemonium prevailed for nearly an hour while government members shouted down every effort of the oppositionists to appeal to the rules of the house.

Mr. Speaker Jones upheld point of order after point of order taken by Conservatives to cut off the opposition effort to air the government's bond sale deal. Efforts of the Liberals to defend themselves were likewise ruled out of order.

Two divisions were taken and several more were threatened. Crowded galleries hung in tense excitement on every word as the battle waged to and fro.

BOND DEAL HURLED

The uproar was precipitated by the decision of the government forces to get rid as speedily as possible of the embarrassing situation created by T. D. Pattullo's amendment to the address denouncing Hon. W. C. Shelly's compact giving a private syndicate exclusive control of the government's financing at a commission in addition to the usual

profit, a transaction which he said had cost the province more than \$1,300,000.

Surprised at the opposition leader's revelations, the Conservatives hurried into caucus after Thursday's sitting and demanded Mr. Shelly's explanation. He gave it to them at noon today, whereupon they decided to rush the issue to a conclusion.

Mr. Shelly made his defense as soon as the house was in session Friday afternoon. It was in effect that his deal was no worse than others made by the preceding Liberal government. He read a long statement to the house giving dates and figures of sales of bonds made by the Liberal government which, he declared, had been effected privately without calling for tenders.

MANSON REPLIES

A. M. Manson, K. C., as a member of the preceding administration, gave a brief extemporaneous reply, in which he pointed out that the 16 alleged private sales by the Liberals were merely instances in which, after calling for tenders, an additional block for bonds had been placed with the successful bidder at the same price when it was found that a larger amount than called for in the tenders could be absorbed by the market.

He was interrupted repeatedly by Conservative members on points of order, and finally, saying that his reply so far had been based entirely on memory, moved the adjournment of the debate until he could search the records and verify certain detailed facts.

Attorney General Pooley, leading the house in Premier Tolmie's absence, refused the adjournment, claiming Mr. Manson had already spoken. Mr. Manson attempted to argue the point of order, but was ruled out by Mr. Speaker Jones.

He thereupon asked for the courtesy of an adjournment in accordance with the amenities of the house. This also was flatly refused.

Mr. Pattullo insisted upon a division on the motion to adjourn, which was defeated by a vote of 29 to 8, the opposition having granted five pairs to government members who went home a day early for the week-end.

SHOUTED DOWN

Capt. Ian Mackenzie, North Vancouver, thereupon claimed the privilege of moving the adjournment.

"Speaking as a private member desirous of maintaining the freedom of speech which has always been granted in a democratic assembly, I beg leave to move the adjournment of the debate," he said.

Mr. Speaker Jones ruled that a second motion to adjourn was out of order. Mr. Mackenzie attempted to argue the point of order, but was shouted down from the government side.

"This is a motion of want of confidence," declared Attorney General Pooley, "and the government intends to have it disposed of without delay."

Tom Uphill, sole labor member of the house, then insisted that as a member of a party whose voice has not yet been heard he wished to discuss the amendment, but as a private member would require time to investigate the facts before speaking. Mr. Speaker Jones ruled him out of order, too.

In the general confusion which followed this incident, Capt. Mackenzie pointed out that Mr. Pooley had not taken the first opportunity of disposing of the motion, as alleged, but had had W. R. Rutledge, the member for Burnaby, adjourn the debate for 24 hours while the government rallied its forces.

LIBERALS GAGGED

F. M. MacPherson, Cranbrook, a new member of the house, asked for the same courtesy of being allowed to adjourn the debate as had been granted to Mr. Rutledge, but was likewise refused.

Each of the Liberal members in turn was refused the same indulgence. Y. A. Buckham, Columbia, the last in order, affirming that in his 12 years in the house, during which he had been speaker for seven sessions, he had never seen debate closed off in this manner.

When each of the opposition members had exhausted the rights which the Speaker was willing to grant him, Attorney General Pooley called for the question and the Conservatives voted down Mr. Pattullo's amendment by the same majority as formerly, 29 to 8.

Mr. Shelly was the first speaker of the day. He set out to defend the method of financing criticized by Mr. Pattullo. When he took office the province had \$14,000,000 of treasury bills maturing on Nov. 30 and \$6,000,000 of short term bonds maturing on Jan. 25.

He criticized the MacLean government for not having cleared up this accumulation of financing when the market was favorable earlier last

year, quoting extracts from letters received by the department from financial houses warning that the money rate was becoming stiffer.

LEFT TO TORIES

On July 23, five days after the election, the deputy minister had advised the bank that the outgoing cabinet did not feel inclined to enter into any new financial obligations but felt disposed to leave this financing to the incoming cabinet.

The government renewed its treasury bills in New York at 5 per cent, the best obtainable rate, after observing the bad condition of the market and obtaining the best advice possible, concluded that the best recourse was a fiscal agency arrangement, which was entered into with a powerful syndicate which had purchased 82 per cent of all government securities in Canada for the past 12 years. They sold \$6,000,000 through this agency, paying a commission of one per cent, as a marketing charge.

Not one province in Canada, said Mr. Shelly, had resorted to public tenders for bonds since May, the large sum of \$215,000,000 of high class financing having accumulated for the market at this time.

Financial advisers had urged the government to dispose of all long term securities it could at less than five per cent, as the depressed condition of the market was likely to continue. The price of 4 1/2 per cent, he claimed, was better than could have been obtained for a small block.

APATHY CHARGED

Mr. Shelly said the MacLean government had been guilty of unjustifiable apathy and procrastination. Had it acted early in the year he said a sale could have been made at 4.50 per cent, the difference of one-half of one per cent for 25 years representing in compound interest a loss to the province of \$1,732,900.

While public tenders were preferable on a good market, he said that the financial agency method had been justified in this instance, as a public tender of unacceptable prices would have impaired the credit of the province.

He charged that the former administration had made no fewer than 16 sales of bonds by private sale without tender and read a list of the alleged transactions, one of which, he said, was signed by T. D. Pattullo, as acting minister of finance.

Mr. Shelly concluded with the assertion that when he took office the province had a line of credit at the bank for \$10,000,000 at 5 per cent, but that since he came in he had had this reduced to 4.75 per cent.

STATEMENT DENIED

"When was the rate raised from 4.5 to 5 per cent?" asked Mr. Manson.

"I don't know; it was 5 per cent when I was in," replied the minister of finance.

"That strikes me as remarkable, because I happen to know it was 4.5 per cent as recently as last May," commented Mr. Manson, who thereupon took up the gauge of battle, announcing that he intended to deal with part of Mr. Shelly's statement at once and then after ascertaining the facts during the week-end, reply in detail on Monday to Mr. Shelly's comments on the former government's financing.

He first drew attention to the vast difference between the financial condition of the province today and when the Liberals took office in 1916. The Liberals, however, finding the credit of the province low with bonds selling for as low as 80, proceeded to effect two reforms.

"I did away with fiscal agents, as we thought for all time," he said, "and we did away with paying commissions. Never once did the Liberal government pay a commission to any financial house, yet we took over the financing of the province under conditions incomparably more difficult than those prevailing now."

PRICES IMPROVE

The result was, he said, that prices immediately began to improve until during recent years, under the system of publicity calling for tenders for all government securities, the provincial credit had risen to the plane where bonds of British Columbia fetched higher prices than those of any other province and in one case higher even than an issue of the Dominion government.

"Yet in a province having this remarkable record the new government undertakes more extraordinary steps even than were required during the war," said Mr. Manson. "Why was no word of this order-in-council ever given to the public until my leader made it public yesterday? Was my honorable friend worried about letting the public know of this step?"

Mr. Manson expressed the opinion that had J. W. Jones or T. H. Kirk been given the finance portfolio they would not have taken any such step. The old government had never had to pay for its financial advice, but had obtained it freely from many sources and had not committed the province to any course laid down by one interested group, as Mr. Shelly had done.

BLOCKS ENLARGED

With respect to the 16 alleged private sales, Mr. Manson stated that in each of those cases the transaction had consisted simply of giving the successful bidder at public tender a larger block than had been advertised. The advertising of too large a block might have lowered the price, but when the successful bidder was willing to take more and the province had the securities available they were sometimes issued at the price contained in the highest bid.

He challenged Mr. Shelly, who had all the facts in front of him,

to deny that this was the case in connection with every one of the 16 instances cited and Mr. Shelly sat silent.

"He admits that my statement is correct," declared the former attorney general.

Hon. R. L. Maitland asked how the government had sold bonds if it did not pay the brokers' commission. Mr. Manson said they made their profits on the re-sale of the securities, but under the present arrangement Mr. Shelly was paying them a commission on top of their profit.

SUGGESTION RIDICULED

Mr. Manson ridiculed the suggestion that the MacLean government should have issued bonds after the election of July 13, asking what limit there would have been to the uproar if the defeated administration had presumed to commit the province to any such large transaction.

"We would not have dared go to the Lieutenant Governor with any such order," he said.

To a suggestion that Premier Tolmie might have been called in, he said this had been done with a number of minor matters, but in a question of such gravity it would have been highly unconstitutional and would have been an impertinence to His Honor to presume whom he would call upon to form the next ministry.

'MUTINY' LAID TO DR. WARNOCK

Atkinson Gives Reasons for Ousting Deputy

VICTORIA, Jan. 26.—Dr. David Warnock was dismissed from the office of deputy minister of agriculture, Hon. William Atkinson has informed the legislature in response to a question, "for deliberately refusing or neglecting to carry out the instructions of the minister."

The question that now arises is whether the instructions mentioned were to write out his resignation, for, according to well-informed sources, that is exactly what Dr. Warnock refused to do.

The minister affirms that the summary dismissal embodied the "usual notice given in such circumstances" and says that the question of remuneration is being held in abeyance pending receipt of a proper expense account.

It is learned that when the fruit growers asked to have the deputy minister as one of their delegation to go to Ottawa on the anti-dumping matter the government refused the request, but finally acceded to the growers' request when they offered to pay the expenses.

First Legislative Committees Meet

VICTORIA, Jan. 26.—First committee meeting of the legislative session was held after Friday afternoon's stormy sitting. The public accounts committee organized itself with Major S. A. Walkem, Vancouver, as chairman, and arranged to begin its work Tuesday at 10 a.m. The private bills committee, H. D. Twigg, chairman and the municipal committee, Reginald Hayward, chairman, will also meet for the first time Tuesday at 11 a.m.

AID FOR BURNABY SOUGHT

Tory M.L.A. in Maiden Speech Urges More Good Roads

W. R. Rutledge Favors Policy of State Health Insurance

Special to The Vancouver Sun
VICTORIA, Jan. 26.—State health insurance, government assisted industries and the present Workmen's Compensation act were vigorously championed by W. R. Rutledge, Conservative member for Burnaby, when he made his maiden speech in the legislature on Friday.

The member opened with a glowing description of his own riding, which, he claimed, was second to none in the province, holding a more important situation than any other riding. He pointed to its Burrard inlet and Fraser river waterfront, and trackage on the Canadian Pacific railway and B.C. Electric railway, and the great agricultural area adjacent. It had, he believed, the largest population of any riding in the province, which was mainly composed of working men.

In the Burnaby riding, he said, could be found the best locations that could be obtained for any industry that wished to come to the province and he assured the government he would do all in his power to support it in any effort to secure industries for that riding.

Burnaby, too, needed roads, he said. It needed good trunk roads leading into Vancouver. The Grandview road was not completed and the citizens of Burnaby wanted it completed. Kingsway was not wide enough to carry the traffic that went over it and because of this there had been many accidents. The single track of the B. C. Electric on this road had drawn vigorous criticism, and he hoped the government would support Burnaby in its fight against this track running along the right side of the road as being dangerous to automobile traffic.

NEED INDUSTRIES

Coming back to the subject of industries he said Burnaby had a population of working men. Many of them were casual laborers and often out of employment. He offered the suggestion that the government encourage industries and assist them if necessary. "I say this government cannot do better than assist industries of any kind when you have such facilities for industries as you have in the riding I represent."

Regarding school taxation he said Burnaby was dissatisfied with the present method believing the burden did not fall on the right shoulders and he hoped attention would be given to this.

He referred to 400 acres of land almost in the centre of Burnaby. Thirty acres had been cleared in 1915. Nothing had been done since and these thirty acres were now almost grown over again.

He hoped the government would face the problem of unemployment to keep sons and daughters of the province at home and in this respect expressed sympathy with returned soldiers, mentioning he was the father of three veterans. "I want to say my sympathies are 100 per cent with the returned men and I will do all in my power for them," he added.

ASSIST ONE, ASSIST ALL

On the subject of immigration he remarked: "Though I may stand alone in this I want to say that any privilege or favor that is offered an emigrant must also be offered to any citizen of B. C. who wishes to take it up." He doubted, however, if any system of assisted emigration to B. C. would be successful under present conditions.

Referring to Mr. Pattullo's charges of vicious patronage he said it reminded him of the boy who yelled before he got a thrashing in the hopes that he would not get one.

"I don't want to interrupt," interposed Mr. Pattullo, "but I understand we are to get two or three hundred more lashes after this session."

Mr. Rutledge charged there had been vicious patronage under the Liberals in connection with beer parlors and liquor vendors.

Doctors and insurance men might not like it, he remarked, but he was strongly in favor of state health insurance, and asked why nothing had been done since the government had been asked for a report in 1921. Canada was fifty years behind in the matter, he charged. In passing he described the Workmen's Compensation act as a good act that was working splendidly. He hoped before the house adjourned to move the appointment of a committee to investigate conditions under which health insurance could be put into effect.

Beauty Parlor Bill Agreement Reached

Hairdressers' Measure to Come Before B.C. Legislature

With the elimination and revision of certain features of the proposed Hairdressers - Cosmetologists bill, which contemplates certain amendments to the existing Barbering Profession act, both the barbers and hairdressers are now in agreement on the main features of the so-called Beauty Parlor bill, which is shortly to be introduced in the provincial legislature.

The Hairdressers - Cosmetologists of British Columbia have for three years past endeavored to secure the passage of a bill which aims at raising the status of their profession.

The bill provides for a higher standard of sanitary conditions, and also requires a permit card to be prominently displayed by all hairdressers and cosmetologists so that the patrons of these beauty parlors can see exactly the qualifications of the person working on them. This permit or license is only issued to competent operators after they have passed a trade board and medical examination.

Various women's organizations have been quite interested and invariably have given their warm support to the bill. Formerly the barbers objected to one or two technicalities in the bill, but these have now been amended and the barbers are now reported quite willing for the hairdressers to have their own bill.

In support of their contentions for legislation according recognition to their profession, the hairdressers refer to the report of the select standing committee of the last legislature, of which Mrs. M. E. Smith was chairman. In the opinion of that committee as outlined in a report submitted to the legislature, the promotion of sanitation and public health justifies the enactment of legislation along the lines desired by the Hairdressers' association.

Gleams of Humor From Legislature

Shelly Earns Spurs as Debater in House

By G. NORMAN SENIOR

Sun Staff Correspondent
VICTORIA, Jan. 28.—The first session of the seventeenth legislature of British Columbia was the occasion of the usual predictions of a short and quiet session and, as usual, these predictions have been shattered sadly within the first week.

The speech from the throne, although a little longer than usual, was no more informative, and its contents did not seem to foreshadow anything exciting in the way of debate.

Mr. Pattullo, the new opposition leader, however, used the first moment available to him for the purpose of bringing to light the details of an administrative act of the new government in such fashion as to plunge the house into a battle of first-rate importance.

That fight is over now and the debate on the address will drag its weary way for another week, with many new sailors on the ship of state trying their sea-legs for the first time.

Premier Tolmie is scheduled to speak this afternoon, but nothing very interesting is expected from the rest of the debate.

That same expectation, of course, was held last Tuesday and the whole province has seen what happened. An opposition which can stir up as much excitement in 24 hours as was done last week is likely to be heard from again before the session is over and the government's best-laid plans easily may miscarry.

It probably has not often happened in parliamentary history that a new member has had to make his maiden speech under such trying circumstances as those which surrounded Hon. W. C. Shelly in his first effort.

Mr. Shelly entered the cabinet without parliamentary experience and before the house met had managed to commit himself to a policy which drew opposition fire.

It had been intended that Premier Tolmie should reply to the opposition leader's first speech, but the premier was confined to his home with a cold and the Conservative members were sufficiently taken aback at the revelations which constituted the major portion of Mr. Pattullo's onslaught that Mr. Shelly had to take the plunge forthwith.

It was the unanimous verdict of the members on both sides that he acquitted himself well. He showed good fighting sense by carrying the war into the enemy's camp.

He refused to be drawn into answering questions which might have broken up his brief and, when the ablest debater in the house undertook the task of an extemporaneous reply to the carefully-prepared defense of the minister of finance, Mr. Shelly displayed an aggressive attitude by offering frequent interruptions.

While he by no means met the full case presented against him, the minister selected that portion of the attack to which he had the best defense and started a counter-attack of his own.

Mr. Shelly will require no such barrage of desk thumping to give him courage on future occasions as his colleagues employed for his first effort, for he showed that he is quite able to take care of himself in debate.

THE Honorable Royal Lethington Maitland, K.C., minister without portfolio, displayed none of that becoming modesty supposed to adorn a new member when he made his maiden speech Thursday afternoon.

On the contrary he unblushingly arose to take a point of order.

New members are not supposed to know anything about the rules and most of them do not, but Mr. Maitland actually attempted to interrupt a former speaker of the house on a point of order in the first words he ever uttered within the sacred precincts of the assembly hall.

But then, is not the rising generation said to constitute the jazz age?

In the hurly-burly of the opening and the ensuing excitement of the bond sale scrap, the members of the press gallery omitted to report one important event. That was the organization caucus of the third party in the legislature.

Unlike the other two parties, the Labor forces still occupy the same caucus room. Thomas Uphill called the meeting to order and the elec-

tion of a party leader, chairman of caucus, senior and junior whips proceeded with a full membership of the party in attendance.

The result of the election follows:
 Labor leader—Mr. Thomas Uphill, M.L.A.
 Chairman of caucus—Mr. T. Uphill.
 Senior whip—Mr. Uphill.
 Junior whip—Tom Uphill.

MAJOR GEORGE WALKEM shed some light on the result of the recent provincial election in the city of Vancouver. He offered it as his opinion that the constituency is so large that the people did not know whom they were voting for.

He recommended that in future the city be broken up into eight single member constituencies, but in doubt, so he overlooked the fact that Vancouver has an interest in nine members.

W. R. Rutledge, member for Burnaby, represents all that part of the city of Vancouver lying east of Victoria road and south of 25th avenue.

TORIES AFTER MARTYN SCALP

Accounts Committee Will Grill Whig Appointee

Special to The Vancouver Sun

VICTORIA, Jan. 28.—Conservative members, who hold the majority of the public accounts committee, have asked that Colonel D. B. Martyn, deputy commissioner of industries, be the first witness when that committee gets down to business on Tuesday.

In their opposition days the Conservatives always gave Colonel Martyn a rough ride, and the impression generally that he is one of the Liberal-appointed officials whose scalp is desired by the patronage committee.

The demand for his appearance has been taken to indicate that the Conservatives are going to use their majority on the committee for all it is worth to attack the administration of the late government, and the question arises whether the Tories may not use the committee as a convenient court in which to find pretext for carrying on their policy of dismissing officials appointed by the Liberals to make way for their own political friends.



THE Honorable Royal Lethington Maitland, K.C., minister without portfolio.



T. D. Pattullo of the new government in such fashion as to plunge the house into a battle of first-rate importance.



W. C. Shelly in his first effort.



MAJOR GEORGE WALKEM shed some light on the result of the recent provincial election in the city of Vancouver.

PATTULLO LAUDS NEW GOVERNOR

Yukon Trip With McGregor Recalled

Special to The Vancouver Sun

VICTORIA, Jan. 28.—T. D. Pattullo, opposition leader in the legislature, today expressed his great personal pleasure at the announcement of the appointment of Hon. J. D. McGregor to the office of lieutenant governor of Manitoba.

Mr. Pattullo and Mr. McGregor are the only surviving members of the governmental party which went into the Yukon in 1897 to establish the machinery of government in all its branches.

"Mr. McGregor," said Mr. Pattullo, "has well earned the honor which is now being shown him. For a successful and prominent part in the industrial life of Manitoba, particularly as to agriculture, and not only did he make a success of his own undertaking, but he has been a potent factor in the general development of western Canada."

"Jim McGregor and I were both on the trail in 1897, and I well remember on one occasion meeting him in a blinding snowstorm on Lake Labarge."

POOLEY FACES FIGHT ON BILL

Move to Curb Liberty of Press Opposed

By C. N. SENIOR

Sun Special Correspondent

VICTORIA, Jan. 28.—Probability that Attorney General Pooley will have a rough ride with his bill giving the moving picture censor power to prohibit publication of moving picture advertisements in the newspapers, is developing in the legislature.

The attorney general, as head of the law enforcement arm, has power to prosecute criminally for publication of obscene matter and it may be that the bill is unconstitutional as trespassing on the ground covered by the criminal code.

In any event opposition within the Conservative ranks is developing against his proposal to interfere with the time-honored liberty of the press, one of the most cherished of British institutions.

House Vote Not Not Valid, Is Claim

Special to The Vancouver Sun

VICTORIA, Jan. 28.—An attack on the validity of the votes taken in the legislature last Friday, on the ground that Captain James Fitzsimmons, who received a majority of the votes in Kaslo-Slocan at the last election, participated, is expected.

A bill is before the house to validate the election of Capt. Fitzsimmons, who was at the time of his election, the holder of a government contract.

The fact of this bill is said to constitute a government admission that Captain Fitzsimmons is not qualified to sit, but he has been in his seat every day and did not even withdraw for Friday's division.

What step will be taken is not known but the question is almost certain to be raised.

BACK HOME!



Tories Battle Over Rival Areas' Claims

Col. Lister Demands Irrigation Area Relief

Special to The Vancouver Sun

VICTORIA, Jan. 29.—Sharp division in the legislature was manifest in the course of Monday afternoon's continuation of the debate on the address.

Notwithstanding prior claims staked at earlier sittings in behalf of Burnaby and Prince Rupert, four private members supporting the government argued vigorously that each represented the finest constituency and the most important part of the province. Any possibility of harmonizing their divergent views was recognized to be out of the question.

The four constituencies added to the competition were Lillooet, Creston, Nelson and Kaslo-Slocan. There was a glint in the eye of Hederick Mackenzie as he moved adjournment of the debate that indicated Cariboo will also make a strong bid for the banner today.

Incidentally, three of the debaters were new members making their maiden speeches, E. C. Carson, said to be the youngest member of the assembly, Dr. L. E. Borden and Capt. James Fitzsimmons. Col. Fred Lister, Creston, the other speaker, belongs in the veteran class.

"ORNERY CUSTOMER"

Col. Lister notified the government that when it proceeded to deal with irrigation matters, as promised in the speech from the throne, his constituency had some urgent needs which must be met or he would prove a very "ornery customer to handle."

Relief for the irrigation districts is essential, he said, as some of them are unable to meet their fixed charges. If the fruit industry is worth fostering, relief must be given.

He described the wretched condition in the selder settlement at Creston, and urged reorganization of the scheme, for whose mismanagement he blamed the former government, and urged that steps be taken to provide domestic water supply and to combat noxious weeds spreading from abandoned farms.

In view of these conditions he urged the government to go slow in granting reductions in royalties to the lumber industry. Much of the trouble of that industry was due to mismanagement and incompetence, he claimed, and until the lumbermen improved their own methods he did not think the public revenue from the forests should be curtailed.

COMPENSATION FLEAS

Plans for raising the amount of compensation payable under the Compensation Act to 65 or 70 per cent of a man's normal earnings was voiced by E. C. Carson, Lillooet, who also recommended that miner's consumption be added to the list of occupational diseases with respect to which compensation should be payable.

The member devoted much time to the transportation needs of his scattered constituency. He disagreed with T. D. Pattullo, opposition leader, on the need for further information about the natural resources of the P.G.E. country.

If all the information required were on file, as suggested by Mr. Pattullo in commenting on Premier Tolmie's proposal to hold an investigation, he asked why the late government had failed to de-

vised a solution of the problem and set on it.

He also said the Liberals should have started their fight for lower freight rates closer at home, meaning on the P. G. E.

The house applauded Dr. L. E. Borden, Nelson, vigorously, when he declared that if the Doukhobors intended to settle in some of the best parts of this province and enjoy its advantages they must obey the laws of the country.

SITUATION OUTLINED

For the information of the house, he gave a comprehensive review of the whole Doukhobor situation.

There are three elements—the community Doukhobors, who live in the community, the independents, who are making homes for themselves and sending their children to school, and the Sons of Freedom, the disturbing element which evidently is inspired by a former resident of B. C., named Rabin, whom the leaders of this group have been visiting in California.

It is the Sons of Freedom who are holding the parades and making the present trouble, he stated. Since Peter Verigin's death there had been no strong leader of the sect and dissension is rife within its ranks, he asserted.

Another maiden speech was that of Capt. James Fitzsimmons, Kaslo-Slocan, who after advocating several measures of special interest to his constituency concluded with the observation that the public is more interested in good business government than in reading of able and eloquent speeches in the house on points of order.

SUGGESTIONS OFFERED

After telling of the great progress of mining in Slocan, Capt. Fitzsimmons urged the following three measures:

1. Setting aside an appropriation for roads and trails to the mines so that the work can be started as early in the spring as possible.
2. Provision for clearing out and improving old existing trails that have fallen into disrepair.
3. Greater governmental assistance to rural hospitals, so that those unable to pay may avail themselves of proper treatment facilities.

SHELLY'S CHARGES REFUTED

Pattullo's Challenge on Bond Sale Unaccepted

Opposition Leader Is Absolved of Imputation

By C. NORMAN SENIOR
(Sun Staff Correspondent)

VICTORIA, Jan. 29.—Charging that Hon. W. C. Shelly, minister of finance, had submitted incorrect information to the legislature in Friday's stormy debate on the government's secret bond deal, T. D. Pattullo, opposition leader, asked the house Monday afternoon to express in a formed resolution its regret at the minister's conduct.

The resolution was ruled out of order by Mr. Speaker Jones on the appeal of Attorney General Pooley and other government members.

In attacking the Shelly deal, Mr. Pattullo had made the assertion that the late Liberal government rigidly adhered to the policy of selling its bonds by public tender. Mr. Shelly in replying had cited what purported to be 16 instances where the Liberal government had sold by private sale.

QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE

This, Mr. Pattullo claimed, was an attack on his veracity and, as the government had used its majority to shut off any reply from the Liberal benches last Friday, he adopted the parliamentary custom of rising to a question of his privilege as a member to correct the minister.

The debate had the effect of freeing Mr. Pattullo from the imputation put on him by Mr. Shelly, for in the course of the discussion of the point of order, Conservative members shouted "No, no," to Capt. Iva Mackenzie's statement that the opposition leader's veracity had been questioned.

"I am glad to see that the members opposite do not question my leader's veracity," commented the member for North Vancouver. "I take it that the statements are withdrawn."

This conclusion was not challenged either by Mr. Shelly or his supporters. Tom Uphill, Labor member for Fernie, suggested just before the speaker ruled, that the Liberal members accept the "government's apology."

In rising to the question of privilege, Mr. Pattullo referred to the fact that while Mr. Shelly was defending his bond deal Friday, the attorney general had passed across the floor of the house a document purporting to be an order in council signed by Mr. Pattullo as acting minister of finance.

The document was represented to corroborate Mr. Shelly's statement that he (Mr. Pattullo) had been a party to a sale of government bonds by private sale.

"The government did not see fit to allow adjournment of the debate," continued Mr. Pattullo, "and consequently opportunity was not afforded us to check up the statements made by the minister of finance with the facts as on file in the department."

"I am sure the house desires the correct information, and I would point out there is nothing in the order in council quoted by the minister and signed by me to authorize the sale of debentures by private sale."

"I wish the house to know the debentures sold under that order were part of a larger issue which had been sold by public tender. The \$210,000 referred to in the order-in-council was awarded to the syndicate which secured the larger award by public tender at the price of the public tender."

ASSERTION MISLEADING

Mr. Pooley at this stage asked if the minister intended, as required by the rules, to follow up his statement of privilege by a motion. The opposition leader assured Mr. Pooley that he was prepared to do so.

Mr. Pattullo described as "misleading" Mr. Shelly's assertion that \$18,000,000 of securities had been sold by the Liberal administration at private sale. In five of the 16 items cited, aggregating \$1,100,000, the sale was made to the Workmen's Compensation board of the province.

"I do not think any one would look on that as a private sale," he suggested.

The item of \$5,900,000 of P.G.E. collateral stock was in an entirely different position from the ordinary securities of the province, as the P. G. E. was a separate corporation and the stock was payable in London.

Another item of \$4,000,000 cited

by Mr. Shelly was simply a six months' note and was not comparable to bonds sold to investors, but was the same as the treasury bills deposited with the bank to secure temporary advances. Mr. Pattullo pointed out also that this money was secured for the low rate of 4.27 per cent.

SALES EXPLAINED

Of the remainder, totalling approximately \$7,500,000, sold by Mr. Shelly to have been sold by private sale, Mr. Pattullo declared that this amount was only awarded after bids had first been called and a price obtained by public tender.

During the time our administration was in office we disposed of over \$92,000,000 of securities, direct obligations of the province, and approximately \$6,000,000 of P. G. E. indirect obligations.

"Of this \$98,000,000," said Mr. Pattullo, "the minister of finance alleges that we sold \$18,000,000 by private sale, so that even if his statement were correct, which it is not, that would leave approximately \$80,000,000 sold by public tender, which is an indention beyond question of just what our policy was."

"But the statement of the minister of finance in connection with the amount of \$18,000,000 is grossly misrepresentative and I trust that I

have made it clear that the statement I made in this house as to our policy was correct, but that, on the contrary, the minister of finance gave a very wrong impression to this house as to my personal attitude upon this issue."

MOTION OFFERED

Then followed his motion calling upon the house to express regret that the minister's statement gave incomplete and erroneous information misrepresentative of the facts to the house.

C. F. Davis, Cowichan-Newcastle, led the government attack on this motion with a claim that two days' notice should be given. Mr. Pattullo pointed out that he had not been allowed to proceed until he had given assurance that he would move his resolution at once.

Mr. Pooley insisted that notice must be given and Mr. Pattullo replied:

"If the government has any hesitation about voting against this motion now, I am quite willing for it to go on the order paper."

The government then shifted its position and insisted that the motion was one which could not be entertained at all, in which view it was

ultimately sustained by Mr. Speaker Jones.

Capt. Mackenzie said the Liberals were quite satisfied, as their purpose of airing the incorrectness of the minister's allegations had been accomplished.

IN THE B. C. LEGISLATURE

MONDAY, JANUARY 29

T. D. Pattullo's motion regretting Hon. W. C. Shelly's incorrect and erroneous statement Friday on the private bond deal ruled out of order.

Debate on address continued by E. C. Carson, Lillooet; Col. Fred Lister, Creston; Capt. James Fitzsimmons, Kaslo-Slocan; and Dr. L. E. Borden, Nelson.

Petition presented from J. S. H. Matson for private bill ratifying bylaw of the municipality of Saanich.

Petition received from Chartered Commercial Co. of Vancouver asking for private bill to change its name to Stobie, Furlong & Co.

MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE TO MEET FEB. 19

Deputations Must Confer With Body Before That Date

Special to The Vancouver Sun

VICTORIA, Jan. 29.—Deputations having representations to lay before the legislature's Municipal committee must meet the committee before Feb. 19.

This was decided upon at the first meeting of the committee today in order that, after all requests have been received, the committee's views may be laid before the attorney general in time for legislation to be prepared and acted upon at the present session.

The executive of the Union of B. C. municipalities will appear before the committee on Feb. 5 and meetings will be held daily, if necessary, for the next two weeks to hear the views of any public body having business to bring forward.

Request from the city of Grand Forks for legislation enabling it to own the stock of the Grand Forks Light and Water Co., a former Granby concern whose rights and property the city has acquired, was presented to the committee today by F. A. McDiarmid.

The city wished to keep the company alive in order that its water licenses might retain their priority he said.

Two requests from New Westminster school board were dealt with. One urged that February 15 was too early for the school board to be required to have its annual estimates ready for the council.

New Westminster also pointed out that school trustees were subject to disqualification if companies in which they held stock did business with this board. Mayors and aldermen were not subject to this disqualification and the trustees asked that ban be lifted from them.

The committee approved the principle and forwarded its resolution to the minister of education.

JANUARY 29, 1929

CENSOR BATTLE LOOMS

Colleagues Afraid of Pooley War on Theatres

Bill Gives Official Power to Halt Press

By C. NORMAN SENIOR
(Sun Staff Correspondent)

VICTORIA, Jan. 29.—Attorney General Pooley notified a deputation from the moving picture theatre owners of the province today that, with the support of the cabinet and Conservatives caucus, he was determined to put through the house unamended his bill giving the moving picture censor power to suppress advertisements in newspapers or on bill boards that he may think objectionable.

He also announced that he intends to apply censorship to the shows.

He promised favorable consideration of a suggestion that an appeal board be established to deal with appeals from the decisions of the moving picture censor.

Mr. Pooley, manager of a large chain of theatres, and with credentials to represent all the theatres and film exchanges of the province, as well as the Will Hays voluntary censorship organization of the entire film industry, was spokesman for the delegation, and was supported by R. Rowe Holland, solicitor.

ENSORSHIP OPPOSED

It was represented to Mr. Pooley the tin striking at the theatres' advertising, he was hitting them in a vital spot, as, without the ability to attract people to their theatres, they could not do business.

They objected to the work of great organizations being turned over to a minor governmental official for censorship, and pointed out that it was practically impossible to replace prohibited ads, on account of the great cost and time involved in their preparation.

Inasmuch as the theatres are responsible organizations, well aware that they are subject to criminal prosecution if obscene matter appears in their advertisements, they protested that the legislation savored of objectionable paternalism.

HOT FIGHT LOOMS

This indication of Mr. Pooley's determination to jam his censorship bill through is expected to stir up one of the hottest fights of the session.

Members of his own caucus who approved the bill when it was first considered are understood to have wavered in their attitude since learning its full implication. For instance, the bill would give the government of the day power to suppress the issue of a newspaper containing criticism of the government on the pretext that there was an objectionable advertisement for a moving picture contained therein.

The storm of protest against any interference with the liberty of the press is growing in volume around the parliament buildings and when the measure reaches the debating stage there undoubtedly will be fireworks.

JANUARY 30, 1929

COPPER RIVER RAILROAD PLAN TO BE CHANGED

Private Bill Proposal to Be Abandoned in Favor of New Scheme

VICTORIA, Jan. 30.—Probability that the advertised application for a private bill to incorporate the proposed railway from Telkwa down to Kitimat opening up the Copper River coal field may be abandoned in favor of incorporation by memorandum of association under the companies act was indicated in the corridors of the legislative assembly today.

The matter is likely to come before the legislature, however, in the form of a bill to provide land grants, tax exemptions and possibly cash subsidies.

It was learned that the proposed railway is associated with other important developments in the province.

LARGE ORE BODY

The coal fields to be opened up contain large quantities of excellent coking coal, which it is stated will be utilized by the smelter which the Consolidated Mining & Smelting company purposes establishing on the coast at a location not yet revealed.

Principals back of the Kitimat railway promoters are said to be associated in England with what is known as the Bussey process of coal distillation.

This new process is said to open up a new vista for the coal mining industry, which everywhere in the world is in a stagnant condition.

Bussey distillation enthusiasts predict that in 10 years no coal will be shipped in the raw, that the more compact method of transporting the essential fuel properties of the coal will be universally employed.

THREE BRITISH PLANTS

They have three plants operating in the Old Country now and have selected the northern B. C. field as the best available coal for the purpose in this part of the world.

The railway promoters are making application to the government for legislation giving the company the desired assistance in the form of lands and cash.

The company purposes conducting colonization activities along its railway line, which passes through a part of the province containing timber, agricultural land, and opportunities for metalliferous mining, as well as coal mining.

Walkem Withdraws False Creek Bill

VICTORIA, Jan. 30.—Major G. A. Walkem, junior member for Vancouver, gracefully withdrew from forbidden ground in the legislature Wednesday when he asked leave to withdraw his resolution urging the government to grant no more leases on False Creek until an investigation of the Vancouver Town Planning commission's policy had been held.

What sapped Major Walkem's enthusiasm for his proposal was not revealed, but the inference was fairly plain that the resolution did not suit the government's policy and that he, as a government member, was quietly requested not to press a proposal the administration was disposed to refuse.

NEEDS OF FERNIE AND CARIBOO PUT BEFORE HOUSE

Uphill Pleads for Completion of Road to Corbin Mines

Special to The Vancouver Sun
VICTORIA, Jan. 30.—Needs of their respective constituencies, Cariboo and Fernie, were laid before the legislature Tuesday afternoon by Roderick Mackenzie and Tom Uphill. As usual the minister of public works was asked particularly to note their descriptions of the country with respect to the need for roads.

Cariboo in Mr. Mackenzie's opinion has had perhaps a little too much money spent on the great through highway which brings in visitors and not quite enough on lateral roads used by the farmers and mining districts. Use of automobiles instead of sleighs required more maintenance work in the winter than formerly, he said.

He asked for greater assistance for rural hospitals and urged that construction of the northern end of the P.G.E. be undertaken at once. Until the future destiny of the line was more certain he thought the southern end could wait.

CIVIL SERVANTS LAUDED

The one good thing he said he could say about the late government was that it left as an inheritance the finest body of civil servants any government ever had.

With this statement Tom Uphill agreed, adding that he was glad none of them in his district had been fired by the new government. A. M. Manson, K.O., interposed that the reason was they were all Conservatives who had not been disturbed from the days of the old McBride government.

Mr. Uphill pleaded for completion of the road to Corbin where, he said, the largest coal seam in the world was being worked by a community of miners who were completely cut off from communication with the outside world.

He denied that prosperity existed while poverty remained, and chided the two old parties for their tariff theories and their failure to remedy the strange condition whereby over-production always led to hard times in the midst of plenty.

TARIFF OPPOSED

While the Conservatives professed to be in favor of protection, the present government had sent representatives to Ottawa to protest against putting a duty on coal, while the free trade Liberals of Alberta were asking for the duty.

The Labor party considered both theories "bosh," but under present conditions he had no objection to the government's action, as the mines in his constituency desired to sell coal in the United States and did not wish any reciprocal tariff to be imposed.

Mr. Uphill asked for amendments to the workmen's compensation act, complaining that the board was unduly considerate of operating companies.

The law was objectionable, too, he said, in that if a man was killed by breaking a safety rule his family got compensation, but if he were merely injured his family might starve till he recovered.

He also asked that the companies be compelled to put a man to work again when he recovered from his injury.

CONTRACT LET FOR OLD TECH. SCHOOL WORK

Thomas Carson Gets Job on \$56,900 Tender; Is Far Below 12 Others

Special to The Vancouver Sun
VICTORIA, Jan. 30.—Thomas Carson, 2625 Hemlock street, Vancouver, Tuesday was awarded the contract for the remodelling of the old Technical school, corner Homer and Dunsmuir streets, Vancouver.

Twelve others entered bids and Mr. Carson's was lowest.

Mr. Carson's bid was \$56,900, while the next nearest was \$71,107, submitted by the Nye Construction Co. of Vancouver, while the E. J. Ryan Contracting Co. were also close to that figure with a bid of \$71,900. The tenders were all opened in public Tuesday by Hon. N. S. Lougheed, minister of public works.

Colonel E. J. Ryan, one of the tenders, expressed his satisfaction at the way in which the opening had taken place.

BIDS ARE LISTED

The tenders were as follows: Nye Construction Company, \$71,107; C. E. F. Robertson, \$82,452; Monierleff & Vestaunet, \$74,862; George Snider Construction Company, \$74,944.

Baines & Horle, \$72,833; Morgan & McKay, \$86,676; E. H. Schockley, \$83,500; Smith Bros. & Wilson, \$83,946.

Pacific Engineering Co., \$85,018; Hodgson, King & Marble, \$84,654; Cameron Construction Co., \$97,500; E. J. Ryan Construction Company, \$71,900.

REBUILD INTERIOR

The work comprises almost complete reconstruction of the entire

interior of the old technical school building to make it suitable for government offices. Among the governmental departments that will move into the building when it is remodelled will be the Workmen's Compensation Board and probably the local branch and engineers of the public works department.

Heating, plumbing and electrical systems will all have to be completely modernized and the building will be redecorated.

Pooley Secretive on Game Board Plans

VICTORIA, Jan. 30.—Such additions to the staff of public service as "may be necessary" will be made under Attorney General Pooley's new scheme of organization for the game department, the minister cryptically assured his predecessor, A. M. Manson, K.O., in response to a question in the legislature today.

The additional cost will be revealed in the estimates and the salaries of the officials are under consideration," he said, in answer to further efforts to obtain enlightenment on the subject.

ELIMINATION OF BUREAU TO OUST MARTYN HINTED

Closing Down of Industries Department Seen in Walkem's Remarks

Special to The Vancouver Sun
 VICTORIA, Jan. 30. — Comments by Chairman G. A. Walkem and other Conservative members of the public accounts committee of the legislature at its first meeting today revealed that, under the phrase of closing down the department of industries, the government contemplates getting rid of the services of Col. D. B. Martyn, deputy commissioner of industries.

Col. Martyn has for many years been the butt of the chief attacks of Conservative members of the committee and today he was the first witness called. No criticism of his administration was voiced, but Major Walkem advocated that industries sow on their feet be encouraged to transfer their loans to financial houses and let the government get out of the loan business as soon as possible.

Col. Martyn explained that the department was in the phase of "cleaning up" on its loans, and A. M. Manson, K.C., former attorney general, agreed that this process should be carried on as speedily as possible.

The official told the committee that 25 loans have been paid in full and that \$100,000 of loans had been written off as lost. He was requested to bring a complete statement of the net result of the entire loan fund to the committee next Tuesday morning.

In dealing with the loan of \$58,000 to the Burrard Knitting Mills, Col. Martyn drew attention to the natty blue serge suit he was wearing.

"The wool for this suit was woven on a loom put in by the Gordon Campbell company, which recently assumed responsibility for the whole of this loan in a reorganization," said Col. Martyn.

"This is the first time fine serge has been manufactured in B. C. and it is as good a material as you can get anywhere."

Members examined the suit and agreed with him. Since the reorganization payments on the loan have been maintained up to schedule, the official announced.

Civil Service Act Amendment Offered

VICTORIA, Jan. 30.—Two new measures introduced into the legislature today by members of the cabinet were a new act to regulate

the working of quarries and an amendment to the civil service act. By the former, Hon. W. A. McKenzie, minister of mines, takes the power to inspect the operation of quarries in the interests of the safety of workmen.

In the latter, Hon. A. L. Howe, provincial secretary, seeks to validate various appointments under the civil service act believed to have been made irregularly.

Legislature Hears City Staff's Plea

VICTORIA, Jan. 30.—Municipal employees have laid before the government the request for amendments to the superannuation bill which governs their retirement allowances and which they are paid from civic funds.

They ask for a revision of the basis on which the amount payable is calculated, which would increase the allowance by about one third.

They also ask that their superannuation accounts be transferable from one municipality to another, as at present if an official receives an offer of increased pay from another municipality he can accept it only at the expense of the superannuation allowances he will receive at ultimate retirement.

ILLEGAL VOTING ALLEGED

Manson States Two Members Elected by Minority

Investigation Motion Killed on Party Division

VICTORIA, Jan. 30.—Two members are sitting in the house today who did not receive a majority of the votes cast in their constituencies. It was charged in the legislature on Tuesday by A. M. Manson, K.C., in supporting a resolution for an enquiry into the workings of the Elections act at the last contest.

Mr. Manson's statement was made in closing the debate after members of the government had announced that when the time came to amend the Elections act they would attend to it without any assistance from private members of the assembly.

NAMES WITNESSED

Asked for the names of the two members who did not receive the majority of the votes, Mr. Manson said there would be no object in publishing them unless the committee were to go into the facts, as he did not wish to cast a cloud on any member.

His suggestion of corruption or wrong-doing was involved, he stated, but so a suggestion that the matter should be taken to the courts, he replied that, in his opinion, the courts could not intervene.

The cases had arisen through voters marking the crosses on their ballots outside the square set aside for that purpose.

Hon. Joshua Hinchliffe, the government's expert on election machinery, declared this was a matter for the courts, but Hon. W. A. McKenzie, minister of mines, unwittingly contradicted his colleague by informing Mr. Manson that in the Grand Jurors by-election appeal the court had ruled such ballots must be considered bad, despite their obvious intent.

FACTULOUS ASSISTERS

T. D. Pattullo, leader of the opposition, and G. S. Pearson, Nanaimo, supported Mr. Manson in the debate, but three ministers, Attorney General Pooley, Hon. Joshua Hinchliffe and Hon. Mr. McKenzie joined in asking the government forces to vote it down.

Liberal members urged that the resolution was in accordance with the practice of the house for many years to treat the elections act as a non-partisan measure by holding an open enquiry after the election in which any defects might be considered by all parties with a view to finding remedies.

In Great speaking to the resolution, Mr. Manson said the British Columbia ballot paper differed from that used by other provinces and that used in federal elections. He was told that because the ballot paper was not entirely in black with a white space prescribed for the electors' cross many voters had marked their ballots in a way which caused them to be rejected. They had tried the absentee ballots on two occasions, but there might still be room for improvement. Deputies in some instances, he believed, had not quite grasped the workings of it.

ACTION URGED

He suggested now is the time to take up the matter. The election has only just been held. Its conduct is familiar to them and party animus is at rest. The person who can assist most in the investigation, he said, is the chief electoral officer, now the deputy provincial secretary. The thinness of the ballot paper permitting the cross to be seen through it was commented upon by Mr. Manson.

"If the government is prepared to take the responsibility of refusing this enquiry in face of the information I have laid before the house we are powerless to prevent them," commented the Liberal member. The resolution was defeated by 22 to 10 on a straight party division.

Mr. Hinchliffe could see absolutely no reason to appoint the committee at this time. In 1924 there were a lot of complaints about the absentee ballot. In the 1928 election there were few complaints. Now there are none, Mr. Manson comes forward and suggests an investigation. Conservatives when in opposition had drawn attention to the thin ballot papers through which the cross could be seen.

Regarding Mr. Manson's comment that deputies had not grasped the absentee ballot, "I understand," said Mr. Hinchliffe, "that that is not the fault of the act, but because the Liberal government named deputies to whom it was impossible to explain it." The chief electoral officer has travelled a great deal and has all the information necessary,

said Mr. Hinchliffe, and he thought it a waste of time to name a committee.

George S. Pearson protested the ballot was not secret. He himself had been told of men who voted against him. Regarding the place to put the cross, he thought if electors knew how many ballots were lost through this they would demand a change.

Attorney General Pooley said he had drawn the attention of the former government to the flimsy paper used for ballots. Mr. Manson was complaining of the quality of the paper his government used in face of Conservative protests. "This government will see that the secrecy of the ballot is preserved and the rights of the people protected," he said.

Mr. Pattullo pleaded for the matter to be approached on a non-partisan basis. A great deal of good might be done by the committee hearing complaints and suggestions and surely no harm could result.

The minister of mines agreed on the flimsy nature of the ballots. In the last election friends told him how scores voted.

CHANGES NEEDED

"If the absentee voting is to be maintained changes are necessary," he said, with particular emphasis on the word "if."

He ventured to say a clever returning officer could tell how 90 per cent of the votes were cast the way voting was conducted at the last election. He promised there would be changes before the next election.

Mr. Manson, replying, said the minister of mines had put a case which was strong for the resolution. The minister of education had led the opposition to the resolution in a partisan spirit, he said, and his remarks charging inefficiency by returning officers came with poor grace and would not be appreciated by many admirable men who served the province in this connection.

WRINCH TAKES LEAD ON HEALTH INSURANCE BILL

Committee of Five Asked to Probe Workings of Acts Elsewhere

Special to The Vancouver Sun
 VICTORIA, Jan. 30.—Dr. H. C. Wrinch, Liberal member for Skeena, gave the lead to the legislature Tuesday in asking reconsideration of the need for a health insurance act. He moved a resolution asking for a committee of five members of the house to investigate the workings of successful acts elsewhere and report to the house.

Dr. W. Pearson of Nanaimo, second of the resolution, adjourned the debate until a further sitting, as the hour was late when Dr. Wrinch concluded.

The member for Skeena pointed out that a similar resolution had been adopted last session unanimously, but that, owing to the election, no committee had been appointed because of the possibility that its members would not be returned to present their report.

SURVEY NECESSARY

Inauguration of such a far-reaching measure as state health insurance, the member contended, would require exhaustive investigation. The question of the contribution to be made by the citizens who would benefit must be studied thoroughly.

The effect on hospitals and other public institutions which would be called upon for increased service must be examined to see what charge would be imposed on the public treasury in order that the service might be rendered efficiently. The effect on insurance companies must be ascertained.

COST IMPORTANT

The question of cost was also important, he said. Somebody had projected the idea that the public cost would be \$5,000,000. Dr. Wrinch disagreed with this, but it was important that the facts be ascertained in view of the effect that the fear of such a heavy charge would have on the public mind.

The member noted that three government supporters had already spoken strongly in favor of health insurance in the house, and urged the advisability of committee investigation at the earliest possible time.

OLD MINERAL SURVEY ACT IS REPLACED

Revision of Measure So Drastic That Former Law Is Repealed

VICTORIA, Jan. 30.—Revision of the mineral survey and development act undertaken by Hon. W. A. McKenzie, the new minister of mines, proved of such a drastic nature that when his bill was presented in the legislature Tuesday it took the form of a new act, the old one being repealed.

Chief interest centres in the stiffening of the regulations giving the minister the right to issue warnings, public or private, against untruthful and misleading prospectuses and advertising material respecting mining properties.

The minister's powers are made somewhat more comprehensive and companies are required to file their prospectuses and all other advertising literature with the minister as well as with the resident engineer.

SYSTEM USELESS

It has been found, Mr. McKenzie explained, that the filing with the district engineer sometimes fails to produce results as the engineers are away from their offices for long periods at a time on actual investigation.

Hon. William Sloan's policy of dividing the province into mineral survey districts with an engineer in charge of each is being continued and extended by taking the definition of the boundaries of the districts out of the act and giving the lieutenant-governor-in-council power to change the boundaries from time to time as experience may warrant and to add to the number of districts if necessary.

CLAUSE REPEALED

A former clause enabling the department to diamond drill properties and charge the cost to the owners is repealed, as it has produced little result in the past, according to the minister.

The clauses for the protection of wage earners are revised in the interests of clarity, but with little change in meaning, it is claimed.

MR. POOLEY GETS ROUGH

MR. ATTORNEY GENERAL POOLEY'S proposal to create a censorship of motion picture advertising in this province is so crude and stupid that it is a wonder it has ever passed the scrutiny of a party noted, even in its greediest moments, for its suavity and finesse.

Mr. Pooley, vowing political celibacy, started his cabinet career by being heroic. When he began firing Liberal appointees to make room for Conservative friends, he became greedy.

Now he has become rough.

It is probable that the Conservative majority in the Legislature will pass this iniquitous bill to save Mr. Pooley's blithe and carefree face. It is unthinkable that intelligent Conservatives will allow it to remain long on the statute books.

For the bill, designed with the painfully obvious intent of securing censorship powers over the press of the province, is an affront to the principles of freedom upon which the laws of British Columbia must be based.

Supposing a newspaper should be so vulgar and obnoxious as to print an article criticising the Conservative government of British Columbia. This bill would give Mr. Pooley the power to step in, without reason or excuse, and suppress all the copies of that newspaper on the ground that it contained improper motion picture advertising.

Do the people of British Columbia want a muzzled, weak and timorous press in this province?

If motion picture advertising were improper, obscene or suggestive, or even if the government had no means of dealing with such improper advertising, there might be some shadow of an excuse for this bill.

But motion picture advertising is not improper, obscene or suggestive. Theatre managers are not stupid enough to ruin their profits by indulging in such advertising. Newspapers are not stupid enough to jeopardize their good standing in the community by printing it. And even if theatre managers and newspapers were foolish enough to print such advertising, Mr. Pooley has ample machinery under the Criminal Code to prevent it.

There is no legitimate excuse for this bill. It is simply a muddle-headed effort to create machinery for stifling newspaper criticism.

Mr. Pooley's attempt to be a big, strong, virile Mussolini is so palpable as to be ridiculous.

Conservatives in their hearts must blush for him.

STEEL BOUNTY BILL PRESENTED

\$1.50 Per Ton Advocated on Steel Shapes

VICTORIA, Jan. 30.—Hon. W. A. McKenzie's bill providing bounties for the production of iron and steel in the province was presented to the legislature Tuesday.

It repeals the former act providing a bounty of 68¢ a ton on pig iron produced from ore mined in the province and re-enacts that measure, coupled with a further clause giving power to grant bounties of \$1.50 a ton on steel shapes manufactured within the province.

The purport of the new clause is to cover steel manufactured from scrap iron.

The bounty is payable only to rolling mills having a capacity of at least 20,000 tons a year, and the maximum bounty in one year is limited to \$20,000.

The period for bounty agreements is limited to five years, the maxi-

mum payable under the act to \$2,000,000 and the maximum to any one firm under the scrap iron clause to \$100,000.

ELECTION ENQUIRY STARTED

Manson Challenges Rights of Kamloops, Kaslo Members

Irregularity in Ballot at B.C. Polls Charged

By G. NORMAN SENIOR (Sun Staff Correspondent)

VICTORIA, Jan. 31.—Having been curtly turned down by the government in their desire to have a dispassionate, non-partisan enquiry into the workings of the Elections act at the last election, the opposition members now have opened fire in earnest.

A. M. Manson, K.C., mover of the former resolution, now has given notice of motion in the legislature, demanding an enquiry by a house committee into whether James Fitzsimmons and J. R. Mitchell should be allowed to sit as members for Kaslo-Slocan and Kamloops, respectively, and whether C. S. Leary and J. H. Colley should not be declared the duly-elected members.

The preamble alleges that in Kaslo-Slocan and Kamloops, the returning officers in their declaration did not give effect to the will of the bona fide electors as expressed by their ballots; that the will of the electors should prevail; that the electors had no opportunity of bringing their grievances into the courts and that the court of parliament is the appropriate court in the circumstances to deal with this grievance.

These are the two constituencies which Mr. Manson alleged were not represented by members who received the majority of the votes cast when he was asking for a general enquiry into any part of the elections act that might need amendment.

It was stated that a large number of ballots were marked with a cross outside the proper square provided in the ballot form and that these ballots were rejected under the act as it then stood, although the intent of the voter was clearly indicated.

CENTRAL FRUIT AGENCY FAVORED

Delegations Must See Farm Committee by Feb. 19

Special to The Vancouver Sun
VICTORIA, Jan. 31.—Delegations wishing to interview the agricultural committee of the legislature must do so before Feb. 19, it was decided at the organization meeting of that body today.

H. W. Berry, Delta, was elected chairman and Col. Fred Lister, Creston, secretary of the committee. The central executive of the Farmers' Institutes will appear before the committee Friday with its annual budget of recommendations.

The committee held an informal discussion on the fruit growers marketing problem today at which it was made apparent that sentiment is growing strongly in favor of establishment of a central selling agency.

Fraser Frozen for First Time in History

VICTORIA, Jan. 31.—Dr. J. J. Gillis, member for Yale, said on his return to the house today that the swift-flowing Fraser river was frozen over at Spence's Bridge Wednesday. A resident who has been there since 1880, says this had never happened before since white men had been in the country.

WEDNESDAY
THE HOUSE

the address continued by
Cornett, J. R. Mitchell and
M. M. Kingston Adjourned by
Hon. R. W. Bruhn.
G. S. Pearson continued debate on
state health insurance. Amend-
ment moved by W. R. Rutledge
to include maternity benefits in
proposed enquiry.
Second readings given to bills
amending Counties Definition
Act and University Endowment
Lands Administration Act.
On motions to give second reading
to the following bills the debates
were adjourned by the members
indicated:
To amend the Constitution Act, T.
D. Pattullo.
To amend the Agricultural Act, Dr.
H. C. Wrinch.
To amend the Contagious Diseases
(Animals) Act, Dr. H. C. Wrinch.
To amend the Apiaries Act, Dr. H.
C. Wrinch.
BILL to amend the Public Schools
Act, introduced by Hon. J. Hinch-
liffe, read a first time.

3 TORIES PLEAD
FOR ASSISTANCE
OF LEGISLATURE

Manson and Pooley Indulge
in Verbal Fireworks Over
Debate

Special to The Vancouver Sun
VICTORIA, Jan. 31.—Three elo-
quent appeals for governmental con-
sideration of the needs of their re-
spective constituencies were voiced
in the legislature by as many Con-
servative members in Wednesday's
continuation of the debate on the
address, which will be resumed to-
day by the Hon. R. W. Bruhn, presi-
dent of the council, and the first
cabinet minister to participate.

Attorney General Pooley, lead-
ing the house in Premier Tolmie's
continued absence, issued for the
second time a warning that the
government intends to close the
debate early next week, intimat-
ing that if opposition speakers
wished to take part they had bet-
ter do so at once.
"Not a minister of the crown has
spoken yet," replied T. D. Pattullo,
opposition leader. "We are few in
numbers compared with the other
side of the house. I think it is ad-
visable that the ministers give an
account of what they have been
doing in the past six months, and
when our members choose to speak
they will do so."

POOLEY ANNOYED
"We are not on trial; the minis-
ters will speak when they are good
and ready," retorted Mr. Pooley.

"Surely this kind of dictatorship
is out of place," commented A. M.
Manson, K. C. "We have our
rights of speech in this assembly
and we intend to use them."

J. W. Cornett, Vancouver South,
J. R. Mitchell, Kamloops, and Dr. C.
M. Kingston, Grand Forks-Green-
wood, carried on the debate today.
Mr. Cornett, after thanking the
last legislature for its good work
in putting through Vancouver's
amalgamation legislation as pre-
sented by Capt. Ian Mackenzie,
whose work he complimented, dis-
agreed with G. A. Walker that
there was any necessity to split up
the Vancouver constituency into a
number of individual seats.

He urged the government to deal
with the ever-increasing cost of
education as reflected in municipal
tax bills.
The late government appointed an
educational survey commission at a
cost of \$63,000, he said, but no
measure of relief has come of it.
He paid a fine tribute to the new
minister of education, Hon. Joshua
Hinchliffe.

STEEL BOUNTY LAUDED
He expressed gratification at the
proposed bounty for the production
of steel from scrap iron, saying it
was necessary that B. C. raw mate-
rials and natural resources be man-
ufactured at home to provide em-
ployment for the people.

Mr. Mitchell, who described Kam-
loops as the "convention city" of
the province, pointed out that one
of its chief products was the new
leader of the Conservative party.

After appealing to each of the
ministers in turn for considera-

tion of the many needs of his con-
stituency, Mr. Mitchell stressed
especially the need for a road up
the North Thompson, connecting
with Alberta, and bridges en-
abling the settlers in that valley
to reach the railway line. The
ferries are dangerous in flood
times, he said, and lives have been
lost at the time of the break-up
of the ice.

Dr. Kingston devoted his atten-
tion chiefly to the irrigation needs
of his district and to several prob-
lems affecting the fruit industry.

He also assured the house that
the medical profession would not
obstruct state health insurance, but
would be in the van of any move-
ment for the social welfare of the
people.

LIBERALS CRITICIZED

Dr. Kingston criticized the late
government for the cost of the ir-
rigation system put in after vigorous
demands from his constituency. It
serves 2400 acres at a cost of \$225,-
000, with a charge of \$9 an acre on
principal and interest, and \$5 for
maintenance.

As much of the land is not suit-
able for irrigation, it has reverted
to the crown and within a few
years the whole area will have re-
verted, he predicted.

He urged it was better to adopt
plans to hold the present settlers
than to have to undertake a col-
onization scheme after those who
understood conditions in the dis-
trict have been squeezed out.

Freight rates are exorbitant on
the fruit industry, he said, and
urged that an appeal to the rail-
ways to equalize the rates on boxed
fruit and bulk fruit be made.

"The freight rate is greater than
the return to the farmer, he said,
and it does not cost the railway any
more to haul boxed fruit than bulk,
although the rate is twice as high."

TOLMIE TO FACE
FIGHT ON ORDERS
IN COUNCIL BAN

Pooley Falls In Effort to
Spare Chief From Hot
Battle

Special to The Vancouver Sun
VICTORIA, Jan. 31.—Attorney
General Pooley Wednesday failed
to spare Premier Tolmie from par-
ticipation in the keen fight over
the right of access to orders-in-
council on which T. D. Pattullo,
leader of the opposition, plans to
stage a strenuous fight in the
legislature.

Mr. Pattullo, whose advance fire
indicates that he plans to make it
a subject of pointed observations,
secured permission to hold over his
resolution on the subject until the
premier returns to the house.

His resolution asks that orders-
in-council, or certified copies, be
made available for perusal by any
one at any time during office hours
within the general office of the de-
partment of the provincial secre-
tary.

He frequently has pointed out
with emphasis that these orders-
in-council are often of more im-
portance than acts of the leg-
islature itself.

Mr. Pooley at first saw no need
for the resolution to be held up. The
premier is familiar with it and
knows all about it. There is no

reason why it should not be pro-
ceeded with.

"The opposition has some rights,"
declared Mr. Pattullo. "I am ask-
ing as a matter of courtesy that it
stand over. I see that the premier
will be back Thursday or Friday."

STATE HEALTH
INSURANCE IS
ASKED OF GOV'T

Conservative Amends Mo-
tion Offered in House by
Dr. Wrinch

Special to The Vancouver Sun

VICTORIA, Jan. 31.—Effort to
take the sponsorship of the state
health insurance resolution from the
hands of Dr. H. C. Wrinch, Liberal
member for Skeena, was indicated in
the legislature Thursday when W. R.
Rutledge, Conservative member for
Burnaby, an enthusiastic supporter
of the proposed measure, filed an
amendment striking out the entire
Wrinch resolution and substituting a
new one in its place.

The Rutledge amendment calls
for a royal commission of house
members, to work without salary,
collecting data on health insurance
and maternity benefits between
sessions and to report at the next
session.

The original Wrinch motion calls
for the investigation to be held by
a committee of the house.

If the government forces are be-
hind the amendment Dr. Wrinch
probably will accept it, as he invited
the government to strengthen his
resolution in ways that a private
member is debarred by the rule from
doing.

Only one speaker took part in the
debate on Dr. Wrinch's motion Wed-
nesday. G. S. Pearson, the seconder,
spoke in support and Mr. Rutledge
moved the adjournment to make way
for his amendment.

"Workmen's compensation will
never be properly administered until
it is supported by a state health in-
surance measure," declared Mr. Pear-
son, Liberal member for Nanaimo.

Mr. Pearson expressed the opinion
that against the total cost of the
measure must be set off the present
heavy loss sustained by hospitals
which are unable to collect from
fully 50 per cent of their patients,
the cost falling on the state even
under present circumstances. He be-
lieved also that the public would ex-
pect the scheme to be on a contribu-
tory basis, which would also diminish
the cost upon the province.

So long as statesmanship was un-
able to administer economic affairs
so that everybody shared in the
general prosperity arising from large
production of wealth, it was incum-
bent upon governments to provide for
the health and welfare of the citi-
zens. Long periods of illness did
more to sap not only the health but
the spirit of the people than any
other disability, he maintained.

POOLEY ACTION
HELD CHILDISH

Manson Raps Tolmie's Aide
on Comox Bill

Special to The Vancouver Sun

VICTORIA, Jan. 31.—Suggestion
that there was something just a little
bit childish in the enthusiasm of
Attorney General Pooley to repeal an
act not passed last session just because
the former government introduced it,
was made by A. M. Manson, K. C., in
replying to Mr. Pooley's motion for
second reading of the bill to wipe out
the establishment of a new judicial
county (Comox) at the north end of
Vancouver Island.

The bill was given second reading
without division, however.

Mr. Pooley said his bill provided
for the repealing of an act which
had not been put into effect. There
is a clause in the act leaving it up
to the Lieutenant Governor when it
should be put into operation and
this never has been done.

"I am afraid," said Mr. Manson
"the Attorney General has never
practiced in outlying parts, or he
would not be so hasty to repeal a
statute put on the books by the
responsible voice of the legislature."
British Columbia is a rapidly grow-
ing province with its population in-
creasing rapidly. In view of the in-
crease a re-definition of boundaries
is natural.

SCHOOL CHANGES PLANNED

Equalized Taxation Urged in Bill by Hinchliffe

Rank of Superintendent Created for Vancouver

Special to The Vancouver Sun
 VICTORIA, Jan. 31.—Many changes in the school law of the province are contained in a bill introduced to the legislature Wednesday by Hon. Joshua Hinchliffe, minister of education, amending the Public Schools Act.

For the first time, the term "elementary school" is officially applied to schools from Grades I to III. One type of assisted rural school district is wiped out, that being the type where the inhabitants are not called upon to tax themselves. Hereafter such schools will be administered directly by the department.

Statutory authority for various institutions already of long standing is given. Correspondence courses, summer schools and free text books have been furnished by the department hitherto without such authority in the minister's opinion and he has drafted sections to cover them.

APPOINTMENT BACKED

A section authorizes the recent appointment of Miss Lottie Brown to supervise the conditions under which rural school teachers live.

An effort to equalize school taxation is made by providing that all assisted school districts shall tax themselves three mills on their assessed value for the purpose of applying on the teachers' salary. The government pays the rest.

Under the former law, it was explained, some comparatively wealthy districts could escape any contribution and other poorer districts were paying more. The exemption from contributing to teachers' salaries enjoyed by rural school districts in the B. & N. railway belt on Vancouver Island is wiped out.

School trustees and electors of trustees must be British subjects and their school taxes must be paid up. They must also be of the full age of 21 years. Under certain circumstances all of these conditions could be evaded under the former act, it was found.

PROHIBITIONS LIFTED

At the same time, two disqualifications are removed. In one case school trustees were disqualified if a company in which they held shares did business with the board, although aldermen were not so disqualified.

In the other case the only coal merchant in a small community might be disqualified from providing coal to the school if he were a trustee. In the latter case it is provided that contracts up to \$25 do not disqualify if approved by the superintendent of education.

The chief inspector of schools in Greater Vancouver is given the rank of superintendent of schools for the city.

One teacher shall be provided for each 25 pupils instead of 40 in rural districts, it is provided. Where a pupil under 16 has to go to a neighboring district to obtain high school

facilities his own school board instead of his parents is required to pay his fee up to \$5 a month, but if the principal says the child is not diligent the school board of the district where he resides shall be exempt from this charge.

B.C. ORIENTAL SURVEY URGED

Recommendations of B.C. Farmers Approved

Special to The Vancouver Sun
 VICTORIA, Feb. 1.—The following recommendations of the Farmers' Institutes were approved today by the agricultural committee of the legislature and will be urged upon the House.

That a survey be made of the increase in the Oriental invasion of B. C. since 1926.

That the noxious weed act be applied to municipalities.

That health insurance be investigated.

That appointment of a B. C. member on the Dominion Railway board be requested of the Dominion.

Amendment of Hon. W. Atkinson's apriary registration bill by making the registration apply only to districts where there is a large population also, was recommended. Consideration of other items was deferred.

BROWN DENIES CHARGE

Never Received Cheque From Contractor, He Says

Statement of Victoria M.L.A. Evokes Surprise

Flat denial of the charge of R. Hayward, M.L.A. of Victoria, that a cheque issued to De Paolo, a contractor on the University of B. C. grounds in 1924, had been sent to him instead of to De Paolo, was made by Brenton S. Brown of Vancouver today.

"The statement appearing in press despatches today reporting what Mr. Hayward said in the legislature on Thursday took me absolutely by surprise. There is not an atom of truth in it so far as I am concerned," Mr. Brown declared.

"Never in the course of my connection with the Liberal party have I ever received any government cheque or money of any kind belonging to a contractor or anybody else.

"Mr. Hayward's statement conveys the palpable inference that this cheque might have gone to campaign funds, because I was secretary and treasurer of the provincial Liberal organization.

"I am very much surprised that Mr. Hayward should have made such a statement. I have known him since his boyhood and I feel that before any insinuation or inference of the kind he should have taken the trouble to discover if there was any truth in it.

"I certainly expect Mr. Hayward to look into the matter now as far as I am concerned and to withdraw an insinuation that is neither fair nor honorable, and absolutely without foundation."

Pooley Hurls Bouquets at Liberal Chief

VICTORIA, Feb. 1.—Attorney General Pooley congratulated T. D. Pattullo, opposition leader, on the excellence of his intelligence department in the legislature Thursday.

Mr. Pattullo asked the minister of finance if the interim report of the special auditors had been received yet. Hon. W. C. Shelly said it had. Mr. Pattullo asked when it would be tabled in the house.

Mr. Pooley cut in that it would be tabled as soon as the ministers had had time to peruse it. The report, he claimed, had been received only the previous day and he complimented Mr. Pattullo on being aware of the fact.

MANSON AND POOLEY CLASH

Attorney General Charges Breach of Privilege

Special to The Vancouver Sun
 VICTORIA, Feb. 1.—There was a flurry in the legislature just before adjournment Thursday afternoon when Attorney General Pooley alleged that A. M. Manson, K. C., Liberal member for Omineca, had committed a breach of privilege in issuing to the press a copy of a resolution before it was passed upon by Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Manson said he was willing to take his share of the responsibility for following a practice that Conservative members had followed for years.

Mr. Pooley said this government did not intend for such practices in the future. Mr. Manson said Mr. Pooley was trying to revert to conditions of 100 years ago.

The resolution in question was Mr. Manson's demand for a committee to enquire into the elections in Kaslo-Slocan and Kamloops. A question as to whether the resolution is in order or not has arisen and Mr. Manson stated he was citing authorities to the speaker and that the point was not yet settled.

Mr. Speaker Jones asked members to refrain from publishing proposed resolutions until he had passed on them.

J A N

1929

Brilliant Scenes To Mark Opening Of House Today

Bands to Crash and Guns to Roar With Color and Glitter of Pre-war Days—Scottish Guard of Honor to Parade

By Staff Correspondent

VICTORIA, Jan. 21.—“And the bands will crash and the trumpets bray,” two bands, in point of fact, and in addition a battery of eighteen-pounders. For when the Lieutenant-Governor, Robert Randolph Bruce, comes down in state to open the seventeenth legislature of British Columbia Tuesday afternoon the ceremony will have all the frills that made it so colorful in pre-war days and which have been only gradually restored since. It is a good many years since there was a royal salute; but Tuesday the guns will be lined up on Belleville Street and will be fired as His Honor arrives and enters Parliament Buildings. They will be brought up by the 58th Battery under command of Col. T. B. Monk, with Capt. Gadsden as his second, the contingent being 20 strong. The salute will be one of 15 guns.



Lieut-Gov. Bruce

The guard of honor is being furnished by the 16th Battalion, Canadian Scottish, and will consist of 100 men with colors, a pipe band of 24, and a brass band of 36 instruments, Major D. R. Sargent in command, with Lieut. R. G. Christie as second. The color party will be in charge of Lieut. O. J. Weiler.

ESCORT OF OFFICERS TO ATTEND GOVERNOR

There will be plenty of color both outside and inside. The big gates of the grand entrance will be thrown open—they are used only on these and other very special occasions—and His Honor, in the gorgeous uniform of his office, will enter accompanied by a staff of military and naval officers in full dress. Among the military representatives will be Lt.-Col. Don Martyn, Majors J. H. Gillespie, Gordon Smith, Brooke-Stevenson, Ronald Kingham, Walter Sarty, P. T. Stern and M. K. Crockett, and Captains S. Bowden and J. Gray. The contingent from Work Point Barracks will be headed by Col. A. E. Harris, acting D.O.C., and will include Col. Gilman, A.A. and Q.M.G., Col. G. R. Pearkes, Col. Panet, Majors Steuart, Niven and Gibson, and Capt. McG. McIntosh.

From the naval barracks at Esquimalt will come Commanders Nelles and Murray, Paymaster Lieutenant-Commander King, Lt.-Commanders Wood, Taylor, Haddard and Crescy and Lieut. Brown.

Ceremony to Be Brief

This “glittering escort” on entering the chamber will form two lines up the middle aisle between which His Honor will advance to the Speaker's dais. He and the officers who accompany him will, however, immediately retire while the House proceeds to elect a Speaker. On His Honor's return, the new Speaker, who, it is understood, will be J. W. Jones, member for North Okanagan, will announce that he has been elected and the proceedings proper will be begun by the reading of prayers by the Right Rev. C. D. Schofield, Bishop of Columbia, as the Vancouver Island Anglican See is quaintly named. His Honor will read the Speech from the Throne and retire. Some very formal and brief business will be done and adjournment will be taken until Wednesday.

Members Arrive

During the proceedings not only will its galleries be crowded, but a large part of the floor of the House will be occupied by distinguished visitors, the costumes of the ladies and the uniforms of the officers contrasting with the sombre black worn by the members. Immediately afterwards the members and the invited guests will go over to the Empress Hotel, where Premier and Mrs. Tolmie will hold a reception. The usual state banquet will be given by the Lieutenant Governor in the evening.

Many of the Conservative members are already here and have been sworn in by the clerk of the House, Major Langley. The Liberals, who are attending a party executive meeting in Vancouver today, are expected to arrive in a body Tuesday morning.

The cabinet broke away from an executive meeting for a few minutes this afternoon to be photographed in front of the library.

LEGISLATURE TO BEGIN WORK AT VICTORIA TODAY

Color of Pre-war Days Revived for Formal Opening

GUNS TO ROAR

Naval and Army Officers to Attend King's Representative

CONTROL OF PUBLIC UTILITIES FORECAST;



HON. J. W. JONES
member for South Okanagan, was elected Speaker at the first session of the House, Tuesday.



HON. S. F. TOLMIE
made his debut in the Legislature, Tuesday, as Premier of British Columbia.

MILK COMMISSION SUGGESTS VALLEY CONTROL SCHEME

Committee of Direction Recommended to Legislature to Equalize Returns to Producers—Dairy Amalgamation Advised to Cut Hauling Costs

VICTORIA, Jan. 22.—Equalization of butter fat returns under a committee of direction is the solution of the surplus milk problem of the Fraser Valley recommended by the Milk Inquiry Commission, headed by Dean F. M. Clement, the findings of which were presented to the legislature today by Hon. W. M. Atkins, minister of agriculture. Reduction of the present number of distributing dairies by amalgamation into two or three large companies and a number of producer-vendors is urged as a means of reducing hauling costs. Reorganization of milk routes is also advocated with competition on a service basis at fixed prices.



F. M. Clement

Dealing with the price to the consumers, the commission suggests that independent distributors buying direct from the country operate on the same spread, estimated monthly, as that on which the Fraser Valley Milk Producers' Association operates. The price would be set according to fat content and milk solids and would vary according to season. In this way it is proposed by the commission that at the end of three years the co-operative shippers would be brought up gradually to a point where all would be on an equal basis through the operations of the committee of direction.

VALLEY PRODUCERS TAKEN AS STANDARD

Then general recognition of the F.V.M.P. Association as wholesale and retail distributors of milk and cream in Vancouver and adjacent municipalities is encouraged by the report. This suggestion is made in view of its efforts to maintain an increasing milk supply and to the manufacture of its surplus into milk products with development of foreign markets for the manufactured articles.

The F.V.M.P. Association is recognized by the commission as the basis for comparison in matters of efficiency and inefficiency.

All distributors now in business, however, are conceded by the com-

mission the right to continue, and enjoy the same privileges providing they accept a responsibility equal to that assumed by the farmers represented by the Fraser Valley Milk Producers' Association.

It is further suggested that an advisory committee to the committee of direction shall consist of representatives of the producers, distributors and consumers, any one of which shall have right of appeal direct to the lieutenant-governor-in-council from any ruling of the committee of direction.

The financing of the committee of direction would be a direct charge on the industry benefitting by making a direct assessment per pound of milk fat, such charge to be collected through the distributing companies. This charge, however, is not intended to apply to

ANCIENT RIGHTS VOICED BY HOUSE

Speaker, His Honor had relented and had determined to come back and tell the members at last just why they were there and for what. First of all, however, Mr. Howe had to bring his telepathic powers into play again. His Honor having seated himself, Mr. Jones told him what had happened in his absence. Mr. Jones very modestly said that he was but little able to fulfill the important duties thus assigned to him. He begged that if, in the performance of those duties he should at any time fall into error, the fault might be imputed to him and not to the assembly.

WHEN, having thus cleared the ground, Mr. Jones straightened up and spoke out for independence of the house in "straight flung words and few," just as scores of other Speakers have done ever since Speaker Lenthall told King Charles I. exactly where his buggy ride ended. The assembly, said Mr. Jones, "whose servant I am, through me, the better to enable them to discharge their duty to their king and country, humbly claim all their undoubted rights and privileges, especially that they may have freedom of speech in their debates, access to Your Honor's person at all reasonable times, and that their proceedings may receive from Your Honor the most favorable interpretation." Once more His Honor maintained silence, and once more, although he had not said a word to the provincial secretary, Mr. Howe got up and told Mr. Jones that His Honor had commanded him to say how he (His Honor) freely confided in the duty and attachment of the house to His Majesty's person and that he would recognize and allow all their constitutional privileges. They could come to him any time at reasonable hours and he would certainly give their proceedings favorable consideration. His Honor nodded approval, but—How did Mr. Howe know?

HIS HONOR AGREES TO BE REASONABLE

AND as the record quoted above says, His Honor "was then pleased to open the session by the following gracious speech," which gracious speech the reader will find elsewhere in this issue. One part of it only will be alluded to here. During the pre-election campaign a good deal was heard about the state of the country, the implication being that there was a lack of prosperity for which the late government could be blamed. Now the new government could not very well say in the speech from the throne that the country was not prosperous, and some of the auditors were curious to hear how the writer of the speech would escape between the horns of the dilemma. The writer, whoever he was, proved himself an artist in words. "It is with pleasure that I note that business conditions in the province are showing rapid improvement," was the language put into His Honor's mouth. The entire opening was beautifully managed. There was not a flaw in it anywhere. But the real gem that shone out from all the brilliant setting was that single sentence.

NATURALLY His Honour could not speak without being gracious, as he ever is. From his lips came tributes to His Majesty and to Empire statesmen and events in a form which leave no doubt as to their sincerity. With His Honour, the whole House and the people at large will rejoice at the improvement in the King's health; and they will mourn with him the untimely death of his predecessor in the gubernatorial chair. Like him, they rejoice at the newer and more pronounced harmony which has marked the progress of inter-empire organization and communication; and, like him, they are delighted with the obvious improvement in the economic situation within the province. In his inimitable way, the Lieutenant-Governor has but given voice to the universal feeling. His reference to the amalgamation of Vancouver, South Vancouver and Point Grey, and to the proud place which now belongs to the united city, is as happy as it is timely. The legislature that granted the authority under which amalgamation was brought about has a right to be congratulated on the striking success of the experiment.

BUT, speaking broadly, people do not read the Speech from the Throne merely for the sake of its amenities. These are expected, it is true, and they never fail; but the meat of the matter lies, or is supposed to lie, in a revelation of the government's mind. Every one knows that for weeks before the House assembles there is hurrying and scurrying at the capital. Ministers wear troubled looks, and their staffs look even more troubled. Late hours, innumerable conferences, and frequent councils are the rule. A legislative program is being evolved, and great is the travail thereof. Secrets are everywhere; every one has some, and most are fairly common property. All that is needed to clear the air and make the capital heave a sigh of relief is a government announcement. Its place was intended to be the speech with which the Lieutenant-Governor greeted the legislature. But governments learned by experience that early pronouncements but played into the hands of the opposition; they gave the enemy too much time to

FALSE CREEK SURVEY URGED

Walkem Asks Ban on Long-term Leases

By Staff Correspondent
VICTORIA, Jan. 23.—In view of possible developments on False Creek, G. A. Walkem, Vancouver, has placed on the order paper of the House a long resolution urging the government to take certain steps in that connection. The resolution recites the facts that the provincial government controls a large part of the tidal lands on the northern side of False Creek; that the town planning commission has prepared plans for the development of the area, and that these plans must await ultimate developments until the saw-mills have been removed. It goes on to state that it would be contrary to the public interest to allow new vested rights to be created meanwhile that would hamper development hereafter.

ELECTIONS ACT WORKING ASKED

Manson to Move for Select Committee

By Staff Correspondent
VICTORIA, Jan. 23.—An inquiry into the work of the new amendments to the Elections Act, passed last session, is proposed by A. M. Manson, Onimnea, who gave notice today that he would Friday move for the appointment of a select committee for the purpose. Pursuing his inquiries into the alleged discharging of returned men by the present administration, Captain Ian Mackenzie, North Vancouver, has placed on the order paper a series of questions relating to liquor board employees. Dr. H. C. Wrinch gives notice of questions respecting the circumstances under which David Warnock, recently deputy minister of agriculture, severed his connection with the department.

Continued From Page 1A
SOMEWHAT different as it with the two remaining items. In them clear-cut intention is revealed. The government definitely commits itself to the creation of a marketing branch of the department of agriculture; and it as definitely proposes to put its back behind the task of selling and settling the government-owned reclaimed lands, particularly those at Sumas. Both of these are progressive moves; they go right to the heart of the most serious economic problem which confronts the province. Without hesitation, men of all parties will commend the principles involved; the detail of the machinery to be set up and the operating policy to be adopted may and probably will be matters of controversy. On the main proposition there will be something like unity. It is widely recognized that the farming communities must be made prosperous and that until they either prosper or give up the struggle the rest of the province can never be at ease. That the government has gone directly to the most important matters must be admitted. That it has done so is only natural in view of the premier's well-known sympathy for agriculture. It is sincerely to be hoped that the same wise and as their ground is

M.L.A.'S ENTERTAIN VANCOUVER VISITORS

VICTORIA, Jan. 23.—Vancouver visitors to the number of about 40, who had come over for the opening of parliament, were entertained today at luncheon at the Empress Hotel by the members for Vancouver and for the Greater Vancouver ridings.

Pooley Recommends Delay In Amending Amalgamation Act

Pointing out that there has scarcely been time as yet to fully observe the effect of the Amalgamation Act, H. H. Pooley, attorney-general, in a letter read at the civic finance committee, Wednesday, suggested that no request be made for amending legislation this session. It was referred to a special committee to consider whether amendments to be appointed by the mayor. Whether that Vancouver charter was a very important measure, the letter suggests that before any change is made it should have the fullest deliberation and due publicity. "I think that after the statute enacted for the government of the enlarged area has been in operation for some time, there will occur an opportunity to observe its effect, and then due consideration be given to any amendments which may require amendment," the letter adds.

B.C. HOUSE TO LEGALISE ELECTION OF KASLO-SLOCAN M.L.A.

SPECIAL ACT TO DEFINE STATUS OF FITZSIMMONS

Eligibility to Be Upheld in Bill Proposed by Legislature

ANOMALY CLEARED

Future Misunderstandings of Similar Kind Obviated

By Staff Correspondent

VICTORIA, Jan. 23. — Doubt about the legality of the election of Capt. J. Fitzsimmons, Kaslo-Slocan, is to be set at rest by a special act.

When Capt. Fitzsimmons was chosen Conservative candidate for his riding, he assigned all his rights in a ferry on the Arrow Lakes to a limited liability company, the ferry being in receipt of a government subsidy which had he continued its owner, would have disqualified him. There was no provision in the Ferries Act for any such transfer and as a bill brought down today states, doubt has arisen "as to the eligibility of the said Captain James Fitzsimmons as a member of the Legislative Assembly."

The bill validated the assignment, which was made before the nomination and election of Capt. Fitzsimmons, indemnifies him against any penalties he may have incurred by taking his seat in the house, and confirms his election.

Second Act Moved

Another bill, introduced by Hon. Nels Lougheed, makes provision for future transfers of ferry licenses with the consent of the minister of public works.

As things stand at present, while the moving picture censors may order objectionable parts of films cut out, they have no power to deal with pictorial advertisements of films which may be even more objectionable. Mr. Pooley gave notice today that he would bring in a bill Friday giving the censors power to order the removal of such pictorial advertisements whether in poster form or printed in newspapers. Compulsory submission of such advertisements before publication will not, however, be required.

Twigg Appointed

The house sat for only an hour today. H. Despard Twigg, Victoria, was elected deputy speaker. The debate on the address was begun, the mover and seconder speaking to the question.

In the course of the proceedings, T. D. Pattullo, leader of the opposition, objected that copies of bills introduced were not being made available to the members and G. A. Walkem, Vancouver, protested it was impossible to hear the members of the government at the far end of the chamber.

Mr. Pooley told Mr. Pattullo that the house machinery was hardly in full working order yet, and informed Mr. Walkem that as ministers had to address the speaker they could not very well address his part of the house also. In the absence of the premier, who is suffering from a cold, the attorney-general led the house.

Mixed Okanagan Farming Held Solution of Problems; Throne Debate Launched

Kennedy Moves Address Opening Speech Discussion Seconded by McNaughton—Appointment of Veterans Wins Approval

By J. EDWARD NORCROSS

VICTORIA, Jan. 23.—That the salvation of the Okanagan may be found in mixed farming instead of single-product agriculture, as exemplified by lands devoted solely to orchards, was the view expressed in the House today by W. F. Kennedy, member for North Okanagan, who moved the address in reply to the speech from the throne.

The transformation, in fact, is already under way, according to Mr. Kennedy, who stated that the dairying industry was growing rapidly in the valley and was second only in this province to that of the Fraser Valley. More than 1,000,000 pounds of butter had been produced there in the last year and the returns had been very satisfactory, the producer receiving 80 cents out of every dollar paid.

Mr. Kennedy showed that, on the other hand, the fruit and vegetable growers of the Okanagan had paid out \$9,267,000 in expenses for handling the year's crop, \$2,626,000 of which had gone in freight charges, and that while all this money must be expended before the returns came in, there was no assurance that a reasonable recompense would be received. He pinned great hopes on the marketing branch to be established by the government. As showing the necessity of this, he pointed out that the apple crop of British Columbia was nearly as large as that of the rest of Canada put together.

MR. SUTHERLAND EXTENDED SYMPATHY

In opening, Mr. Kennedy made the customary allusions to the formal contents of the speech from the throne, diverging from these, however, to express the deep sympathy of the members of the House with Dr. W. H. Sutherland, Revelstoke, former minister of public works, whose home, he said, twice since last session had been visited by the Angel of Death.

Seconding the motion, Dr. G. K. MacNaughton, Comox, joyfully alluded to the first bill brought down this session, one to abolish the county judicial district established in his riding by legislation passed last session. Dr. MacNaughton dwelt at some length on unemployment and protested against the policy of forcing immigration while the sons and daughters of the people of the province were forced to go abroad to find employment.

Urging liberal road appropriations, the member paid a tribute to the late government in respect of the excellent condition of the island highway. He congratulated the new administration on having made the force of attendants engaged for the session 100 percent returned men, and expressed the hope that some means would be found of improving the lot of some of the members of the Merville community, who had real grounds for dissatisfaction. Since the Game Act was to be amended, he suggested that consideration be given to the plight of those farmers who lost heavily by the depredations of protected birds and animals among their crops.

T. D. Pattullo, leader of the opposition, adjourned the debate.



W. F. KENNEDY



DR. G. K. McNAUGHTON

B. C. TO WIPE OUT CABINET BYELECTIONS

New Bill Cancels Law Requiring Voters' Endorsement

ERRORS DISCLOSED

Previous Speakers Illegally Paid Allowances, House Learns

By Staff Correspondent

VICTORIA, Jan. 23.—The new government is taking early steps to avoid byelection difficulties of the kind that made it virtually impossible for Vancouver to have a cabinet minister under the late administration.

A bill brought down today, following the lines of legislation adopted in Great Britain and other parts of the Empire, makes it unnecessary for a member to stand for re-election on acceptance of a salaried cabinet position. The bill takes the form of a series of amendments to the Constitution act. Incidentally it clears the way for granting allowances to cabinet members who are without portfolios should the government decide on that course.

The bill inferentially discloses that hitherto the speaker and deputy-speaker have been in receipt of allowances that technically disqualified them from sitting in the house at all. A retroactive clause relieves previous occupants of these positions of the penalties they might be held to have incurred, one of these being the infliction of a fine of three hundred dollars a day for every day in which they have taken part in the proceedings of the legislature while accepting allowances. The position in this respect of the present and future speakers and deputy speakers is made perfectly sound in a legal sense.

The bill further provides for the carrying on of the business of the legislature in the absence of the speaker should the speaker be too ill to attend. This, however, will simply make statutory the rules of the house governing such a situation.

It is seldom that so much important legislation is brought down in the early days of the session as was introduced on this, the first working day of the new assembly. Attorney-General Pooley's promised bill to amend the Game Act, was read a first time. It not only revolutionizes the administration of the game laws, but also extends very considerably the rights and privileges of trappers.

... EK ... URGED

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Ministerial By-election

A BILL submitted to the legislature indicates that at least one anomaly in provincial administration will disappear as a result of the present session of the house. It has been the custom, as every one knows, when a member is promoted to ministerial rank to send him back to his constituency for re-election. Even last summer, immediately after the sweeping victory won by the Conservative party at the polls the farce was played out—or at least it would have been played out had not the Liberals bowed to the situation and facilitated matters by permitting all the new ministers to be returned by acclamation. Technically speaking, there actually were elections; but as no contests took place there was no campaign and no voting. In each constituency affected only one man was put in nomination and, at the appointed hour, he was declared elected. The province and the political parties were thus saved considerable expense and the public was saved annoyance.

BUT had the Liberals chosen to act otherwise, as they had every right to do, there would have been a different story. There was not, of course, any likelihood of defeating men who had been elected but a month or two earlier, and whose prestige had probably increased and had certainly not diminished in the meantime. But there was ample opportunity for another hectic and costly battle. Sometimes, when feeling is high, parties are in a mood to provoke contest for the sake of the contest itself, without consideration of the prospects of victory. There are political tacticians who hold that no seat should ever be allowed to go by default. Far better, they say, a good fight with defeat than the confession of impotence which goes with an uncontested election.

HAD the amendment to the act now proposed been in force in 1924, Vancouver would not have been so long without cabinet representation. It is true that there were difficulties other than those connected with the necessity of holding a by-election for any minister appointed to office; but the by-election problem was undoubtedly the main one. An element in the Liberal party did not want any minister from this city, for reasons well known to itself, and it preached to the government the danger of opening a seat. The Liberal control of the legislature was then very slim, and the government did not wish to take chances. Moreover, with differences dividing the Vancouver contingent, the government shrank from making a selection. But had there been no need for the by-election, of which it was so afraid, a selection of some sort undoubtedly would have been made.

THERE was a time when the re-election of ministers after appointment was a logical necessity. In those days the emoluments of office might have been used to enable a government to defy the will of the people. But times have changed. Greater and more immediate publicity and the tightening of party discipline have removed the danger, and with it the need for such precautions. When they were in power the Liberals wanted to amend the act, but did not dare to attempt it; for, with their slim majority, the move would have been interpreted as an effort to get round a difficult corner by an easy route. The Conservative government is differently placed. It has an ample majority in the house, and has no occasion to fear a by-election in any event. This, therefore, is the logical time to make a change which is itself logical. There should be little opposition to the measure.

Why Not Make Everybody Comfortable?

THE other day two gentlemen arrived in Victoria from a mainland municipality on a mission with the general purport of which the Provincial Government must by this time have become all too familiar. They were farmers and they sought relief in respect of special taxation. Irrigationists of the Okanagan, agriculturists of the Sumas area, and occupants of dyked lands on the Fraser, have all made representations to the effect that their property could not carry the charges laid on it in respect of improvements. The latest visitors, however, while their theme was in the main the same, offered a variant. They said that some years ago, under an act of the Legislature, their municipality had dug main ditches contiguous to their land and had assessed them for a portion of the cost. They represented a group of farmers, similarly affected,

who had fallen into arrears with their payments. They declared that the land did not produce enough to meet the liability and they asked the government to give their situation in this respect the sort of consideration it was giving to distressed agriculturists elsewhere.

THE position taken by this little delegation was quite a logical one. Premier Tolmie has declared on several occasions that if land will not stand the special taxation imposed, whether in respect of dykes or of irrigation systems, it would be better to cut the levies down to what it will stand than to allow the occupants to be forced off it. But if dyking and irrigation charges are not to be allowed to drive out the settler, why should ditching charges be permitted to push him into bankruptcy? The principle is the same in all the cases mentioned. Nay, more, it can be carried farther still. If while clearing heavily-timbered land a man has been obliged to put a mortgage on his place and has then found that the land will not produce enough, over and above other expenses, to meet the interest, why should not he, also, be assisted out of the public funds to meet his payments? The mere fact that the charges are a private matter between him and his mortgagee is no reason in itself why he should not have relief when relief is found for the man who is fortunate enough to have an irrigation committee or a dyking commission as his creditor. Not only, of course, is there no chance whatever of the settler who has hitherto stood on his own feet obtaining the sort of help that has been promised men whose land has been reclaimed by dykes, or watered by conduits, instead of being cleared with axe and saw, but he will be called upon to provide through the general taxation imposed on him a pro rata share of what is granted the others. For when the irrigationists or the reclamationists declare that the government should shoulder part of their burden, what they really demand is that they should be allowed to shift some of it to the backs of their fellow-farmers all over the province.

ON THE face of it, the principle enunciated by Premier Tolmie appears to have much to commend it. From the standpoint of the province generally, and from that of the general taxpayer, it would probably be better in the long run if it imposed that land cannot in any circumstances carry were reduced. In theory, at least, it is preferable on financial grounds, that the land should not go out of cultivation, since were this to happen it would cease to make any contribution whatever, either to the special levy or to local and provincial taxation. It is not in respect of cases where it can be established that, proportionately to production, the charges are too heavy that difficulty arises. This occurs by reason of the many border-line cases, the cases in which, on the surface, the claimant appears to

have colorable grounds for relief, which grounds, however, he might never have discovered had not his neighbors begun to think they ought to have it. Long before the present government took office an opinion had begun to grow up in certain agricultural districts that, if sufficient pressure were applied, present burdens might be foisted off, in part, on the public treasury. It is not improbable that, as a result of Dr. Tolmie's emphatic proclamation of his economic doctrine for overburdened agriculturists, that opinion has become much more prevalent. People who, possibly, at one time, never dreamed of asking that their levies be cut down now see no reason why they should pay in full when others are being allowed remissions. In fact, there is no telling where the thing will end.

THAT in many parts of the province agriculture is bearing far too heavy a load of taxation has long been established. The levies for improvements, however, are only part of the load. Relief effected by reducing them not only is of no benefit to those who have no public indebtedness of that kind, but actually adds to the burden of the latter. The School Survey of three years ago showed that school taxation, proportionately to production, was extremely heavy in many rural districts. It was recommended that a greater proportion be paid by the government. Were this done and the local school rates reduced, the aggregate charges against dyked or irrigated land might be brought down to a figure that, except in extreme cases, would make it unnecessary to deal directly with special levies. In the Dewdney Dyking District, for instance, the failure of the farmers to meet the dyking tax was not caused by the tax itself. They had paid it for years, and, indeed, were latterly paying a lower rate of interest than that which they had had to meet originally. But school and road taxation had increased, and, as payment of this came first, there was not enough left to discharge the dyking obligation.

It follows that if relief must be granted in certain agricultural communities, the government would be well advised to find some means of giving it in a form other than that of wiping out direct obligations incurred by the proposed beneficiaries at their own request. As suggested above this might be effected by general aids to education and road and other construction which would be fair alike to those engaged in agriculture whether subject to special levies or not.

By J. EDWARD NORCROSS

Drought, Not Westminster Tradition, Causes Mr. Walkem to Wear Hat in House—Deputy-Speaker's Chair Vanishes—Bill Hopper Fills Up

PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS, VICTORIA, Jan. 23.—It has been thought that Mr. Walkem was trying to keep up a British tradition when he wore his hat in the House. They do it regularly at Westminster, but it must be admitted that a row of silk topers would probably look more in keeping with the dignity of Parliament than the heterogeneous collection of headgear on which the galleries would look down were the custom adopted generally here. The late Mr. Sloan was quite insistent on keeping his hat on, and Mr. Kergin occasionally followed suit. It seems, however, that Mr. Walkem is not historically-minded when he wears his hat while occupying his seat. It is on account of the draught from the door near the north end of the chamber which is so placed as to catch the edge of the east wind. Mr. Walkem complained about it today in the House. Indeed, he was quite dissatisfied with the location of his desk, for he not only declared it draughty, but said that it was quite impossible to hear what the members of the government at the other end of the chamber were saying.

DRUGHT FROM DOOR BLAMED

Eight Vancouver Ridings Asked

Walkem Urges Separate Election of City Members

By Staff Correspondent

VICTORIA, Jan. 24.—"The present system of electing members of the legislature for the City of Vancouver is archaic and this will be accentuated now that the city has been enlarged and consists of three electoral districts," said G. A. Walkem, sixth member for Vancouver, in the course of the debate on the address, which was resumed today. Mr. Walkem followed the leader of the opposition, who had just concluded a long criticism of the new administration. Mr. Walkem contented himself with remarking that the electors had answered Mr. Pattullo in advance on July 18 last, and devoted his speech thereafter to several questions raised by himself.



T. D. PATTULLO

Continuing his indictment of the block system of election, he declared that it was impossible under it for the electors to know the men they were voting for. He accounted humorously for his own position at the bottom of the elected list. The Labor men, he said, had voted for their own two candidates, and then, rather than lose their four remaining votes, had started to mark additional crosses, beginning at the top of the Conservative columns. As his name began with "W" they never got down to him.

Division Urged

He urged that the enlarged city be divided into single-member constituencies. He was satisfied that if this were done the Conservatives would capture six seats out of the eight, and frequently all the eight. Mr. Walkem went on to protest against the administration of the Boiler Inspection Act and of the Electrical Engineering Act being put under the Workmen's Compensation Board. The former act had been administered for many years by the department of public works and he urged that the practice be resumed. The boiler inspection department was all at sixes and sevens, and great public inconvenience resulted, he said.

Mr. Walkem then took the members on an imaginary tour of the Peace River country, describing the possibilities and problems of the Peace River block from knowledge gained by personal observation in the course of a five-weeks tour made last fall. Nearly every foot of the country, he said, was good arable land which would eventually be brought under cultivation. It would, however, cost \$20 or \$25 per acre to clear the brush off some of it, he said, and this would not be brought in so long as virgin prairie land was available.

Negotiations Advised

He urged that the government ascertain from the Canadian Pacific and the Canadian National authorities what they proposed to do with the southern half of the Peace River district. He was sure they would carry out the program of effecting a western extension mapped out by the Edmonton, Dunvegan & B. C. As to the northern half, the United Grain Growers would build a chain of granaries along the river bank if the Hudson's Bay Company would put on a service of grain barges of a type similar to those they used on the Mackenzie River. He recommended that the government approach the Hudson's Bay Company on this matter.

Mr. Walkem pointed out that at present all the trade of the Peace River went east. He advised the government to build a motor road from Prince George to Moberly Lake, a distance of 245 miles. The cost would be \$10,000 a mile, and such a road would make Prince George the trading centre for a large part of the Peace River country. In fact, a good deal of business would come through to Vancouver. He hoped the government would undertake a reconnaissance survey this year.

W. R. Rutledge, Burnaby, adjourned the debate.

Mr. Pooley tried to soothe Mr. Walkem with admissions that the chamber was badly ventilated and that its acoustics were poor. Mr. Walkem, however, was inclined to be rebellious. He said he proposed to interrupt and have the proceedings repeated until he could hear them. Mr. Pattullo intervened. If Mr. Walkem raised his voice sufficiently often, he said, he might arrive at the upper end of the chamber where the attorney-general now sat.

NOBODY seems to know what has become of the table at which the deputy-speaker should sit when he acts as chairman of the committee of the whole. It was there last session, in its proper place in front of the Speaker's chair and between the chair and the table at which the clerks sit. But it is not there now and inquiries were made for it by Mr. Pattullo, who was pained at the indecorous consequences.

By way of explanation it may be well to say that when a government bill is brought in, a highly involved ritual has to be performed, the minister in charge of the bill announces that he has a message from the Lieutenant-Governor, transmitting a bill entitled so and so. The Speaker repeats the announcement to the House.

RITUAL EXPLAINED
The minister moves that the House go into committee of the whole to consider whether the message shall be received.

This is to make it quite clear that the House is quite independent in the matter of receiving messages from the Lieutenant-Governor or anybody else. The motion is carried. The sergeant-at-arms takes the mace from the table. The Speaker leaves the chair. The deputy-speaker as chairman of committee takes charge. The minister moves a recommendation that the message be received. The chairman puts the motion, which is carried. The Speaker returns to the chair and the mace is restored to the table. The chairman reports what was done in committee. The House adopts the recommendation and the Speaker proceeds to read the message. The minister in charge moves that the bill be now read a first time, which is carried. The bill, however, is not read, but that makes no difference. The minister then moves that it be put on the orders of the day for second reading at the next sitting of the House. This is also carried, although many sittings may elapse before the bill is brought up for second reading.

NOW all this had to be gone through four times today, as many bills being brought in by message. In the ordinary course of events Mr. Twigg would have taken his place at the table, but, as stated, the table was not there. So he established himself at the desk of the King's printer, which is at the right of the Speaker's chair and he and the Speaker got into each other's way constantly as the Speaker got in and out of the chair and as Mr. Twigg moved backwards and forwards between the King's printer's desk and the seat he occupied between times. All of which finally got on Mr. Pattullo's nerves. Surely the House could afford a table for the chairman of committee, he said. Mr. Pooley was understood to reply that there was a table somewhere, but he did not quite know where, and that it should be found and brought in.

MR. PATTULLO'S NERVES SUFFER
Mr. Pooley led the House today, the Premier paying the penalty for having stood on the steps of the Parliament Buildings Tuesday afternoon bareheaded while waiting to receive the Lieutenant-Governor. It was a bright, sunny day and Victoria was trying to persuade itself that it was enjoying much milder weather than Vancouver, where skating was reported. But, although the members wore primroses from Mr. Pooley's garden, the north wind had a cutting edge, as the guard of honor found out, and Dr. Toimie came down to the buildings this morning with so severe a cold that his colleagues persuaded him to go home and take remedies for it.

HOWEVER, there was not a great deal to do in the House. Mr. Kennedy, of North Okanagan, moved the address in a speech that met the occasion adequately and had the merit of being briefer than most such speeches. Dr. MacNaughton, of Comox, followed, also briefly and effectively. Both gentlemen adhered to the time-honored custom of telling the House what fine ridings they came from and of intimating to the government certain things that the ridings deserved to have done for them. Mr. Pattullo rather surprised everybody by moving the adjournment of the debate, which means that he will speak when it is resumed Thursday. It is rather early for the big guns to come into action, but Mr. Pattullo doubtless has his strategy all worked out.

Mr. Twigg was elected deputy-speaker just in time to enable him to begin the gyrations described above. He managed very well considering that he was compelled to perform under a handicap. Details of the bills introduced will be found in the news columns. As notice has been given of four more, the feed hopper of the mill is fast filling up.



HOUSE GIVEN SOLDIER DATA

More Veterans Taken on Than Dismissed, Report Shows

WIDER REPLY ASKED

By Staff Correspondent
VICTORIA, Jan. 24.—Captain Ian Mackenzie has not had to wait long for answers to two of his first three questions on the discharging of overseas men from the government service. Replies were filed today showing that since Aug. 20 thirteen overseas men had been added to the provincial police and four discharged, the total number of men on the force having been increased from 236 to 254. In the lands department one overseas man had been dispensed with and one has been taken on. The total of 369 employees as at last August has been reduced by seven.

Captain Mackenzie, however, placed on the order paper today similar questions relating to the following departments: Mines, provincial secretary, agricultural, finance and education. He also asks how many licensed beer parlors were in operation in Vancouver Aug. 20 last, how many are licensed at present, how many licenses have been issued since Aug. 20; and if so, in whose names they were applied for, and for what premises.

Dr. H. C. Winch, Skeena, asks how many big game licenses were issued to non-residents during the years 1926, 1927 and 1928, and how much in these years, respectively, was received in fees for the big game shot by these non-resident hunters.

for relief, which ht never have dispor begun to think ng before the prese an opinion had ain agricultural disessure were applied, felsted off, in part, it is not improbable mie's emphatic pro doctrine for overat opinion has be. People who, possiamed of asking that now see no reason ull when others are In fact, there is no ill end.

f the province agri too heavy a load of ablished. The levies er, are only part of d by reducing them o those who have no at kind, but actually e latter. The School o showed that school to production, was rural districts. It greater proportion be Were this done and duced, the aggregate irrigated land might gure that, except in ke it unnecessary to levies. In the Dewd- instance, the failure e dyking tax was not They had paid it for atterly paying a lower which they had had school and road tax, as payment of this t enough left to dison. of must be granted in munities, the governd to find some means ar than that of wip- incurred by the proer own request. As ht be effected by gen road and other con- fair alike to those hether subject to spe-

MINSTER TRADITION, Speaker's Chair Upper Fills Up

DINGS, VICTORIA. n thought that Mr. to keep up a British is hat in the House. Westminster, but it row of silk toppers in keeping with the an the heterogenous which the galleries custom adopted gen- Sloan was quite in- on, and Mr. Kergin. It seems, however, t historically-minded, ile occupying his seat. be draught from the of the chamber which of the edge of the east d. Mr. Walkem com- ned about it today in House. Indeed, he quite dissatisfied eak, for he not only said that it was quite the members of the end of the chamber

MANSON ATTACK ON B. C. 'DEFICIT' STIRS UP HOUSE

Former Attorney-General Precipitates First Scene of Year

SPEAKER CUTS DEBATE

Under-expenditure of Half Million Claimed Last Year

VICTORIA, Jan. 24.—A. M. Manson, Omineca, precipitated the first "scene" of the session today when, rising to a question of privilege, he charged that a Vancouver evening paper had published figures purporting to be official, that grossly misstated the financial position of the province under the late government. Mr. Manson quoted from the article to the effect that the public accounts for the latest financial year showed that the government had spent \$2,800,000 more than had been voted by the House.

As a matter of fact, Mr. Manson said, turning to the public accounts laid on the table Tuesday, there had been an under-expenditure of approximately half a million dollars. Mr. Manson was going on to say that he was quite sure that the minister of finance was not responsible for the wrong information on which the article was based, when C. F. Davie, Cowichan, rose to a point of order. The member was limited, he said to stating the facts; he must not make a speech attacking ministers.

Mr. Manson retorted he was perfectly within his rights. Moreover, he was really defending the minister of finance, he added.

Mr. Speaker Jones said he was quite sure that Mr. Manson, himself a former Speaker, was well enough acquainted with the rules of the House to keep within them. He suggested that he be brief.

Ruling Challenged

Mr. Manson said that he had no wish to question the Speaker's ruling, but there was no rule of the House requiring him to be brief on a question of privilege. He continued to quote figures.

Mr. Davie again pressed his point of order.

Captain Ian Mackenzie, North Vancouver, said any member was entitled to discuss a misstatement of an official document at such length as he chose.

"What is your authority?" asked H. Despard Twigg, Victoria.

"I have plenty of authority," replied Captain Mackenzie, "but I would point out that it is not the thing for the Deputy Speaker, who may be called to the chair any minute and rule on it, to advise the Speaker on a point of order."

Mr. Twigg resumed his seat.

Manson Checked

"On this interpretation, any member can make a speech at any time on anything," Mr. Davie protested.

"This is no party question," said Mr. Manson. "As a matter of fact the minister of finance should be on his feet drawing attention to this breach of the privileges of the House."

Mr. Davie again asked for a definite ruling on this point of order.

The Speaker said Mr. Manson must confine himself to quoting the incorrect statement and correcting it.

Mr. Manson was resuming when the Hon. R. L. Maitland intervened to point out that the former attorney general was not observing the Speaker's ruling too strictly.

Mr. Manson undertook to confine himself to the figures. He quoted from the offending article to the effect that the finance department had been voted a little more than \$2,800,000 and had spent nearly double the sum, the fact being that it had spent all its aggregate appropriation. After giving a number of similar examples, he concluded by saying that he had no doubt the newspaper concerned, whose error was attributed to inadvertency, would be glad to make the necessary correction in a prominent way and so remove the injurious impression it had unfortunately created.

More Censorship

REPORTS from Victoria indicate that the new government is about to embark on a series of legislative efforts which are bound to attract to it a great deal of attention and provoke much controversy. The Attorney General, who is at the bottom of a number of the moves, is apparently a root and branch man. Attorneys General usually do get the centre of the stage quite easily, and when they get it they keep it. Mr. Pooley shows no tendency to avoid the place where the spotlight plays. Like his two immediate predecessors, he courts trouble; he steps forward with the opening gong, and none there is who can make him afraid. Mr. Pooley, as leader of the opposition, was always interesting; as head of the law department he will be even more interesting, providing, of course, the cards he has up his sleeve turn out to be trumps.

IN THE good old days when he sat on the left of Mr. Speaker, Mr. Pooley had much to say about the Games Act and the group of incompetents who administered it. In fact, he talked more about the Games Act than about any other one thing. No sooner did he get power than he laid plans to put his theories into practice. He showed what he thought of the Game Board by firing the personnel. Then, having thus cleared the decks, he settled down to evolve something new. His plan, quite in keeping with his many past pronouncements, is to take the enforcement of the Game Act out of the hands of the provincial police and give it to the sportsmen themselves. His predecessors had other views. They shaped the game laws and supervised their administration in what they believed to be the interests of the citizens in general and of the farmers in particular. Mr. Pooley will reverse this emphasis. Where there is conflict between the ordinary citizen and the sportsman, he is all for the sportsman. That is natural, since he himself sees through the eyes of a sportsman. A dog and a gun have always meant a lot to Mr. Pooley. The new plan will undoubtedly prove satisfactory to the game hunters, and it may in actual fact be in the best interests of the province as a whole. This, of course, through its effectiveness in attracting tourist trade. But the average citizen may not be so favorably impressed. To give to sportsmen the administration of game laws is not comparable with, say, giving to the Moderation League the enforcement of the liquor laws; but the underlying principle is the same in both cases.

MR. POOLEY'S real innovation is his proposal to censor moving picture theatre advertisements. The pictures themselves are already censored. How much good has been done and how much evil avoided since the censorship was instituted no one can say. A very careful examination of all film excisions would have to be made before any reasonable conclusion could be drawn; and such an examination is not now practicable. The proposal to censor theatrical publicity is another step in the direction of paternal government. It may be a good thing, but it is not in consonance with strict Conservative principles. In fact, it is very radical. It is the sort of thing a Soviet might be expected to do—or a Socialist government, or a Labor government, or even a Liberal government of the reform school. But a Tory—never! It is evident that Mr. Pooley has been hiding his light under a bushel, or, in the alternative, that he has a sentimental and Liberal side of which few had any suspicion. He cannot have been the great natural champion of liberty his friends said he was in the days of the plebiscite.

IT IS quite true that many moving picture poster advertisements are but reprints in large size of some of the most sensational and suggestive scenes from the reels. The same considerations which have led governments to cut out the most objectionable sections from the films themselves would therefore be applicable to the poster pictures based on the films. An enlargement of the scope of the existing authority would be adequate and logical, and no one who favors any censorship at all could cavil at it. But to go to the opposite extreme and include every form of publicity is not reasonable. Before so drastic a step in the direction of the curtailment of the

liberty and initiative of an entire industry is taken, evidence should be adduced to show that existing forms of advertising are objectionable. Possibly a good case can be made out against the theatres and the newspapers which are their principle media of publicity; but so far it has not put in its appearance. The terms of Mr. Pooley's proposed bills, and his arguments in support of them, will be awaited and examined with interest by very large groups in the community.

By J. EDWARD NORCROSS

Mr. Pattullo Warms Things Up In House After Mild Opening on Address Debate—Mr. Walkem Calls for Re-adjustment on Vancouver Electoral Divisions

PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS, VICTORIA. Jan. 24.—Raw and cold as it was out of doors, with a drizzling snow falling, the atmosphere was warm enough in the House. Mr. Pattullo decidedly stirred things up when he showed how far the government had committed itself to the financial syndicate that recently made two large purchases of bonds. There was nothing in the earlier part of Mr. Pattullo's speech—he was resuming the debate on the address—to show that he had a bomb in his desk. He began by saying the proper things about the King and the late Mr. Nichol and then, in his most urbane manner, congratulated his friends across the way on their accession to office.

He also congratulated Mr. Jones on his elevation to the Speaker's chair. Finally he congratulated himself on the honor done him by his party in making him leader of the opposition. In the course of his earlier remarks he termed some fine phrases. He expressed the belief that notwithstanding the cataclysm of July 18 the province would continue to expand industrially, and referred to Mr. Hinchliffe's doleful subtleties. He felicitated Mr. Shelly on conditions that, so different from those of 1916, would enable him to reduce taxation. He noted that the third party was represented by a single member, Mr. Uphill, but he assured that gentleman that there might be other independent parties in the House by and by.

FAITH IN B. C. REMAINS. He expressed the belief that notwithstanding the cataclysm of July 18 the province would continue to expand industrially, and referred to Mr. Hinchliffe's doleful subtleties. He felicitated Mr. Shelly on conditions that, so different from those of 1916, would enable him to reduce taxation. He noted that the third party was represented by a single member, Mr. Uphill, but he assured that gentleman that there might be other independent parties in the House by and by.

IT DEPENDED on whether or not the loaves and fishes multiplied by miracle. He comforted the stalwarts on the other side who had been left out of the cabinet with the remark that time worked many changes. It was evident from the legislation brought down the day before that the way was being prepared for taking steps that might result in some of those at the lower end of the chamber finding themselves up near Mr. Speaker, and vice versa.

It was a great speech. Imperceptibly Mr. Pattullo's tone changed as he sarcastically quoted promises after promise from the campaign speeches of ministers opposite and asked why nothing was being heard of proposals to implement them. And then, having skilfully led up to it without giving any hint of the disclosures that were coming, he began the recital of extracts from the orders-in-council he had been delving into since he returned from the east a few weeks ago. Finally, he moved a want of confidence motion and sat down, too old a head at the game to make the mistake of elaborating it further.

THE premier was at home in bed with a serious cold and it had been arranged that Mr. Walkem should follow Mr. Pattullo. Mr. Walkem, however, knew better than to take up any of Mr. Pattullo's points, least of all to try to meet his main attack. Big gun must answer big gun. He disclosed the whole thing in an airy sentence and passed on to the entertaining question of boiler inspection, and

WALKEM TAKES THE DIRECTION OF THE NEW THEME

Workmen's Compensation Board. Then he advised the government to cut up the enlarged city of Vancouver into eight single member constituencies. Under the present system, he said, people did not know for whom they were voting—an opening for an apt retort of which the opposition failed to take advantage.

Mr. Walkem spent some time last fall in the Peace River area and he proceeded to tell the House all about it. It was good, practical stuff, but Mr. Walkem ought to have had a large map on exhibition to make his points really clear. Mr. Rutledge, of Burnaby, will resume the debate Friday, "Back-benchers Day." The engagement precipitated by Mr. Pattullo will probably be resumed Monday when, if the premier has recovered from his cold, it is expected that he will reply to the leader of the opposition.

THINGS are rapidly getting down to normal after all the fuss of the grand opening. There was a fine little shindy this afternoon when Mr. Manson rose to a question of privilege and accused a Vancouver afternoon paper of representing the state of the finances as they stood in the last financial year of the Liberal regime. He had not got far before Mr. Davie rose to a point of order. Mr. Pooley, Mr. Twigg and Capt. Ian Mackenzie indulged in a verbal free-for-all over it which was brought to an end by the Speaker. Mr. Jones handled the situation like a veteran. He was particularly neat in appealing to Mr. Manson to obey the rules, that, as an ex-Speaker, he knew so well. Mr. Manson, on his side, was most suave as he assured Mr. Speaker of his deep and unlimited respect for the chair. Mr. Twigg retired from the fray when Capt. Mackenzie reminded him that a deputy-speaker really must not tell the Speaker how to rule on a point of order. It really was not done. Eventually Mr. Manson got all he had to say said, including certain assurances that of course Mr. Shelly had had nothing to do with the appearance of the article that had caused the trouble. After that the House appointed the standing committees and adjourned.

MR. JONES PROVES CAPABLE

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PATTULLO ASSAILS SALE B. C. DEBENTURES Employment of Private

Syndicate Draws Attack of Liberal Leader;

Province Loses Heavily Through Failure to Sell Securities by Tender, Critic Avers—Order-in-Council Analyzed by Opposition Chief

By J. EDWARD NORCROSS

VICTORIA, Jan. 24.—Gage of battle was thrown down in the house comparatively early in the session when T. D. Pattullo, leader of the opposition, today moved an amendment to the address which, in terms, amounts to a vote of want of confidence based on condemnation of the recent sale of provincial debentures by private tender.

Incidentally some results of Mr. Pattullo's researches into recent orders-in-council were made public, among them being that the syndicate that has already bought \$12,000,000 in debentures has an option on another \$8,000,000 up to Feb. 28, and receives a commission of one percent on all transactions in addition to its profits.

Mr. Pattullo's motion, which was seconded by Capt. Ian Mackenzie, North Vancouver, is as follows:

"That the motion moved by the honorable member for North Okanagan, seconded by the honorable member for Comox, in reply to the speech of His Honor, the Lieutenant-Governor, Wednesday, Jan. 23, be amended by adding the following words: This house strongly disapproves of administrative policy and action in connection with a recent sale of provincial securities, in that sale was made privately, improvidently and contrary to sound public policy."

The motion came as the climax of Mr. Pattullo's contribution to the debate on the address, his speech being among the most notable of his long parliamentary career.

PATTULLO ASSAILS SALE OF DEBENTURES

Dealing with the debentures issue, Mr. Pattullo said:

"There is evidence of the kind of administration that we may expect in future in the action of the government with regard to the sale of some \$12,000,000 worth of securities of the province in recent weeks.

"The manner in which the financial affairs of the province have been handled by the new administration is in flagrant violation of the best interests of the province and constitutes a serious breach of trust in respect of the interests of the people.

"Last Sept. 13, an order-in-council was passed approving the terms of agreement between the province and a syndicate of financial corporations making this syndicate the exclusive agents of the province.

Securities Sold

"Under this agreement a large issue of \$6,000,000 securities of the province was sold by private sale and sold at a price higher than had been paid by the province for a number of years; sold also at this price in spite of the fact that shortly afterwards public issues were sold elsewhere, by other provinces, upon a more favorable basis.

"A further issue of \$6,000,000 has also been sold at a higher rate of interest, advertisement of which is now running in the press.

"Mr. Speaker, it was always the practice of our administration to dispose of the securities of the province in open market and I see nothing whatever in the financial situation as to why exclusive control of the sale of long term issues should have been placed in the hands of a private syndicate rather than retained by the government.

"Right at this very moment the government is in the humiliating position of not being in control of its own finances. It cannot go into the market today nor tomorrow to borrow money on securities of the province without consulting with and selling its securities through the syndicate to which I have referred.

"The government is not master of its own house, but is subject to its financial agent. Until Feb. 28 next, no matter how favorable the market may be, the government cannot take advantage of the opportunity to place long term issues except through this syndicate. And I am advised, Mr. Speaker, that at the time it disposed of the first issue of \$6,000,000 that had it gone to the open market it could have obtained a considerably better price than was obtained.

Order Reviewed

"Let us peruse the order-in-council for a moment, which is as follows:

"That in pursuance of section 37 of the 'Revenue Act' and of all other powers thereunto enabling, the following financial houses, namely: Canadian Bank of Commerce, Toronto, Ont.; Dominion Securities Corporation, Toronto, Ont.; A. E. Ames and Company Ltd., Toronto, Ont.; Wood, Gundy and Co., Toronto, Ont.; and Dillon Reid and Company, New York, in the state of New York (hereinafter referred to as 'the agents'), be appointed the exclusive financial agents of the province of the period beginning on the date of the execution of an agreement with the agents in terms of the draft agreement herewith and ending on the 28th day of February, 1929, for the sale of all securities issued and sold by the province during that period, other than treasury bills or notes given to the bankers of the province to secure temporary borrowing but subject to the terms and conditions herein and in the said agreement contained, and that for the purposes aforesaid the minister of finance be authorized to execute on behalf of the province an agreement with the agents in terms of the draft agreement herewith."

"Dated this 13th day of September, A.D. 1928.

"W. C. Shelly, Minister of Finance.

"Approved this 13th day of September, A.D. 1928.

"R. H. Pooley, presiding member of the executive council.

Plans Outlined

"Turning to certain sections of the agreement referred to in the order-in-council, it is seen that by section 1, that before disposing of any securities other than treasury bills or notes that the province must consult its financial agents.

Sec. 2 reads as follows: "That the said securities shall be issued and offered for sale through the agents at such prices or prices, including such allowances in the price to large institutions, banks, bond dealers and other distributors, and generally such usual arrangements for wholesale and retail prices, as may be determined from time to time by consultation between the said minister of finance and the agents."

"There it will be seen that the syndicate will make the usual profits applicable to transactions of this character."

Quoting section 3 of the order-in-council: "That the legality of all the issues of securities shall be established to the satisfaction of the agent's solicitors whose fees in this connection shall be paid by the agents." Mr. Pattullo pointed out that this meant that the province would bear the cost of all solicitor's fees.

Allowances Provided

He continued: "Section 5 is as follows: 'That for the services in advising the province as to all matters connected with the issue of securities as herein mentioned, and for acting as fiscal agents in connection with the sale of securities as aforesaid, the agents shall be paid or allowed from the proceeds of the sales a commission equal to one percent of the face value of the securities so sold.'

"It will be observed that the syndicate is to be paid a commission for tendering advice to the government. We were in office 12 years and we never paid a single dollar of commission to anybody. We sold the issues of the province upon as favorable a basis as obtained by any other province in the Dominion of Canada, or the Dominion of Canada itself, and it did not cost us a single dollar for advice. We considered that we were able ourselves to judge of the time and the opportunity for the disposal of the securities of the province to the best advantage, and the success which we obtained in the disposal of our securities is ample attestation of the solidity of our judgment.

"Paragraph 6 of the order-in-

council anticipates that borrowings may be required up to \$30,000,000 and under the agreement the sum of \$12,000,000 has already been sold and the agreement is still in force until the 28th day of February next. If the whole amount of \$20,000,000 is sold, the syndicate will have been paid \$200,000 for its fiscal advice. In addition to the profits it may make in connection with the sale of securities.

Costs Computed

"Two hundred thousand on a 40-year issue amounts to a tremendous sum and this one transaction on this single item will cost the people of this province during the next 40 years the sum of \$1,400,000 and on the amount of \$12,000,000 already sold, on which \$120,000 must be paid, the sum of \$850,000.

"Mr. Speaker, it is plain that no advantage whatever has accrued to the province through this arrangement and that on the contrary it is going to cost the people of the province a very large sum of money. But even if that were not so, the principle of private sale of bonds is so contrary to sound public policy that it calls for the severest condemnation.

"I said, Mr. Speaker, that the people of the province, in which are included the opposition, have a desire to give the government an opportunity to indicate just what may be expected of it.

"In an important and basic particular the government has given evidence of serious failure to properly conserve the public interests. The opposition feels, therefore, that it would be recreant in its duty if it did not take the first opportunity to make protest against the action of the government in pursuing the course which it has."

He began by associating the opposition with the governmental expressions of rejoicing that the king was recovering from his serious illness. He sedulously and appreciatively attended to all the formalities of an opening speech given in such circumstances.

Speech Examined

Entering on his main theme, he examined the clauses of the Speech from the Throne seriatim. Touching on the paragraph referring to the prosperity of the country, he reminded the House that Premier Toimie had conducted a campaign of blue ruin and pessimism. Why, he asked, this sudden change of attitude? Why was the government now telling them, through His Honor, how prosperous the country was?

Before the election, the premier had undertaken to investigate every field of industrial endeavor with a view to effecting improvements that would keep the boys and girls at home. The opposition wanted to hear about this investigation. There was no indication in the speech of any action being taken as to the P. G. E. The premier had said that after the election he would go over the line and tell them what he was going to do with it. Well, the whole cabinet had gone over the line, but there was no word yet.

A firm of auditors was said to be clarifying the accounts. If the statement that the late government had piled up \$13,000,000 in deficits was an example of the clarification, he did not think much of it. It simply was not true. Only twice had there been a deficit in the current account. What had happened was that in some years they had not met the entire capital expenditure out of current revenue.

Up to this point Mr. Pattullo had spoken in a vein of light irony and sarcasm.

Charges Questioned

He now referred in more serious tones to the charges brought against the liquor administration of the former government. The charges had been made. What was being done to remedy the condition? he asked. Was it true that party patronage was more rampant in the liquor board than ever before? There had been, he declared vehemently, more bitter partisanship in the civil service during the short time the new government had held office than in the whole 12 years of the Liberal administration. Declaring that in view of the lack of reference in the Speech from the Throne to the issues raised in the election campaign, the government evidently acted on the motto: "Platforms were made to get in on, not to stand on." Mr. Pattullo then proceeded to launch his basest attack on the government's fiscal policy.

Deputy Dismissed For Disobedience, Atkinson Asserts

VICTORIA JOTTINGS

Knock 'em Down and Drag 'em Out Fight Promises Lively Tilts Later in B. C. House Session

By J. EDWARD NORCROSS

PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS,

Victoria, Jan. 25.—If the session is to go on the way it has begun, it promises to be a very lively one. On the one hand the government is evidently prepared to take full advantage of its complete command of the House and, on the other, there is an opposition that, following today's performance, is not unlikely to make things as uncomfortable as possible for the

enemy. There was talk at the outset of **CRITICISM** assisting the government while, of **ASSURED** course, reserving the right to offer constructive criticism, but it is safe to say that hereafter any criticism that comes in handy will be used regardless of whether or not, taken in the right spirit, it helps the government. For there was a real old-fashioned knock-'em-down and drag-'em-out affair this afternoon.

To do the opposition justice, they did not begin it, unless Mr. Pattullo's barrage of the day before be regarded in that sense. They listened to Mr. Shelly with attention, while he set out to show that if he had had to go to fiscal agents and pay them a percentage to sell provincial bonds it was the direct consequence of the derelictions of his opponents when they were in office. They did not mind that so much for they thought they knew the answer, but they were rather taken by surprise when Mr. Shelly read a list of 16 allegedly private sales of debentures effected during the Liberal regime.

THEY asked him one or two questions in order to make the position he was taking quite clear, but there were no interruptions that tended to break the thread of his discourse. The courtesy, of course, is one usually extended to any member making his maiden speech and also to any new minister. The House allows for inexperience and is always willing to give the novice a chance to make the best of himself. **MR. SHELLEY** Mr. Shelly, it may be added, **DOES WELL** did very well. It is true he read a large part of his speech, but he would not have been reminded of that later on had not a very tense situation been brought about by the determination of Mr. Pooley to bring to a vote before the House rose on the motion of want of confidence, moved the day before by Mr. Pattullo.

Reading one's speech is against the rules, but of all the rules this is the one most frequently broken. The fiction is that the honorable member is not really reading what he has to say, but referring to copious notes.

It may appear at first sight that it would be a good deal better for a member unaccustomed to addressing so critical an audience to read a considered statement rather than to speak extempore. But the House takes the view that were reading speeches to be allowed, it might often have to listen to the lucubrations of a clever secretary rather than to the first-hand utterances of the member himself. And the House does not care to hear from anonymities, however brilliant, which is why a great deal of the matter that comes before it is taken as read.

Dr. Warnock Given Fair Treatment, House Told

By Staff Correspondent

VICTORIA, Jan. 25.—Replying in the House today to questions put by Dr. H. C. Wrinch, Skeena, Hon. W. Atkinson, minister of agriculture, stated the services of Dr. David Warnock, former minister of agriculture, were dispensed with for deliberate refusal or neglect to carry out the instructions of the minister, that the notice given was what was usual in such circumstances, and that the remuneration to be given in lieu of notice was under consideration, pending receipt of a proper detailed expense account.

Captain Ian Mackenzie, North Vancouver, was informed that the Liquor Control Board had added six returned soldiers to its staff since Aug. 20 and had discharged one.

Questions on immigration, on the proposed West Coast road, and on the cost of administration of the Game Act, following the proposed re-organization, have been placed on the order paper by F. Macpherson, Cranbrook, L. A. Hanna, Alberni, and A. M. Manson, respectively.

Dr. Wrinch has put down questions as to rescission of the appointment of H. H. Mackenzie, of Nelson, as jail surgeon, and asking if William O. Rose, of Nelson, has been given the appointment, and if the said Dr. Rose was formerly a Conservative member in the provincial legislature.

Bills amending the Apiaries Act and the University Endowment Lands Administration Act were introduced today. Bills amending the Agricultural Act, the Contagious Diseases (Animals) Act, the Conditional Sales Act, and the Moving Pictures Act were read a first time.

A petition was presented from the Granby Co. suggesting certain changes in the private bill of the West Kootenay Power Company.

IT WAS quite another pair of shoes when Mr. Manson followed Mr. Shelly. Mr. Manson is an experienced and able debater. He asks for no quarter. He might have appealed to the chair against those who so frequently interrupted him, but he preferred to deal with them himself. And he dealt with them effectively. There is no more ready-witted member on either side. The House probably rather enjoys Mr. Manson's clever fencing, the rapier-like thrusts he deals his opponents, his agility in meeting objections, his skill in getting his blow home regardless of points of order and rulings from the chair, and, perhaps, his tendency to take on anybody even though he is diverted for the time being from his main objective.

Mr. Davie is the most persistent of the swordsmen who try to get under Mr. Manson's guard, but he is seldom a match for the man from Omineca. The member for Cowichan-Newcastle was on his feet this afternoon almost as much as Mr. Manson, raising points of order, some of which were nominally successful, but in the long run failed to achieve their ultimate purpose.

MR. MANSON spoke under a running fire of interruptions and appeals to the chair. This, however, was all in the day's work and so far nobody was a penny the worse. But when Mr. Manson wanted to adjourn so that he could continue his speech Monday, the fireworks began. Mr. Pooley simply would not have it.

Mr. Davie came into action to incur the wrathful attentions of Capt. Ian Mackenzie. Mr. Pattullo, rising majestically and speaking in his best more-in-sorrow-than-in-anger tones, told Mr. Pooley that never, never had the late government refused the opposition the courtesy asked by Mr. Manson. That did not matter to Mr. Pooley. Because the rule had been broken in the past was no reason for breaking it now. This thing was going to be settled that day. Mr. Manson demanded a division and got it with the inevitable result. Capt. Mackenzie then moved the adjournment, thinking that the only question at issue was whether Mr. Manson should speak again or not. He thus lost the chance to speak should his motion be refused.

WITH two of the three big guns across the way out of action, the government obtained a ruling that the motion was out of order and put Capt. Mackenzie out of action, too. After that it was a slaughter. Member after member on the opposition side marched up, put his head on the block and had it chopped off—that is to say he moved the adjournment and was ruled out of order.

"It is magnificent, but it is not war," murmured the Hon. J. Hinchliffe, who nevertheless did his duty by upholding the hands of the speaker, growing weary with so much execution. Even Mr. Uphill, the lone Labor member, immolated himself. Mr. Pattullo, aghast at the carnage, made another appeal to Mr. Pooley who, with arms folded in his best Napoleonic manner, declared he would not give way. At last it was all over and so was the debate on the amendment.

Secret Bond Sales

IT IS impossible to pass over in silence the outstanding feature of the first address delivered in the Legislature by T. D. Pattullo in his new capacity as House Leader of the Liberal party. He referred in very strong terms to the secret agency agreement made last summer between the Tolmie government and a group of banks and bond houses. Under this agreement the government undertook to restrict its funded borrowings to the syndicate until the close of February, 1929. The document was signed on the 13th of September last and the first transaction under its terms was the sale of an issue of \$6,000,000, long term bonds, which were taken up and marketed by the syndicate. Other bonds have since been similarly disposed of, the total now standing at \$12,000,000. The price secured for the first block was not so satisfactory as was that received by the province of Manitoba a few days later, when the latter put an issue of securities on the market in the ordinary open way of public tender.

THE sale of public bonds by private negotiation is no more defensible than is the opening of tenders and the awarding of contracts, for public works in private. No matter how honest may be the minister and officials concerned, or how scrupulous their methods, an air of suspicion always attaches to transactions behind closed doors. If the public does not lose in dollars and cents, it certainly does in confidence. A minister might argue that by private negotiation he could induce a contractor to reduce his tendered price and so save money for the treasury; but such a contention would not be accepted for a moment. The rejoinder would be sharp and unanimous. Better let the people pay the higher price and know that everything is fair, open and above board. Possibly the custom which prevailed in Liberal days, of opening tenders without giving the tenderers an opportunity to see the bids tabled before their eyes, had much to do with last summer's change of government.

METHODS that cannot be tolerated in connection with tenders for public works should not be countenanced for a moment when handling bond issues running into many millions. As a matter of fact, in the case of bonds, even greater precautions are necessary. Tenders for public works are very simple things and are comparatively easily understood. But bonds are complicated, and only few people can quickly appreciate their values. Duration, interest rate and quoted price are all indispensable factors. Moreover, in the case of bonds, margins are much closer. Prices vary in fractions of one percent. As a matter of fact, the one percent commission allowed by the government to the syndicate, on top of the market profits it could make, was in itself a very large profit. Any well established bond house would be glad to take up a \$6,000,000 issue and dispose of it so that it could earn one quarter of one percent.

IT IS probable that when the minister of finance some time after the first press discussion of the sale of bonds by private negotiation, made the statement that he and the government believed in the system of public tender, he spoke the truth. He had undoubtedly learned his lesson by that time. Those in well-informed circles never believed that there had been unworthy motives in connection with the transaction. They disapproved of the course followed, but felt sure that a group of clever financial men had put it all over the minister while he was still very inexperienced. That opinion still prevails, although it comes to them as a shock to find that the government had consented to have its hands tied for so long a period, and, in addition, had paid a handsome bonus to those who tied them.

THE worst feature of the matter is that the order in council covering this transaction is the very one for which Mr. Pattullo was seeking some time ago when he asked to be shown the file. His right to see orders in council was denied, and, for the time being at least, the full story was kept under cover. Mr. Pattullo, as he was bound to do, eventually got the documents. And when he did, he found the material for the address with which he startled the House on Thursday. That there has been a very considerable financial loss is

certain; that there was wilful wrong-doing is not at all likely. As a matter of fact, the possibility of such a thing can be dismissed from consideration. It is to be hoped, however, that the lesson has been learned and that hereafter the sale of public securities will be made in the full light of day.

Finance Minister Defends Sale Of B.C. Debentures

Manson Refused Right to Resume Debate Monday After Long Argument—Statements of Shelly Challenged by Opposition Member

By Staff Correspondent

VICTORIA, Jan. 25.—Following a heated debate, which at times fell to the level of a mere wrangle and a bandying of words across the floor of the House, the amendment to the address moved Thursday by the leader of the opposition was voted down, a division being insisted on by the members on the left.

Before this stage was reached, however, the House witnessed the extraordinary spectacle of member after member on the opposition side rising in his place to move the adjournment of the debate and being successively ruled out of order by the Speaker. An appeal by T. D. Pattullo to the floor leader on the government side, Hon. R. H. Pooley, acting in the absence of the premier, that he allow the debate on the amendment to be continued Monday received a flat refusal. This was a want of confidence motion, Mr. Pooley said, and it was going to be settled that afternoon.

Hon. W. C. Shelly opened for the government and spoke at length in reply to Mr. Pattullo, who the day before had attacked the ministry for selling debentures by private tender. Mr. Shelly spoke very effectively, blaming the previous administration for the necessity which had forced the new government to take this course, and charging that his several Liberal predecessors had done the same thing on no less than 16 occasions.

MANSON DENIES SHELLY CLAIMS

Mr. Manson followed, denying that anything of the kind had occurred during the period in which the Liberals held office, and asserting that the Liberals had abolished the system of appointing fiscal agents and had never paid a cent of commission for the sale of debentures. Mr. Manson spoke under a fairly constant fire of interruption, saying he wanted a little time to go further into the question under discussion. He moved the adjournment of the debate and asked permission of the house to continue his remarks Monday.

Mr. Pooley refused to consider this. Mr. Manson had spoken, he said, and he could not speak again. A very warm discussion followed, two or three members occasionally being on their feet at once. Eventually the house divided on Mr. Manson's motion to adjourn the debate, it being lost on a strictly party division.

Rules Debate Follows

Capt. Ian Mackenzie then moved the adjournment, and another fight over the rules followed, the opposition insisting that while it had been decided that Mr. Manson could not adjourn the debate, it was still open to any other member to do so. The discussion grew heated and rather disorderly. At one stage no less than three points of order were before the Speaker at once. C. F. Davie, Newcastle-Cowichan, maintained a sort of flank attack while the front benches were engaged. Mr. Manson told the Speaker that he was absolutely wrong in his rulings. Captain Mackenzie quoted May, and Mr. Pooley hung extracts from the rules of the house at him in reply.

Captain Mackenzie eventually submitted to the Speaker's decision that he could not move the adjournment. T. Uphill, the only labor member, protested that while he had had nothing whatever to do with the differences that had arisen between the two major parties, he was being prevented from taking part in the debate. He, too, moved its adjournment, and he, too, was ruled out of order. Other

Liberal members adopted the same line until the number was exhausted when, no one rising on the government side, the Speaker put the question and the amendment was lost. The debate on the main motion was then resumed by W. R. Rutledge, Burnaby, and adjourned by E. C. Carson, Lillooet.

Mr. Shelly, resuming the debate on the amendment, said that when the present government took office it found treasury bills amounting to \$14,068,769 would mature Nov. 30 and debentures amounting to \$6,000,000, Jan. 25. This represented an accumulation of financing held over by the MacLean government. Instead of going to the market when prices were more attractive, the above total had been allowed to pile up, he claimed.

"Many overtures were made to the government to clean up this financing, as the market outlook of the future was very discouraging," continued Mr. Shelly. "With this heavy program of financing to do and a constantly curtailed market for provincial bonds, it is self-evident that the position had become a very serious one, and the following is a synopsis of our endeavors to make the most of the unfortunate position in which the former government relegated us, and an unprejudiced mind would readily admit we have been successful in our endeavors."

"It is therefore incumbent upon me to comment upon the financing of these maturities by the past regime, and to utter not only severe criticism, but also an indictment against a policy of inexcusable procrastination which has proved to be very costly indeed to the people of the province. In support of this statement let me cite excerpts from correspondence on file in the treasury, representing most reliable information given by institutions where advice had been sought in the matter."

Letter Quoted

Mr. Shelly then quoted from a letter from the Canadian Bank of Commerce, Victoria, to the deputy minister of finance, dated Jan. 5, 1928, giving the contents of a telegram received from the general manager of the bank, as follows: "Our impression is money rate may become stiffer next few months and long term issue likely to sell on a better basis now than later. Present cost to province 25 to 30-year bonds about \$4.50 or slightly better. Unless there are strong reasons to the contrary, would advise principal \$8,000,000 one operation. Two-year notes would sell about same price. We think 4-4 rate fair at present for temporary financing."

"Strangely enough," said Mr. Shelly, "in the face of such definite advice, no action was taken and the expense of temporary re-funding was resorted to. As expected, money rates became stiffer and stiffer, yet no action was taken to convert their treasury bills. On further inquiry by the treasury department it was learned that the market continued to go against advantageous marketing of securities."

Mr. Shelly here quoted a telegram from Toronto and another from the Canadian Bank of Commerce dispatched last July, before the general election, urging that long-term financing be done at once and advising a fiscal agency. The latter telegram concluded as follows:

"The 1927 market was abnormally favorable. We are not likely to see such favorable rates for some time." Further dilatoriness, Mr. Shelly continued, was not evidenced by a letter of the deputy minister of finance, dated July 23, 1928:

"The outgoing cabinet, unfortunately, is not inclined to enter at present into any new financial obligations for the future and feel disposed to leave this financing for the incoming cabinet. This I very much regret, as I feel a loss will be sustained by the delay."

Financing Left

The outgoing cabinet, said Mr. Shelly, were not inclined to enter on any financing. They were disposed to leave this for the incoming cabinet.

"A very honorable thing to do," said Mr. Pattullo.

Mr. Shelly said Dr. Tolmie was waiting to offer his services, but was not called in. "The honorable member smiles," he went on, "but

he will not smile when I tell him this policy cost the country \$2,000,000.

"The six months' notes were renewed by a further issue of treasury bills in New York, the best obtainable rate therefor being five percent. Finally, it became imperative that conversion of at least part of the treasury bills should take place, and this was accomplished at the most advantageous possible terms, at a time when every evidence pointed to a weak market situation and at a time when many dealers had taken smarting losses in disposing of undigested issues; at a time when New York bankers were paying five-and-a-quarter percent to some European banks for either three or six months' money and ample opportunity for them to loan at higher rates for fixed periods; at a time when one Canadian province had been asked to pay as high as six-and-a-half percent on three months' money."

"After combing every source of information, and having indisputable evidence that the best recourse was a fiscal agency arrangement, this was entered into with a syndicate comprising as powerful and influential group as could be desired, that is, the Canadian Bank of Commerce, A. E. Ames and Co., Ltd., the Dominion Securities Corporation, Wood, Gundy and Co., and Dillon, Read and Co., the last-mentioned of New York, the price for \$6,000,000, the syndicate to receive one percent as marketing charge, at or about same time Ontario sold in London \$10,000,000 paying 5.118 percent, with sterling against them, and Nova Scotia 5 1/2 percent for six months' bills."

Tender Abandoned

"A careful survey will reveal the fact that not one province in Canada has, on account of the peculiar cycle we are passing through, resorted to public tenders since May, 1928. During the year there has accumulated \$215,000,000 of government and high-grade municipal financing. Most of this has been accomplished by short terms (three to nine months) in the hope that the market would recover. This has yet to come to the market."

"The unjustifiable apathy and procrastination of the late administration, reduced in terms of dollars and cents, expresses best the censure it received at the last election. Had the advice been acted upon it would have meant the re-funding of \$8,000,000 at a time when the province could have floated its debentures on a 25-year four percent basis to yield 4.50 percent, the saving to the taxpayers being half of one percent annually in interest charges, or \$40,000 per annum over 25 years, the life of the issue. This principal sum in itself represents \$1,200,000, but its worth to the province is that compounded at four percent to maturity and amounts to \$1,732,469.60."

"The fiscal agency method adopted by this government at this particular time has indeed proved the best, and while it is conceded that public tender, during favorable market conditions,

is by far the preferable course, it would have proved fallacious so to do during the past six months or so, as unprofitable bids would not only have been subject to refusal, but would have tended to impair the provincial credit."

"I would also take this opportunity of mentioning that the former administration found it advisable to make private sales, 16 of these being on record, major among which is the sale of the P.G.E. collateral stock held by the province when \$5,925,195 were sold in 1925 at \$92.50 on a 4-1-2 percent 16-year basis, the yield being 5.19 percent. The leader of the opposition authorized one of these sales when acting minister of finance."

Sales Revealed

Mr. Shelly here read out a long list of sales by private tender varying in amount from \$100,000 to several millions, and continuing at intervals throughout the whole period of the Liberal administration.

Mr. Manson, Omineca, said that when the Liberals assumed office in 1916, the situation was much more difficult than in 1928, but the Brewster administration had done away with fiscal agents and the paying of commissions. The Liberals had never paid commission to a financial house during their whole 12 years of office.

Mr. Manson was continuing to discuss conditions in 1916 when Mr. Davie rose to a point of order, as a result of which the Speaker ruled that Mr. Manson was going too far afield.

"Does it hurt?" asked Mr. Manson. "Surely you are not going to refuse us the right of reply," Mr. Davie enlarged on his point of order.

Mr. Manson objected to the member for Cowichan-Newcastle making a speech.

"I am trying to stop you making a speech," retorted Mr. Davie.

"Does Mr. Manson say they

never paid any commission?" asked Mr. Shelly. "How, then, did they float their 16 private loans?"

"I will deal with that," said Mr. Manson. "We did away with private sales and sold by public tender. Prices improved continually until we received the best price paid in Canada."

High Prices Recounted

He believed that on one occasion they had got a better price than the Dominion, itself, and certainly a better price than any other province.

Under the present system British Columbia was getting a worse price than other provinces, he said. Mr. Manson wondered whether the Speaker, had he been sitting in the seat of the finance minister, would have paid one percent commission, or if the fifth member for Vancouver (Mr. Kirk) would have done so.

Mr. Manson went on to explain that what Mr. Shelly called private sales were not private sales at all. If the government had \$5,000,000 to float, it would not be wise to call for tenders for the whole amount. They would call for tenders for \$5,000,000. The best tender would be accepted. The bidder who obtained the contract would then offer to take over the balance on the same terms a month or two later. No commission would be paid.

"Isn't that the case?" asked Mr. Pattullo, looking towards Mr. Shelly.

Mr. Shelly did not reply. "You should not press the minister," said Mr. Manson.

"There is quite a difference between no sales at all and what we hear today," said Mr. Shelly.

"The minister is in an awkward dilemma," replied Mr. Manson. "He is now admitting that we did not make any private sales at all."

Mr. Maitland asked if any remuneration had been paid.

No Commission Paid

"None whatever by the government," said Mr. Manson. "The bond houses got their remuneration from the purchasers, most of whom were in the United States, Great Britain and other parts of the world, and very few in British Columbia," he continued. "The difference was that the commission was paid by the taxpayers of British Columbia."

Regarding the charge that the retiring government had not been willing to sell bonds, he wondered what would have been said if, right after the election, Dr. MacLean had made a sale of five or ten millions in bonds. It was doubtful whether he would have been justified in asking the governor for his signature.

Replying to Mr. Maitland, Mr. Manson said it would have been totally unconstitutional and unparliamentary to have called Dr. Tolmie into consultation. His Honor might have regarded it as an insult since he had the right to determine for whom he should send as his next adviser. The old government had expected to retire sooner, but there had been impediments.

"You hung on quite a while," said Col. Peck, eliciting the retort that the old government had stepped out of office within 24 hours after it became legally possible for it to do so.

Mr. Maitland, having asked why the old government had not retired some of the bonds before the election, Mr. Manson said opinions differed as to the time to float bonds.

Adjournment Moved

Mr. Manson then moved the adjournment of the debate, expressing the wish that the House allow him to resume Monday. A long and acrimonious discussion followed, in the course of which Mr. Manson's motion was rejected, the government insisting that the debate on a want of confidence motion must be concluded that day. In the end the amendment censuring the government in respect of its fiscal policy was voted down.

Resuming the debate on the address, W. R. Rutledge, Burnaby, dwelt at length on the industrial opportunities that his riding presented and urged the government to spare no effort to have industries located within its boundaries. He advocated further development of motor highways connecting Vancouver and New Westminster, and made a strong plea in favor of state health insurance.

The debate will be continued Monday by E. C. Carson, Lillooet.

VICTORIA JOTTINGS

House Wrangles Over Points of Order Weary Lay Members—Interior M.L.A.'s Outline Wants

By J. EDWARD NORCROSS
PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS, Victoria, Jan. 28.—Three battles on three successive days on points of order are rather too many in the view of the lay members of the house, who take little or no part in them. They are all fights among the lawyers and the ordinary member gets very tired of listening to long readings from the authorities. Mr. Pooley quotes May, and Mr. Manson retorts with a passage from Bourinot.

English precedents are cited and decisions of speakers long dead. Mr. Davie hovers on the flanks of the main contenders and Capt. Ian Mackenzie shoos him off. Mr. Twigg cannot keep out of the fray, and Mr. Hinchliffe intervenes with what he ventures to think

LAY MEMBERS BECOME WEARY

But the other members, who soon lose track of the highly technical argument, get very tired of it, the more so because they know it leads nowhere and that, sooner or later, what Capt. Mackenzie calls the government's mechanical majority will crudely, but effectively, dispose of the whole thing.

"Why can't we get down to real business instead of arguing points of order," demanded Mr. Hayward, of Victoria, today after about 20 minutes of this kind of thing. Mr. Pattullo had risen to a question of privilege. Last week Mr. Manson rose to a question of privilege and, according to the rules, should have moved a resolution.

BUT Mr. Manson had sat down without moving a resolution, as the government side had pointed out when it was too late. This time the government was not to be caught napping. Was Mr. Pattullo going to offer a resolution, asked Mr. Pooley, when

FINANCE HEAD FACES ATTACK

Mr. Pattullo addressed the speaker directly after prayers this afternoon. Yes, indeed, Mr. Pattullo was, and with that assurance the leader of the opposition was allowed to tear to pieces the Hon. W. C. Shelly's statement of last Friday about the way the late government sold bonds. There were no interruptions. Mr. Pattullo kept faith and moved a resolution severely censuring Mr. Shelly.

Now this put the government rather in a hole. If Mr. Shelly replied to the statement that would open a debate which it might be rather difficult to handle. It was one thing to make a statement about finances Friday, that the opposition, taken by surprise, could not adequately meet. But the other side had had the week-end to get up the facts, and, after Mr. Pattullo's exposition of the weaknesses in Mr. Shelly's case of alleged private sales by the late administration there was no telling what else they might have up their sleeves.

ON THE other hand, it was not desirable that Mr. Pattullo's story should go out to the public without a reply of some kind.

It was decided, however, that discretion was the better part of valor and when Mr. Davie discovered that the motion was out of order the government determined to fight the matter out along that line if it took all afternoon. As a matter of fact it took a wearisome 20 minutes in the course of which the opposition hammered home the contention that Mr. Shelly had questioned Mr. Pattullo's veracity and that Mr. Pattullo had proved that he was right and Mr. Shelly wrong, and that the late government had never sold debentures privately. Mr. McKenzie, under guise of discussing the point of order, dealt at length with the real issue. After some time Mr. Hinchliffe informed the Speaker that Capt. Mackenzie was making a speech. "Of course, I am," laughed Capt. Mackenzie, pleasantly assuring the minister of education that the opposition had attained its object.

Victoria Jottings

(Continued from Page 1)

Whether the thing would have been allowed to go so far had Dr. Tolmie been in his place, no one can say, but there is reason to believe that the premier would have brought Ottawa precedents to bear and have had the discussion closed long before the opposition had managed to extract so much enjoyment out of it. Dr. Tolmie, however, was still ill in bed. It is a pleasant side of parliamentary life in British Columbia that a fact of this kind turns wrangling politicians into warm-hearted men at a moment's notice. Mr. Pattullo remarked on the absence of the premier in feeling terms and Mr. Pooley, thanking him, promised to convey his message to the sick room.

DR. TOLMIE STILL ILL
The House then settled down to the debate on the address which was resumed by Mr. Carson, of Lillooet. Mr. Carson does not make the mistake of under-estimating the importance of the district he represents. The youngest member of the House, he made a very creditable maiden speech, in the course of which he ran off the names of a half dozen successive premiers who had promised that Lillooet should have roads.

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IT HAD not got them and the people up there could not live on promises, he said. What Lillooet also needed to build up the country was lower freight rates on the Pacific Great Eastern and a more efficient service. He made the constructive suggestion that miner's consumption should be put on the list of occupational diseases recognized by the Workmen's Compensation Board. He was of the opinion that the government should offer the same assistance to British Columbians desiring to go on the land as it might offer to immigrants.

This latter view was also that of Col. Lister, of Creston, who followed Mr. Carson. Col. Lister made a very snappy speech. If the present government could not take credit for the prosperity of the province, he said, neither could the late government, as British Columbia was prosperous in spite of it. The lumbermen, he understood, were coming down after concessions. They said that they were not making any money. That was their own fault. They did not pay enough attention to overhead. The government had better go slow in this matter, he said, after putting in a word for the irrigationists. Col. Lister told the government he was going to ask for more money for his riding and if he did not get it they would find he was an awkward customer to handle. Amendments to the Fruit Marketing Act would get his support. He had formed a good impression of the minister of public works, but he would tell him that in his opinion when it came to road-making the settler and not the tourist should have first consideration.

LUMBER COSTS UNDER QUESTION
...
neither could the late government, as British Columbia was prosperous in spite of it. The lumbermen, he understood, were coming down after concessions. They said that they were not making any money. That was their own fault. They did not pay enough attention to overhead. The government had better go slow in this matter, he said, after putting in a word for the irrigationists. Col. Lister told the government he was going to ask for more money for his riding and if he did not get it they would find he was an awkward customer to handle. Amendments to the Fruit Marketing Act would get his support. He had formed a good impression of the minister of public works, but he would tell him that in his opinion when it came to road-making the settler and not the tourist should have first consideration.

DR. BORDEN, coming from the self-contained riding of Nelson, which builds its own roads, had little to ask for, so he spoke for the whole of the Kootenays, urging road construction for development purposes. Dr. Borden gave a general review of mining conditions in the territory surrounding Nelson and expressed the opinion that the Slocan district would one of these days have a mine that would rival the famous Sullivan.

It was, in fact, a field day for the Kootenays, for Capt. J. Fitzsimmons of Kaslo-Slocan took up the wondrous tale of the riches hidden in the mountains there. Captain Fitzsimmons made the practical suggestion that mining trails be opened up in the early spring instead of being delayed until late in the season when it was too late to take full advantage of the work done. He pleaded for the little roads, the little roads that led to lonely little settlements, the little roads that were forgotten by everybody, the engineers of the department of public works included. He wanted more money for the little hospitals so that they could care for people who could not afford to pay. Concluding a short, but a telling speech, he gave his opinion of points-of-order wrangles by saying that what the public wanted from the members of the House was action and not talk.

LITTLE ROADS HELD VITAL
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Rod MacKenzie, of Cariboo, who is not too conservative to talk Gaelic with Capt. Ian Mackenzie when they meet in the lobby, adjourned the debate, and Mr. Pooley promptly adjourned the House.

CRESTON WATER SYSTEM URGED

Condition of Land Held Deplorable by Lister

By Staff Correspondent

VICTORIA, Jan. 28.—If the government were to put in a domestic water system, the sordid settlement lands at Creston would soon be re-occupied, Col. Fred Lister, member for the riding, told the House today in the course of the debate on the address. Col. Lister said that the settlers at present had to haul water two or three miles. Conditions on the lands, Col. Lister described as deplorable. Nine-tenths of the houses are empty, the windows broken and the buildings gradually decaying, he said.

Land that was cleared at great cost is now covered with noxious weeds, so that it is impossible for the few remaining settlers to keep their land clean, he added. He asked the minister of agriculture to make some attempt to have weeds kept down.

Leader of Opposition Challenges Allegations of Finance Minister On Liberal Sale of Debentures

House Rejects Resolution "Expressing Regret" Over Claims

MEMBERS CLASH

Speaker Rules Motion Out After Heated Debate on Eligibility

By Staff Correspondent

VICTORIA, Jan. 8.—Taking the whole list, item by item, T. D. Pattullo, Prince Rupert, replied today to the assertion of Hon. W. C. Shelly that on 16 different occasions the late administration had disposed of provincial debentures by private sale.

The minister of finance stated this last Friday in the course of his reply to criticisms directed by the leader of the opposition on the previous day against the present government's action in selling \$12,000,000 worth of debentures without calling for tenders.

Friday's debate on the question was brought to an end by the government's refusal to permit an adjournment until today.

Privilege Asked

As the matter could not be reopened as part of the proceedings in the debate on the address, Mr. Pattullo, at the opening of the house today, rose to a question of privilege, taking the ground that, as one of the late government, he had the right to take exception to statements misrepresenting the actions of that government, questions of fact being involved.

Concluding his address, in which he showed exactly what had been done in each of the cases adduced by Mr. Shelly, and averred that none of them could be fairly described as private sales, Mr. Pattullo moved a resolution expressing the regret of the house that the minister of finance had submitted erroneous and incomplete information in this connection.

Objection Voiced

Objection was at once taken that the motion was out of order, and after a discussion that lasted for half an hour, the Speaker ruled against it.

Mr. Pattullo was heard without interruption, the house listening attentively.

There was a short pause after he resumed his seat. C. F. Davie, Cowichan-Newcastle, objected that the motion was out of order as two days' notice had not been given. Mr. Pooley said under the

rules it was a question for the Speaker whether or not the motion was sufficiently important to make it incumbent on the house to discuss it at once.

"If the government has any hesitancy about voting the motion down," said Mr. Pattullo, "I am quite willing to have it stand on the order paper for two days."

Lawyer members of the house continued the discussion, which became acrimonious as it progressed. Mr. Davie and Captain Ian Mackenzie had several verbal encounters, and, in the course of one of them, the member for North Vancouver, referring to Mr. Davie, remarked that he was glad they had a new dictator in the house and made some reference to Bolshevik practices, drawing on himself a rebuke from the Speaker, who said the member for North Vancouver must not apply such terms to other members of the House.

Pattullo Submits Statement

VICTORIA, Jan. 28.—The following statement was made today in the House by T. D. Pattullo, leader of the opposition:

"I rise to a question of privilege. In the proceedings of this House Friday afternoon, the Honorable, the Attorney-General passed across to me a document purporting to be an order-in-council signed by me as acting minister of finance with respect to the subject matter of which the Honorable, the Minister of Finance, stated to this House, that I had been a party to the sale of debentures of the province by private sale, and the order referred to, signed by myself as acting minister of finance, was quoted by the Minister of Finance as proof thereof.



T. D. PATTULLO

"The government did not see fit to allow adjournment of the debate, and consequently, opportunity was not afforded to check up the statements made by the Minister of Finance with the facts, as on file in the finance department.

"I am sure that this House desires to be seized of correct information and I would point out that there is nothing in the order-in-council quoted by the Minister of Finance, and signed by me to authorize specifically sale of debentures by private sale and I wish the House to know as a matter of fact that the debentures which were sold under the authority of the order-in-council, were part of a larger issue which had been sold by public tender and the issue referred to in the order-in-council, namely \$310,000, was awarded to the syndicate which had secured the larger award by public tender, at the price of the public tender.

"In the statement submitted by the Minister of Finance it is indicated that some \$18,800,000 of securities of the province were sold by private sale by our administration. That statement is very misleading.

T. Uphill, Labor member for Fernie, made a diversion by advising the opposition to accept the government's apology, and R. Hayward, Victoria, suggested that Mr. Pattullo's offer to put his motion on the order paper be accepted, so that the house could get down to real work instead of arguing points of order.

Eventually, after long quotations had been read from Bourinot, May and the rules of the legislature, and argued over, the Speaker ruled the motion out of order and the debate on the address was resumed by E. C. Carson, Lillooet.

"Of the 16 items quoted by the minister as having been sold by private sale, in five of them aggregating \$1,100,000, the sale was made to the Workmen's Compensation Board. I do not think anyone will look upon a sale of B. C. securities to the Workmen's Compensation Board as a private sale.

"The item of \$5,900,000 quoted by the minister consisted of Pacific Great Eastern collateral stock guaranteed by the province. The Pacific Great Eastern is a corporate body by itself and guaranteed collateral stock was in an entirely different position from the ordinary securities of the province.

"Another item mentioned by the minister of \$4,000,000 was nothing more nor less than a six months' note of hand and was disposed of just as an ordinary treasury note is sold to the Bank of Commerce, and cost only 4.37 percent.

"Of the balance of approximately \$7,500,000 referred to by the minister as having been sold by private sale, this additional amount was only awarded after tenders had been first called and a price had been obtained by public tender.

"During the time that our administration was in office we disposed of over \$92,000,000 of securities, direct obligation of the province, and approximately \$6,000,000 indirect obligations guaranteeing Pacific Great Eastern collateral stock. Of this amount of \$98,000,000, the minister of finance only alleges that we sold \$18,800,000 by private sale, so that even if his statement were correct, which it is not, that would leave approximately \$80,000,000 sold by public tender, which is an indication beyond question of just what our policy was.

"But the statements of the minister of finance in connection with the amount of \$18,800,000 is grossly mis-representative, and I trust that I have made it clear to the House that the statement which I made to this House as to our policy was in no sense incorrect, and that on the contrary, the minister of finance gave a very wrong impression to this House as to my personal attitude upon this issue.

"I wish to move therefore, seconded by the Honorable Member for Omicameca, as follows:

"This House regrets that the Honorable, the Minister of Finance, in dealing with the question of sale of provincial securities during the course of his speech Friday afternoon, Jan. 25, submitted to this House, incomplete and erroneous information which was misrepresentative of the real facts."

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30, 1929

B. C. OFFERS \$1 STEEL BOUNTY

\$20,000 Maximum Annually Set in New Bill

By Staff Correspondent

VICTORIA, Jan. 29.—The government's iron and steel bounties bill was brought down today.

It continues to hang up the \$3 bounty on pig iron manufactured within the province from B. C. ore and of half that amount per ton when the ore is imported.

A new provision offers a bounty of \$1 per ton on steel shapes of commercial utility and is designed to encourage the manufacture of steel by plants having an annual capacity of at least 20,000 tons. The total sum payable in any one year is not to exceed \$30,000.

On pig iron the total sum which may be given in bounties in a five-year period is set at \$2,000,000.

New Sergeant-At-Arms In B.C. House Boasts Brilliant War Record

Lt.-Col. A. W. Woods, D.S.O., the newly-appointed sergeant-at-arms in B. C. Legislature, boasts a distinguished career during the Great War. Formerly rector of St. Margaret's Anglican Church, Winnipeg, Col. Woods enlisted in August, 1914, in the 90th Winnipeg Rifles and accompanied that unit to France in February, 1915, as padre. February, 1916, he was promoted major and senior chaplain of the 3rd Division. In 1917 he was mentioned in dispatches, awarded the D.S.O. and promoted lieutenant-colonel. He has the distinction of having been present at every engagement in which the Canadian Corps took part until the end of August, 1918, when he suffered a breakdown and was compelled to return to Canada. Giving up his clerical vocation, due to ill-health, Col. Woods took up his residence in British Columbia and located at Gordon Head, Vancouver Island.



—Photo by Steffens-Colmer, Victoria
LIEUT.-COL. A. W. WOODS

VICTORIA JOTTINGS

**Mr. Manson Fails in Effort
to Launch Elections Act
Inquiry—Dr. Wrinch
Urges Health
Insurance**

BY J. EDWARD NORCROSS
PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS,
Victoria, Jan. 29.—It is no use, Mr. Manson, charm he ever so wisely, cannot charm this government into letting him get away with a motion appointing a committee to investigate the working of the elections act and more particularly that part of it relating to absentee ballots.

A resolution to this effect has stood on the order paper for some days and, as there was nothing particular to do this afternoon, the continued absence of Dr. Tolmie

slowing down the machinery, the House spent some time discussing it.

**RESOLUTION
DISCUSSED** "Come let us reason together," said Mr. Manson in effect to Mr. Pooley. The general election was over and its events were still fresh in the memories of the members. The next general election was a long way off, and consequently there would be no occasion for those displays of partisanship in which, he regretted to say, they were all addicted when the battles of the ballots was about to rage. He had heard that the mark showed through some ballot papers so that close observers could tell how a man voted. Then again the ballot was so constructed that it was comparatively easy to put the mark in a place other than that prescribed by the act. Furthermore the absentee ballot might need improvement.

If, however, Mr. Manson was mellifluous, Mr. Hinchliffe, who followed him, was acridulous. He could not understand why Mr. Manson was so solicitous now about the elections act seeing that in 1924 he had taken no interest in the complaints from the Conservative side of the House. The motion was unnecessary. The legislature had plenty to do. The inquiry would be an absolute waste of time.

MR. PEARSON, of Nanaimo, thereupon made his maiden speech. He said that if people realized to what extent the ballot was not secret they would demand an inquiry. He knew of an employer who had been given the names of those of his employees who voted against him and it was fortunate for those employees that their employer was a fair man. Mr. Pooley intimated that the new government would take care of the quality of the paper in future elections.

Mr. Pattullo gave general support to Mr. Manson. Mr. McKenzie, minister of mines, speaking of absentee voting, made a significant repetition. "If absentee voting is to be retained—some different method is needed." He said the absentee ballot was not secret owing to the way the ballots were segregated.

**McBRIDE TYPE
OF BALLOT PRAISED** As to ordinary ballots, the old McBride ballot, which had been changed by the late government, was fool-proof. He did not blame any voter for objecting to having to hand his ballot back to the returning officer, as any clever returning officer could tell how each vote was cast up to 90 percent of the total. The necessary changes would be made before another election.

Mr. Manson, closing the debate, said Mr. McKenzie had justified his resolution. He really liked the way Mr. McKenzie had spoken. It was so refreshingly different from that adopted by Mr. Hinchliffe, who had evidently been in a partisan mood.

JUST why the government side lays its ears back when Mr. Manson opens in a particularly amiable way was now illustrated, for Mr. Manson exploded the bomb for which the government had been waiting. Two seats in the House, he said, were occupied by members who had not secured a majority of the votes cast.

Mr. Pooley at once asked for further particulars.

But not by a great deal was Mr. Manson going to give them. Far be it from him, if they were not going to have an inquiry, to throw a cloud on the representation of any riding.

**MANY BALLOTS
THROWN OUT** In the general election 3,259 ballots had been rejected, he said, because the cross was marked outside the proper square. Then, in his best "appeal to reason" manner, Mr. Manson concluded by saying that he had offered his resolution in a fair spirit.

Mr. Pattullo demanded a division and the resolution was lost on a straight party vote.

WHETHER Dr. Wrinch will have any better luck with his resolution to appoint a committee to go into health insurance remains to be seen. Dr. Wrinch, speaking to it, said that while the principle was generally approved, people shied at the expense, which one authority had set down as five millions. This, however, would not be the expense to the government, as the beneficiaries would have to pay a large share. Anyway, the thing could not be accomplished in a single session. It would take time, and those who were in a hurry for health insurance must be patient.

Mr. Pearson adjourned the debate and, in view of the sweet reasonableness of Dr. Wrinch, who is known to have his heart set on accomplishing something towards establishing a system of health insurance, and who is popular on both sides of the House, it would not be surprising if the government let the resolution go through. They may amend it a little first, however.

IT WILL be recalled that Mr. Walkem, directly the session opened, put a resolution on the order paper directing the government to go slow in leasing False Creek tidal lands. This, however, is a question of government policy and government supporters are supposed to wait and see what the government policy is and not to lay it down for the ministry on the order paper. It was all right to suggest policy when Mr. Walkem was a member of the opposition, but it is quite different now. This may or may not have been pointed out to the sixth member for Vancouver. Be that as it may, he asked leave of the House to withdraw his motion today, and, of course, got it.

ON THE whole it was rather a dullish sort of day. Mr. MacKenzie, of Cariboo, resumed the debate on the address and cheered the members up by telling them how much better the weather was in Cariboo than in Victoria. But then, he went on, they had honest thermometers in Cariboo.

Like other members from up-country, Mr. MacKenzie told the minister of public works what a fine man he was, and then went on to

remind him that the roads in his territory really stood in dire need of larger appropriations. Mr. Mac-

**EXTENSION OF
P. G. E. URGED** McKenzie pressed for completion of the Pacific Great Eastern at the northerly end. The southern end could wait, he said, and thereupon friendship ceased between him and the other Gaelic-speaking Mackenzie, the one from North Vancouver. The member for Cariboo paid a notable compliment to the late government. He said the MacLean administration had left in Cariboo the best civil servants the district had ever had. Mr. MacKenzie interspersed his speech with a number of humorous asides.

MR. UPHILL, of Fernie, followed and amused himself by relating the inconsistencies of the two major parties on the tariff issue as illustrated by the Conservative demand for a reduction of the duty on coal and the promotion of an application for a higher duty by the free trade province of Alberta. He observed that the new government had not discharged any officials in his district. He would not say that that was because they were all Conservatives; but he was quite sure none of them had voted Labor. Mr. Uphill made a strong plea for the completion of the road to Corbin, work on which had been stopped by the present government.

Mr. Cornett, South Vancouver, adjourned the debate and Mr. Pooley took occasion to inform the opposition, only one of whom has so far spoken, that the government proposed to close the debate early next week and they had better put their men up if they intended to do so.

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Pooley Rejects Appeal Against Censorship Bill

3 WEEKS GIVEN TO DELEGATES

Municipal Committee Sets Feb. 19 Deadline

By Staff Correspondent
 VICTORIA, Jan. 29.—Three weeks will be allowed delegations in which to appear before the municipal committee of the legislature, the committee having fixed Feb. 19 as the dead line when it held its first meeting today. The executive of the Union of B. C. Municipalities will be heard Feb. 5 and succeeding days.
 F. A. McDiarmid, solicitor for Grand Forks, appeared today and asked for legislation to enable it to own the stock of the Grand Forks Light & Water Company, which it had acquired from the Granby Company, and so retain priority of the water licenses involved.
 The committee approved a request from New Westminster that companies in which members of school boards held stock should not be precluded from doing business with boards of school trustees, mayors and aldermen not being subject to this disqualification. A request that more time be allowed for the preparation of school board estimates, which now have to be laid before city councils by Feb. 15, was not acted upon.

VETERANS KEEP POSTS IN GOVT.

Ministers Table Replies to Mackenzie Queries

By Staff Correspondent
 VICTORIA, Jan. 29.—The government staged a little play of its own Monday. Minister after minister got up and tabled replies to Capt. Ian Mackenzie's questions about discharging returned soldiers from government employment.
 Captain Mackenzie had asked in every instance six identical questions calculated to show how many returned men were on the pay roll when the old government retired, how many are on now and how many have been discharged.
 Mr. Atkinson said he found 23 overseas men in the department, and they were all there still. Mr. Shelly had put three more on in place of one who had resigned.
 Mr. MacKenzie had retained eight left in the department of mines by his predecessor and had engaged no others. Mr. Hinchliffe had kept his 14 overseas men and, although the aggregate number of men in the department had been decreased by one, had managed to find room for a 15th veteran.
 Mr. Pooley informed Mr. Mackenzie there were 63 licensed beer parlors in Vancouver when he took office and that there were still 63. Asked if any licenses had been granted since Aug. 29 he again replied 63, remarking, however, that they were all year-end renewals.

Government Committed to Enactment of Legislation

By Staff Correspondent
 VICTORIA, Jan. 29.—Attorney-General R. H. Pooley burned his bridges behind him today when he told a delegation of moving picture theatre owners that his bill for the censorship of moving pictures advertising was going through unamended if he had his way about it. Since Mr. Pooley is a minister, his statement commits the government to his proposals. These, it now appears, go farther than was at first revealed, for the censorship, Mr. Pooley stated, would also be applied to vaudeville houses.
 The only concession made by the attorney-general was a promise to give favorable consideration to a suggestion that a board of appeal be established, so that picture theatre advertising would not be entirely at the mercy of the official censors.
 Mr. Pooley, however, said that the purport of the bill was not fully understood. It would apply only to advertisements displaying material that had been cut out of the films by the censors, he said.
 J. R. Muir, manager of one of the largest chains of theatres in the province, and R. Rowe Holland, barrister, put the case for the film industry before Mr. Pooley. Objection was taken to the censorship of advertising on the ground that owing to the time it took to prepare the ornate pictorial advertisements of moving pictures and the heavy expense involved, it would be practically impossible to replace them. The theatres, in any event, were liable to prosecution if obscene matter appeared in their advertisements. The legislation proposed, it was declared, was paternalistic to an objectionable degree.
 Present indications are that there will be strong opposition to the bill when it reaches the floor of the House and the government may have some difficulty in holding all its own followers in line over the measure.

INDUSTRIES BOARD EXPECTED TO END SERVICE SHORTLY

By Staff Correspondent
 VICTORIA, Jan. 29.—With both government and opposition agreed that the Industries Department has outlived its usefulness, it is expected that it will shortly pass out of existence. When the public accounts committee met today, the chairman, Geo. A. Walkem, said he would like to see the industries that had borrowed money from the government go somewhere else for their funds, a view which A. M. Manson, who leads the Liberal representation on the committee, promptly expressed his agreement. Incidentally Col. D. B. Martyn, deputy commissioner of industries, appeared before the committee in a suit of serge, the cloth for which was manufactured in the plant of one of the aided industries, the Burrard Knitting Mills. It was, he said, the first fine serge manufactured in the province. The Burrard Knitting Mills, Col. Martyn continued, had been re-organized and since re-organization the payments on the loan of \$58,000 had been maintained on schedule.

NEW BILL GIVES PROTECTION TO QUARRY CREWS

Defect in Mines Act to Be Remedied by House

JOB'S VALIDATED

Blanket Measure to Come to Rescue of Civil Servants

VICTORIA, Jan. 29.—Men working in coal mines or other mines are protected by government regulations set forth in a number of acts and amending acts. It has just been discovered, however, that quarrymen are taking all kinds of chances without a single page of the revised statutes to protect them. This is to be remedied at once, the minister of mines having brought in a bill today to regulate the operation of the quarries. This provides for the inspection of quarries and gives the government power to enact regulations for the safety of the quarry workers.
 Another legislative sin of omission is to be atoned for in a bill amending the Civil Service Act. It seems that, on technical grounds, a number of appointments to the civil service are invalid. Men have been appointed to departments without being recommended by the deputy minister, for the reason that the department did not have a deputy minister. So all appointments to date are to be given a blanket validation and future appointments will be deemed orthodox if they have gone through by order-in-council, no matter how many formalities may have been neglected.
Business Cleared
 The order paper has been practically cleared of resolutions, the only one remaining being that of Mr. Pattullo, the object of which is to make orders-in-council available for perusal to all and sundry. This resolution will probably be allowed to stand until Premier Tolmie returns to the House.
 On the other hand, although the government is answering questions with commendable celerity, the number awaiting answers is steadily increasing. The Conservatives are now beginning to take a hand in the great game of questions and answers. Col. Lister of Creston has put down five sets aggregating 46 separate queries on the several land projects and soldier settlement schemes initiated by the late government and nine more questions on Sumas for good measure. Col. Feck, who sits for The Islands, has suddenly taken a great interest in the cost of clearing rock slides off the Cariboo Highway during the last three years.
Questions Answered
 In the answers filed today, Ian Mackenzie learns that Mr. Howe has added two overseas men to his staff and has discharged none, and Dr. H. C. Wrinch is told that Dr. H. E. MacKenzie is no longer jail surgeon at Nelson because of his activity in politics. It is admitted that Dr. W. O. Rose, former Conservative member for Nelson, now holds the appointment.

B.C. Government To Wipe Out Legislative Anomalies

THURSDAY, JANUARY 31, 1929

BILL TO CONFER WIDE POWER ON DEPT. OF MINES

Designation of Mineral Survey Districts Proposed

PRIVILEGE PROVIDED

Protection of Investors Also Extended by Proposals

By Staff Correspondent

VICTORIA, Jan. 29.—Extensive powers are conferred on the minister of mines and officials of the department by a bill read a first time today, entitled "An Act Respecting Mineral Survey and Development".

Under the proposed measure mineral survey districts may be declared anywhere in the province and put under resident engineers who are to carry on continuously a mineral survey of the districts to which they are assigned in the course of which they may, at will, enter any metalliferous mine, mining property, reduction works or concentration plant, the owners being compelled to admit them under heavy penalties.

Reports Privileged

Reports by resident engineers are to be absolutely privileged, persons who may hold themselves injured by such reports being debarred from taking action in the courts against the officials.

Resident engineers are precluded from acquiring interests of any kind in mining properties within their districts.

Several clauses are devoted to provisions for the protection of investors. If shares in a mining company are being advertised for sale upon statements either of fact or opinion, which are not in accord with the actual facts and conditions as shown by the report of a resident engineer or other official of the department, the minister of mines may give such notices by telegraphic dispatch, letter, bulletin, or otherwise as he considers necessary to prevent injury to investors.

Reports Required

These notices also are to be deemed absolutely privileged. Copies of all pamphlets, bulletins, circulars, advertisements or other publications relating to any mining property must be filed with the resident engineer and also forwarded to the department.

B.C. Minister of Education Proposes Many Changes In Provincial School Act

Higher Salaries for Rural Teachers Suggested—Inspector Gordon Designated Superintendent of City Institutions

By Staff Correspondent

VICTORIA, Jan. 30.—Beginning of a beneficial revolution in the educational system of the province as it effects rural schools outside municipal areas is perceptible in one of a number of proposed amendments to the Public Schools Act contained in a bill brought in today by the minister of education. Rural schools, hitherto, have suffered by constant changes of teacher, since only by going on to a school where more money was paid could a teacher obtain better remuneration.

It is now proposed to encourage teachers to stay on in rural schools by increasing the salaries year by year after the two years' service. The maximum increase in any one year will be \$100.

Statutory authority is given for appointment of an official to look into the social and living conditions under which teachers are employed in rural districts, a position created some months ago when Miss Bowron, of Victoria, received the appointment.

AUTHORITY PROVIDES FOR OTHER CHARGES

Statutory authority is also given for establishing correspondence courses and summer schools, and for buying books and school supplies and selling or distributing them free. These functions have heretofore been validated by annual enactments providing the funds.

A special section creates the municipal school inspector of Vancouver, "superintendent of schools of Vancouver," provision being made that the appointment shall be held in the first instance by the present incumbent of the former office, Inspector Gordon. Vancouver board is given power to appoint city inspectors to act under the superintendent.

An important feature of the bill, which, as a whole goes farther in (Continued on Page 2)

CHANGE MOOTED IN SCHOOL ACT

Minister of Education Submits Bill

(Continued from Page 1) modifying the public schools act than any measure brought down for years, is found in certain clauses which are, in effect, a first step towards equalization of the burden of school maintenance. A large number of rural districts do not now pay anything towards the salaries of their teachers, the government in cases where the total assessed value of the property in the district falls below \$150,000 meeting the whole expense. Hereafter such districts will be required to pay a levy of three mills on the dollar towards salaries. Special legislation, passed many years ago, exempts the rural schools in unorganized districts within the E and N Railway belt from school taxes, the cost of these schools being a charge on the provincial treasury. This exemption is to be removed and the schools placed on the same basis as other rural schools.

Qualifications of trustees and voters in rural districts have been amended, it being provided that aliens cannot vote in school trustee elections, that trustees must be 21 years of age and also square on the books as regards their school taxes and, that a man and his wife cannot both sit on a board of trustees. Power is given school trustees to provide eye glasses for indigent pupils. School districts where there are no high schools must pay for tuition of residents of school age should they attend high schools in neighboring districts. Maximum number of pupils under a single teacher in rural schools is reduced from 40 to 35. The bill was read a first time.

B. C. TO CALL FACTORY LOANS

Companies to Pay Up or
Secure Private
Financing

\$886,565 OWED

VICTORY, Jan. 30.—The policy of the government as announced through G. A. Walkem, chairman of the public accounts committee of the legislature, of clearing up all loans made by the department of industries either by collection or transferring them as soon as arrangements can be made by interesting new private capital, featured the meeting of the committee this morning.

The chairman declared his intention at the close of the meeting to keep politics out of the discussions. The public accounts committee was one that should be absolutely free of politics, he said, so much so that it was the custom in England to name a member of the opposition chairman. A. M. Manson and Ian Mackenzie, Liberals, cordially agreed with him.

Col. Don Martyn presented another list of loans with particulars of the standing of the industries. He came in for some criticism from the chairman for advancing loans to competitive industries, "putting the government in the position of competing against itself in some instances or helping to finance an industry against an established industry in others."

(Continued on Page 2)

PROVINCE TO CALL FOR SETTLEMENT OF ALL INDUSTRY LOANS

Government Funds Used to Aid Competitive Plants,
Walkem Asserts—Politics Shelved From Question,
House Committee Told by Chairman

(Continued from Page 1)

This situation had arisen to a great extent through sympathy with returned soldiers, Col. Martyn explained.

Figures of the department were before the committee and will be reviewed again Thursday, while the clerk of the finance department, who prepared them, will be asked to explain them in detail.

\$886,565 Owed

They show that up to Dec. 31, the department has advanced \$1,573,884.86. The repayments amount to \$587,319.71. The sum of \$100,000 has been written off, to which may be added another \$50,000. The balance due the department is \$886,565.15.

Against this taxes and payroll should be written on the credit side, Mr. Manson claimed.

The chairman protested that to do that it must be assumed that the plants and industries would have been idle but for government assistance. The competitive side of some of these industries must also be taken into consideration, he said.

Another list of industries helped, the amounts loaned, and the repayments made to the government with notations of the business done by the industries was presented to the committee. As they were examined the chairman repeatedly asked why the loans could not be cleaned up or why other interests could not be secured to invest in the companies and clear the government from being troubled with them further.

Loans Listed

Loans outstanding, Jan. 1, Col. Martyn said were:

	Principal	Interest
Aetna Saw Works	\$ 9,315.87	\$
Bluebird Shingle Co.	2,118.74	.....
Burrard Knitting Mills	18,079.04	1,859.78
Wm. Cooke & Co.	31,323.14	238.53
Canadian Diesel Engines	7,200.00	349.79
Canada Dolls Limited	2,554.52	.....
Canada Western Cordage Co. Ltd.	230,161.67	.....
Canadian Western Woodworkers	15,000.00	3,298.27
Cut-to-Fit Buildings Co. Ltd.	66,410.14	16,314.48
Diamond Lumber & Shingle Co.	12,426.85	3,147.13
Empire Brewing Co.	4,057.73	213.47
George, P. E.	1,615.00	165.53
Gordon Campbell Investment Co.	36,800.00	2,340.95
Great West Mfg. Co. Ltd.	5,794.70	.....
Henson & Dyson	3,682.72	1,103.88
Hiker Mfg. Co.	3,275.00	80.97
A. R. Johnson	2,260.73	821.95
Langley Electrical Co.	2,400.00	31.15
Lapsed Loan Account	61,742.61	19,725.27
Merritt Industries Ltd.	3,500.55	20.27
J. I. Mutter	7,000.00	.....
McLeod Box Co.	2,213.67	218.75
N. M. & R. Fish Co.	5,935.43	1,877.29
Pacific Bolt Mfg. Co.	66,300.00	408.15
Peerless Brick & Tile Co.	46,349.82	3,532.96
Sayward Trading Co.	5,376.51	826.17
San Juan Box Co.	.....	58.90
Sewell, D.	21,956.28	464.24
Simpson, R.	13,111.57	1,281.32
Star Construction Co.	18,910.99	2,082.24
Tacey, J. R. & Co.	9,891.35	82.93
Tait Pipe & Foundry Co.	15,000.00	.....
Vancouver Pickle Co. Ltd.	.....	3.52
Van Loo Cigar Co.	15,500.00	173.25
Victor Lumber Co.	6,134.23	.....
Vivian Gas Engine Co.	12,500.00	.....
Wakefield, E. J.	994.80	328.06
Waters, T. H. & Co.	21,504.82	3,808.63
Welsh Anthracite Ltd.	9,529.72	289.38
Western Abrasive Paper Co.	6,495.78	337.12
Western Textiles Ltd.	43,936.20	1,770.20
Western Toy & Furniture Co. Ltd.	25,553.55	8,983.49
Wonder Pump & Engine Co. Ltd.	7,702.08	1,802.66

VICTORIA JOTTINGS

Continued Absence of Premier Slows House Progress—Mr. Hinchliffe Offers Bill to Change Public Schools Act

By J. EDWARD NORCROSS

PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS,

Victoria, Jan. 30.—With the premier still absent the tempo of the House was again slow today. Latest advices are that, while he is much better, he is not likely to be seen in his place before Monday. On the whole, however, a fair amount of work was done. Two bills got as far as second reading and second reading debates on a number of others were begun. Mr. Pearson resumed the debate on Dr. Wrinch's state health insurance resolution and Mr. Hinchliffe brought in possibly the most constructive piece of legislation so far presented to the new House, a bill making some very radical changes in the Public Schools Act. It may be stated here, however, that there is nothing in the bill that will remedy the state of affairs in municipal and city school districts complained of by Mr. Cornett.

The member for South Vancouver resumed the debate on the address at the opening of the House. Mr. Cornett is a good speaker. With a little practice he bids fair

to become a valuable addition to the debating squad on the

government side. He began by complimenting Captain Ian Mackenzie on the skill with which he had piloted the Vancouver amalgamation bill through the House last session. He disagreed with Mr. Walkem on the method of electing members for Vancouver, saying he preferred the present block system to the single-member system. Touching on education, he said that out of a rate of 50 mills in South Vancouver, 27.43 had gone to the schools. In Alberni, Cranbrook, Nanaimo and Rossland, with slightly lower rates, the proportion paid for schools was even higher. The charge, he insisted, should come in large part from the provincial treasury.

(Continued on Page 4)

Victoria Jottings

(Continued from Page 1)

JR. MITCHELL, of Kamloops, who followed, proclaimed his city as the capital of the interior and a noteworthy railway centre. It had an additional claim to fame, since it was there that the provincial Conservative party found its present leader, he said. The members from the Okanagan and Grand Forks countries sat up when Mr. Mitchell said Kamloops grew the best flavored and best colored apples in the province. Mr. Mitchell intimated that he would be quite satisfied for this year if the government would give him a bridge across the North Thompson and a road up the North Thompson Valley to connect with the road from Alberta.

Dr. C. M. Kingston, of Grand Forks-Greenwood, told the sad story of the irrigationists of his riding. For years they had implored the late government to help them to get water on to their lands. At last, Dr. Kingston said, the government had consented. The work had cost \$225,000.

BIG SYSTEM FACES ATTACK
The farmers were now in difficulties because they had to pay \$14 an acre. It was all the late government's fault, the member declared, because, instead of putting in several small systems they had put in one big system. It followed that the present government ought to assume, perhaps not all the burden, but at least a good part of it. Anyway they expected relief from this government and Dr. Kingston made no bones about telling the ministers that it would have to be very considerable relief or all the land in at least one of the units would be back on the hands of the government.

THE Hon. R. Bruhn adjourned the debate and Mr. Pooley again warned the opposition that the day of grace was fast passing away and that if they wanted to speak they had better speak soon. This rather nettled Mr. Pattullo, who pointed out that, except Mr. Shelly, not one of the ministers had yet spoken. The opposition wanted the ministers to give some account of what they had been doing.

"The ministers are not on trial," snapped back Mr. Pooley. "They will speak when they are ready."

This brought Mr. Manson to his feet. "We have some rights on this side of the House," he told Mr. Pooley. "We propose to use them at the proper time."

"Well that time's come now," retorted Mr. Pooley.

This little flash of temper, however, was exceptional on Mr. Pooley's part. The acting leader of the government, in fact, was most urbane in his other dealings with the opposition. He was in very good form in the occasional bantering episodes that occurred.

MR. POOLEY IMPRESSES
On the whole, Mr. Pooley shows up better on the treasury benches than he did on the other side of the House. He makes it quite clear that he is the autocrat but, if he is allowed, he will be a benevolent autocrat. Only Mr. Manson, in particular, must understand that things have changed since July 18.

G.S. PEARSON, of Nanaimo, resumed the discussion on Dr. Wrinch's resolution to set up an inquiry into state health insurance. Mr. Pearson is another promising speaker and as he is on the Liberal side he will be useful in the second line that will have to be formed behind the Three Musketeers on the front bench, the redoubtable Pattullo, the subtle Manson, and the Prince Rupert of debate, the Gael from North Vancouver. In sum, Mr. Pearson stated the need of state insurance for the vast mass of people of small earnings, to whom ill-health, whether of the bread-winner or of the members of his family, was at present frequently the cause of financial disaster.

"It makes of him," said Mr. Pearson, "an economic bankrupt, ashamed to look the world in the face. It impoverishes his soul and either breaks his spirit or makes him a social degenerate, sore at himself, sore at the world and a ready victim to the nostrums of any glib-tongued social orator."

RESOLUTION SUPPORTED
He asked the House to rise above partizanship in dealing with this question.

Mr. Rutledge, who has placed an amendment to the resolution on the order paper, adjourned the debate. In principle, Mr. Rutledge's amendment agrees with the motion. Whether the government will accept either remains to be seen.

MR. PATTULLO'S motion about orders-in-council came up next and Mr. Pattullo said he would like it to stand over until the premier was in the House. Mr. Pooley intimated that the government was ready to go on. Mr. Pattullo, who had evidently thought his request would be granted, as a matter of course, appealed to the House to accord him a very usual courtesy. "Oh well," said Mr. Pooley, "we aren't going to exercise the club as severely as you did. Let it go." It went and the House went on to second readings.

Mr. Pooley moved the second reading of Bill No. 1, that rescinding the act passed last session cutting Nanaimo county up into two judicial districts. There was a short debate, Mr. Manson pleading for the life of his "ewe lamb."

"An inoffensive little piece of legislation," he called it, the discussion being chiefly remarkable for Mr. Hinchliffe's contribution. Mr. Hinchliffe had listened with pleasure, he said, to the member for Omineca (Mr. Manson).

BILL GIVEN SECOND READING
He complimented him on the general fairness he had shown on the floor of the House. He was very pleased to recall memories of special fairness to himself when, perhaps, he was scarcely entitled to expect it. Of course this led up to a demonstration that Mr. Manson had been particularly unfair that afternoon. Not that that is Mr. Hinchliffe's little way. "I move that the minister of education go up to the head of the class," gasped Mr. Manson. The bill passed second reading.

Mr. Pooley then brought on his bill to amend the Constitution Act, which does away with the need of re-electing cabinet ministers. He fortified his argument with a reference to the editorial columns of The Morning Star. Mr. Pattullo adjourned the debate.

Mr. Burden made his maiden speech in moving the second reading of a bill about university lands. It went through without debate. Mr. Atkinson was not so lucky. He moved in succession the second readings of three bills from his department and each time Dr. Wrinch bobbed up and adjourned the debate. Mr. Hinchliffe brought in his school bill and the day's work was done.

Walkem's Pious Hope

THE declaration made in the Public Accounts Committee at Victoria by its chairman, George Walkem, M.L.A. for Vancouver, if it could be taken at its face value, should be cause for general congratulation. Mr. Walkem stated that his committee would henceforth be non-political and would not, as it has been in the past, be the special field reserved for the most bitter forms of inter-party strife. That it ought to be non-political goes without saying. It is the place where in theory, private members of the House, representing the people, intimately examine the financial operations, more particularly the expenditures, of honorable ministers who in their turn represent the crown. It is one of the "safeguarding" cogs in the machinery of government—a weapon jealously guarded and wielded by the "commons" in its fight to see that no money goes from the public purse otherwise than as the public, through its representatives, decides that it should.

WHERE no larger issues intervene, the almighty dollar always assumes a more prominent position than it would otherwise be accorded. In British Columbia, issues have not been large; they have been small and petty—primarily based on a mere scramble for office. And so the dollar has climbed to the top of the heap. Hence it is that the Public Accounts committee has attracted the party swashbucklers. Instead of making a serious and sober attempt to discover financial facts, it has avowedly met for stern battle. The opposition has assiduously alleged wrongdoing and has diligently sought for anything that might be turned or twisted into the semblance of evidence supporting its accusations; the government has entered indignant denial and has devoted all its efforts to blocking the manoeuvres of its opponents. Hard words have been the rule. There being no referee, the play was to the gallery—the actual gallery being a small group of journalists, bearing party colours, who faithfully re-

ported carefully selected high lights for the delectation of their own particular section of a credulous public.

BUT George Walkem, being a business man, although a bit of a politician too, says that this camouflage game must stop. He proposes that he and his committee take their duties seriously, and sit as a body of auditors. It is well that Mr. Walkem should propose this and it would be even better if he could induce his committee to dispose of the matter as he wishes. But his success is doubtful. Human nature is much the same all the world over and in all political parties. The old opposition made the Public Accounts committee a bear garden—for it always lies in the power of the opposition to determine the nature of the game that is to be played. The opposition is the party of attack; if there be attack, there will be spirited defence; if there be no attack, there will be no controversy. Instead, peace, perfect peace, will reign. But the new opposition is likely to remember and copy the tactics of their opponents—since these proved so successful. It is doubtful if there ever will be a real change at Victoria until some major issue forces attention and denies pride of place to mutual accusations of petty peculations. A fight for principle will always shove dollars and cents politics into the background. But today no principle divides the parties. The province is governed by a Liberal-Conservative group, which is faced in the House by a Conservative-Liberal opposition. Hence it may be surmised that George Walkem's pious hopes together with those of the great credulous public, are doomed to disappointment.

VICTORIA JOTTINGS

Continued Absence of Pro-Slows House Progress—Mr. Hinchliffe Offers Bill to Change Public Schools Act

EDWARD NORCROSS
LEGISLATIVE BUILDINGS, Victoria, Jan. 30.—With the premier still absent the tempo here was again slow today. Mr. Norcross, however, a fair amount of work was done. Two bills were introduced and second readings were begun. Mr. Norcross resumed the debate on Dr. Wrinch's state health insurance bill and Mr. Hinchliffe introduced in possibly the most conservative piece of legislation so far introduced to the new House, a bill to amend the Public Schools Act. It may be said here, however, that there is nothing in the bill that will remedy the state of affairs in municipal school districts complained of by Mr. Cornett.

Mr. Bennett, member for South Vancouver, resumed the debate on the adjournment of the House. Mr. Bennett is a good speaker. He made a little practice he bids fair to become a valuable addition to the debating squad on the government side. He began by sending Captain Ian Macdonald the skill with which he had led the Vancouver amalgamation through the House last year. He disagreed with Mr. Macdonald on the method of electing members for Vancouver, saying he would prefer the present block system of single-member riding systems. Touching on education, he proposed an out of a rate of 50 mills in Vancouver, 27.43 had gone to schools. In Alberni, Cranberry, Nanaimo and Roseland, the proposed lower rates, the proposed for schools was even lower. The charge, he insisted, should come in larger part from the local treasury.

Continued on Page 4

J A N

1929

Legislature Startled As 11-Year Deficit of \$13,000,000 Is Revealed

Scene of House Opening



At 3 o'clock this afternoon Lieutenant-Governor R. H. Bruce arrived at the Parliament Buildings in Victoria to open the first session of the new Legislature. Photo shows Parliament Buildings; inset, the Lieutenant-Governor.

Expenses Exceeded
Revenue During
Liberal Regime.

SHELLY GIVES OUT FIGURES

Only Two Surpluses
Since 1917—By De-
partments.

(Special to the Province.)

VICTORIA, Jan. 22. — Public accounts of the Provincial Government for the last fiscal year ending March 31, 1928, presented to the Legislature today by Hon. W. C. Shelly, minister of finance, show a deficit of \$723,228 covering the last twelve months of the Liberal regime. The revenue for that year was \$21,180,348 and expenditures totalled \$21,903,577.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS ARE PRESENTED.

The public accounts presented today also contain a striking new review of the deficits and surpluses recorded in the last eleven years. It is revealed in these figures, which were entirely new and surprising to most members, that only in two years from 1917 to 1928 has the province recorded a surplus. In 1917-18 the deficit is set at \$526,504; in 1918-19, \$1,181,006; in 1919-20 the surplus was \$361,331; in 1920-21 the deficit was \$4,407,426, the largest recorded in the eleven years' period. In 1921-22 the deficit was \$1,790,792; in 1922-23, \$1,130,553; in 1923-24, \$1,855,084; in 1924-25, \$1,346,405; in 1925-26 the surplus was \$100,794; in 1926-27 the deficit was \$260,015, and in 1927-28, \$723,228.

The total deficits in eleven years thus reached the large sum of \$13,318,879. Revenue in that time totalled \$189,779,802 and expenditures \$206,098,181.

HOW DEPARTMENTS SPENT MONEY.

Under the heading of revenue, Mr. Shelly shows that the finance department collected \$10,768,018 in the last fiscal year, the attorney-general's department \$5,843,843; the lands department, \$4,176,169; the mines department, \$183,593, and the other departments varying smaller sums. On the side of expenditures the public debt required \$3,755,561; the expenditures of the other departments being as follows:

Department of agriculture, \$473,951.98; department of the attorney-general, \$1,957,117.80; department of education, \$3,477,391.28; department of finance, \$1,623,846.30; department of fisheries, \$16,482.75; department of labor, \$208,078.13; department of lands, \$1,274,375.73; department of mines, \$278,663.59; department of the provincial secretary, \$2,576,183.39; department of public works, \$2,833,915.22; department of railways, \$71,745.13.

Kennedy Named as Chief Whip of Government

VICTORIA, Jan. 22.—W. F. Kennedy was appointed chief whip for the government forces and J. W. Cornett was named as deputy whip at a meeting of the Conservative caucus this morning. Col. Cy. Peck, V.C., was chosen as chairman of the caucus.

Liberals have selected H. E. Kergin as chief whip and A. Wells Gray as deputy whip.

B. C. SHOWS PREFERENCE FOR BEER

Province Paid \$4,695,897
For Brew During Six
Months.

(By Staff Correspondent.)

VICTORIA, Jan. 22.—Analysis of the figures contained in the report of the operations of the Liquor Control Board for the first six months of the present fiscal year which ends March 31 next, being presented to the Legislature by Attorney-General R. H. Pooley shows that the people of British Columbia spend more money for beer than for hard liquors and wines. Beer is, in fact, the favorite intoxicating beverage.

The six months' report covers the period from April 1 to September 30. It discloses sales of liquors of all kinds through the government stores of \$6,056,776. These are retail sales, direct to the public. Sales of beer to beer parlors, which is a wholesale trade on the part of the government, are set down for the six months at \$1,408,230.

GROSS PROFIT FOR LICENSE HOLDER.

As in retailing beer the license holder makes a gross profit, conservatively estimated on the average, and according to the size of glass in which it is served, at slightly better than 100 per cent. It is safe to say that the public paid \$3,000,000 in the six months for its beer by the glass.

Examination of the sales figures in government stores for previous years indicate that of the total volume, 28 per cent. was beer. Using this same proportion for the six months under review, it would mean that of the retail sales made by the government amounting to \$6,056,776, no less a sum than \$1,695,897 was for beer, leaving a balance of \$4,360,880 for hard liquors and wines.

This would mean that with the beer parlor sales of approximately \$3,000,000 and \$1,695,897 for sales made by the vendors, the British Columbia public paid no less a sum than \$4,695,897 for its beer in the six months period.

While in the report submitted by Hon. Mr. Pooley for the half of the present fiscal year detailed figures are not given, in other years wine sales for the corresponding period approximated \$600,000. Accepting the sales of wine at such a figure then, it leaves about \$3,760,000 paid by the people of British Columbia for hard liquor as against a total retail payment of \$4,695,897 for beer.

HOW EXPENDITURE IS DISTRIBUTED.

This means, using round figures, that the people of British Columbia are spending more than \$18,300,000 annually for intoxicants. This huge sum may be divided; beer, \$9,400,000; hard liquors, \$7,500,000 and wines \$1,200,000. In other words, nearly \$2,000,000 more is spent for beer than for whisky, rum, brandy, gin, liqueurs and mixed beverages such as cocktails.

The net profit on the trading for the six months ending September 30 was \$1,885,163. Appropriations out of this total included, to Consolidated Revenue Fund, \$799,256; Mothers' Pensions, \$320,738; Hospitals and Institutions, \$239,777; Municipalities' share, \$559,479.

House Opening Is Spectacle of Vivid Coloring

British Traditions Are Observed by Lieu- tenant-Governor.

His Honor Attended By Navy and Army Group.

By B. A. McKELVIE.

VICTORIA, Jan. 22.—Amid glorious sunshine, and to the music of skirling pipes, and the booming of guns, His Honor R. Randolph Bruce, Lieutenant-Governor of British Columbia arrived at the Parliament Buildings at 3 o'clock this afternoon to formally open the seventeenth Legislature. All the pomp and circumstance of tradition featured this, the most ceremonial occasion of its kind in the history of the province. Customs which have become mellowed by time, and possessed real significance in the days when the commoners of England were constructing the bulwarks of present-day parliamentary institutions, were religiously followed.

Accompanied by his personal staff, consisting of officers of the Canadian navy and military forces, and escorted by a guard of honor from the 16th Canadian Scottish, His Honor arrived at the Assembly Chambers to find that there was no Speaker to welcome him. In formal language he declined to announce the reason for his having called the legislators into session until they had chosen one or their number to preside as Speaker. He then retired.

In the absence of His Honor, the name of J. W. Jones, member for South Okanagan, was formally placed in nomination, and he was elected. Mr. Jones then withdrew to assume the three-cornered black hat and silk robes of his office. He then proceeded to meet His Honor, who accompanied him back into the Legislative Hall, where Mr. Speaker—following the time-honored custom—officially notified him that, unworthy as he was, the members of the Legislature had seen fit to elect him to the office of Speaker.

His Honor bowed his acknowledgment, and ascending the dais, proceeded to announce his reasons for having called the members into session.

The provincial secretary, Hon. S. L. Howe, then proceeded to read the names of members who had been elected, that they might be entered officially upon the rolls. Notice was given of the introduction of a minor bill; the ministers presented departmental reports; the adjournment of the sitting was ordered; and the seventeenth Legislature of British Columbia was under way.

Every possible inch of space was occupied in the public galleries and on the floor of the House by an interested crowd. Men and women prominent in the social, political and commercial life of the province were accorded reserved seats, while the general public crammed every inch of space in the unreserved galleries. Some, anxious to view the proceedings, were in waiting two hours before the doors to the balconies were opened.

MEMBERS WEAR ROSES GROWN OUT OF DOORS.

Each member of the House was presented upon his arrival with a primrose grown out of doors in the gardens of the Attorney-General R. H. Pooley.

Following the opening of the Legislature, a reception was held by Premier Tolmie and his cabinet at the Hotel Empress. This evening the members of the Legislature will dine at Government House.

The salute to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor was fired from Belleville street, directly in front of the Parliament Buildings, instead of from Workpoint Barracks, which has been the usual practice. By special dispensation had been arranged that the salute be carried out by the 5th Brigade of this city.

The 5th Brigade, which was formerly known under the name of the 5th Regiment R.C.G.A. of this city, is a unit which has played an important part in the militia forces of the Dominion. Many prominent citizens have been from time to time identified with that corps, including General Sir Arthur Currie, who had a conspicuous career in the Great War and attained the command of the Canadian forces.

By permission from military headquarters, it had therefore been arranged that the 58th Field Battery should fire the salute which had not

been done by a militia corps since 1915.

The detachment was under the command of Major T. R. Monk, with Captain B. Gadsden second in command. It consisted of about twenty men. Preceding the opening of the House they arrived in front of the buildings with four 18-pounder field guns, which belched out the fifteen rounds which constitutes the salute to which a lieutenant-governor is entitled.

The 16th Canadian Scottish, which provided the guard of honor, was under command of Major D. R. Sargent and

Lieut. R. G. Christy. The guard consisted of about one hundred men, who paraded with colors. The color party was under the command of Lieut. O. J. Weller, the guard was accompanied by the pipe band of twenty-four men and by the brass band of thirty-six pieces, parading in full dress uniform.

His Honor was accompanied by his aide de camp, Major W. H. Malson, and his secretary, A. M. D. Fairbairn.

Most of the members of the House arrived in the city over the weekend and yesterday a number of them took the formal oath of office before Major

W. H. Langley, clerk of the Legislature. The remainder of them attended to this duty today.

DISTINGUISHED ATTENDANCE.

Officers of the navy and army who attended His Honor at the opening included the following: From the navy: Commander Nelles, Commander L. W. Murray, Engineer Commander Curry, Paymaster Lieutenant-Commander King, Lieut.-Commander Wood, Lieut.-Commander Taylor, Lieut.-Commander Heddard, Lieut.-Commander Greery,

and Lieut. Keohane; from Workpoint Barracks: Colonel A. E. Harris, acting D. O. C.; Col. Gillman, A. A. and Q. M. C.; Col. G. R. Perks, G.S.O. M.D. 11; Col. Panet, Major Stuart, Major Gibson and Captain M. F. Macintosh; Fifth Brigade C. G. A.: Col. J. C. Harris, Major P. T. Stern, Major M. K. Crockett, Captain S. B. Bowden, Lieut. Burnes and Lieut. Roy; from 16th Canadian Scottish: Colonel D. B. Martyn, Major J. Hebben Gillespie, Major Gordon Smith, Major Brooke Stevenson, Major J. R. Kingham, Major Walter Barty and Captain J. Gray.

THE "SPEECH."

If a speech from the throne could ever be entirely trusted in such matters, then yesterday's Speech held out some promise at least of that "short, businesslike session" at Victoria, of which we have lately been hearing the old familiar prophecies. As such ceremonious utterances go, it was neither unusually long nor short. It was adequate in the things appropriate to the amenities of the occasion, in the references to the King, to the death of the former Lieutenant-Governor, to the prosperity of the province, to the realization of Greater Vancouver. It disclosed a considerable programme of administrative work to be undertaken by the new government. But it did not ask the House to consider an agenda of legislation either lengthy or especially contentious, and if the members did nothing more than they were expressly invited to do yesterday by His Honor, we might confidently expect the first session of the Seventeenth Parliament to be a model of brevity and despatch.

As far as its mention of government legislation went, the Speech did not contain any surprises, and there were neither inclusions nor omissions to falsify the general expectation. Perhaps the most interesting promise of legislation was that of a bill in aid of the iron and steel industry in British Columbia, and the nature of the government's intention in this respect is bound to evoke much conjecture in advance of the bringing-down of the measure. As expected, there will be bills to raise a loan for new roads and to extend exemptions under the Succession Duties Act. Creation of a public utilities commission is only faintly foreshadowed by the Speech, which says that the government is considering the question, but does not say that a bill will be brought down this session. For the rest, the Minimum Wage Act is to be made legally watertight; Attorney-General Pooley's long-considered intention to reorganize the Game Board is to be validated; there are to be amendments of the laws relating to companies, mineral surveys and public schools.

But new legislation is not the only business mentioned in the Speech which will engage the attention of the House. There is bound to be a great deal of discussion—and, with four ex-ministers of the crown in the attenuated opposition ranks, there is likely to be plenty of criticism too—of the Tolmie government's intentions in various departments of its administrative functions. The Speech mentions the survey, now in progress, of the Pacific Great Eastern Railway. A marketing branch of the department of agriculture is to be created. A scheme of land settlement—a question in which Premier Tolmie himself is strongly interested—is to be assisted by the appointment of a commissioner of immigration and colonization. There is to be an audit of provincial finances, and mention of this may be taken as a faint touch of politics in the Speech—a sort of oblique glance in the direction of the late government, already held in public reprehension by Hon. Minister of Finance Shelly because he has inherited from it the uncomfortable legacy of a deficit.

It will be said—it has been said already—that there was not a great deal in yesterday's Speech from the Throne, but there was certainly enough in it to provide the material for much business in the first session. And with a new opposition in the House, and twenty-five new members, it will be a miracle if the Speech does not prove the provocation to rather more than much talk.

Members of the Legislature may feel relieved to know that the new party "whips" do not sting like a cat-o-nine tails.

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Consolidation In Distribution Of Milk Urged

**Elimination of Present Overlapping Would Mean Increased Profits for Farmers
Clement Commission Reports To the Government.**

VICTORIA, Jan. 23.—The reaction of the Legislature and the government to Dean F. M. Clement's report on the Vancouver milk situation could not be gauged today as apparently no one so far has read the document completely. It comprises as much matter as several long novels, and will take much consideration before the House reaches any conclusions on it.

While the official summary of the report given out late yesterday perhaps does not make this clear, in essence it proposes to set up a committee of direction or control much like the interior committee of direction which controls fruit prices in the Okanagan. This, at least, is the understanding of those who have examined the report hurriedly. The purpose of this committee would be to bring together the Fraser Valley Milk Producers' Association and the independent operators over a period of several years and raise the price secured by the former without increasing the retail price to the public.

OUT OUT OVERLAPPING.

In other words, Dean Clement believes that if the handling of milk in Vancouver is systematized, and consolidated, and the present overlapping of distribution eliminated, an enormous saving can be effected. This saving would be handed on to the producers and would not affect the price to the consumer.

That is the essence of the idea, according to members who have glanced through the bulky report, but everyone is suspending judgment until it is printed. Meanwhile it is in the printer's hands, and not for the moment accessible to the House.

Before anything is done about the milk situation, the report, it is said, will have to undergo an exhaustive investigation by the agriculture committee. What attitude the government will adopt toward it ministers decline to indicate as, none of them has read the document fully yet.

It is suggested that an advisory committee to the committee of direction shall consist of representatives of the producers, distributors and consumers, any one of which shall have right of appeal direct to the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council from any ruling of the committee of direction.

INDUSTRY PAYS COST.

The financing of this committee of direction would be a direct charge on the industry benefitting by making a direct assessment per pound milk fat. Such charge to be collected through the distributing companies.

This charge, however, is not intended to apply to the producer vendors at the present time but all such would be licensed at a stated rate per producing cow.

The general recognition of the F. V. M. F. Association as wholesale and retail distributors of milk and cream in Vancouver and adjacent municipalities is encouraged by the report. This suggestion is made in view of its efforts to maintain an increasing milk supply and to the manufacture of its surplus into milk products with development of foreign markets for the manufactured articles.

The F. V. M. F. Association is recognized by the commissioner as the basis for comparison in matters of efficiency and inefficiency.

All distributors now in business are conceded by the commission the right to continue and enjoy the same privileges providing they accept the responsibility equal to that assumed by the farmers represented by the Fraser Valley Milk Producers' Association.

Dealing with the question of price to the consumers, the commission suggests that independent distributors buying direct from the country operate on the same spread, estimated monthly as that on which the F. V. M. F. Association operates. The price would be set according to fat content and milk solids and would vary according to season. In this way it is proposed by the commission that at the end of three years the co-operative shippers would be brought up gradually to a point where all would be on an equal basis through the operations of the committee of direction.

Page 2, Col. 4.)

Governor Opens House



LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR R. RANDOLPH BRUCE, with Commander Nelles en route to open the British Columbia Legislature yesterday. In the foreground is Major T. E. Monk of the 68th Field Battery, which fired the salute, and drawn up in rear is the guard of honor from the 16th Canadian Scottish.

Railroad to Peace River and Ingenika Proposed in House

Amendment of Old Charter Sought by Walkem.

TO BE BUILT IN FIVE YEARS

Increase of Capital to Ten Millions Is Suggested.

VICTORIA, Jan. 23.—Completion of the Northeastern Railway from Stewart to the eastern boundary of the Peace River block within five years, and the extension of a branch line up the Findlay River from Fort Grahame to tap the rich mineralized region of the Ingenika district, is promised in a bill which will be introduced this session by George A. Walkem, Vancouver member.

Mr. Walkem will present the petition for the introduction of the bill, which amends the old charter to permit of financing of the undertaking.

WOULD AMEND 1911 LEGISLATION.

In order to carry through the line it becomes necessary to amend the act of 1911 under which a start was made by the old McKenzie and Mann interests and fourteen miles of railway grade was laid down from Stewart. The Northeastern Railway, with which Hon. H. H. Stevens is now associated and is the moving spirit in British Columbia, asks that the time permitted for the completion of the line from the Coast to the eastern boundary of the Peace River block be set at five years from the date of the passage of the amendments now being sought.

Entry to the Peace River block will be made by either Pine or Peace Pass.

Then, further authorization is sought, which was not contained in the original act to build from a point at or near Fort Grahame up the valley of the Finlay River for a distance of 100 miles. This work must be completed within three years after the completion of the main line, or eight years from the passing of the legislation.

INCREASE IN CAPITAL ASKED.

Authority is sought to increase the capitalization of the company from \$2,000,000 to \$10,000,000 and to permit the enlargement of the amount of bonds per mile of construction that may be issued from \$35,000 to \$50,000. This becomes necessary owing to the increased cost of construction since 1911 when the original act was passed.

The other two amendments that are being asked in line with the general scheme of construction are that eight years be the time set for the extension of a branch line from the main road to the northern boundary of the province, and that a similar time be allowed for a southerly extension to connect up the Northeastern Railway with the G.T.P. branch of the Canadian National.

The country through which the railway line will run will open up a district which is said to be not only rich in minerals but possessed of rich agricultural lands as well. It will probably tap the southernmost of the warm valleys, which Major Hart, geographer for the old Conservative regime reported in 1913, contained between 20,000 and 30,000 acres of rich agricultural lands.

The new line up the Finlay River will open up a section of the country which has attracted much attention in the past two or three years, and which the Department of Mines has been studying closely because of the large deposits of silver-lead ores and mica in the Ingenika region.

Motion Picture Advertisements In B.C. to Be Censored

VICTORIA, Jan. 23.—The B. C. Board of Motion Picture Censors will be given power under legislation introduced by Attorney-General Pooley today to censor movie advertisements in newspapers, and on billboards. While advertisements will not be submitted to the board, it will have power to order instant withdrawal of any objectionable matter.

PREMIER TOLMIE ILL, GOES HOME TO BED

Government Leader May Remain Home Several Days —Pooley to Act.

VICTORIA, Jan. 23.—Premier Tolmie contracted a cold while standing bareheaded in a fierce northwest wind on the steps of the Parliament Buildings when the Legislature opened yesterday, and decided to go home to bed.

He will remain at home for several days if necessary to recover. Attorney-General Pooley meanwhile will lead the government in the House. The premier's indisposition is not serious, but he feels that it is best to shake off at once.

Government May Subsidize New Steel Plant in Vancouver District

VICTORIA, Jan. 23.—Bounties on steel manufactured from scrap iron are planned by the government as one of the chief features of its present legislative programme, members of the Legislature understood today, following the brief announcement in the speech from the throne yesterday that the ministry planned assistance to a steel industry.

PLANT NEAR VANCOUVER.

The government's reported plan to institute a system of bounties fore-shadows the establishment somewhere near Vancouver of a plant which would use scrap iron for the manufacture of steel.

It is said among private members of the House that the new bounty will amount to something between \$1 and \$1.50 per ton.

Already the province has on its statute books a law providing a scale of bounties on steel manufactured from iron ore, a plan in which the Consolidated Mining & Smelting Co. is reported to be interested, but the new legislation is designed to cover the other possible field of steel de-

velopment in the utilization of iron now wasted.

There are indications that the aggregate output of our basic industries in the present year will surpass all previous records. The bank clearings and building statistics of our leading centres also reflect the general prosperity.

"In harmony with the general advancement of the province, the City of Vancouver and the municipalities of South Vancouver and Point Grey have been amalgamated into a Greater Vancouver which takes a proud place among the leading cities of the Dominion.

"My government, represented by the Premier and the minister of public works, in conference with the Dominion Government, has succeeded in making further progress towards the restoration to the province of the railway belt lands and the Fesce River block. Further conferences are to be held.

"The public accounts and estimates for the coming year will be submitted to you.

"I leave you in the hope that the first session of this new Parliament will, under the blessing of Providence, result in the enactment of such measures as will prove of benefit to all our people."

"The reports of the various departments of my government will be laid before you.

"My government is seriously considering the question of land settlement, and for the purpose of expediting the settlement of reclaimed and government-owned lands, has appointed a commissioner of immigration and colonization, whose duty it will be to inaugurate plans for the disposal of lands to suitable settlers in the best interests of the province. In accordance with a plan so inaugurated, a portion of the reclaimed lands at Sumas has already been placed on the market by the dyking commissioner on terms that should encourage settlement, and increase our agricultural production. Irrigation problems will be given careful consideration."

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MAY HAVE DEAL ON.

While the Consolidated already is turning out steel at its Trill smelter on a relatively small scale, the government's new plan is expected to lead to operations of a different sort on the Coast. It is thought the government must have some definite proposals along this line before it in asking the House to approve of new bounties.

In addition to the proposals of the government along this line the speech from the throne yesterday disclosed proposed legislation for extension of exemptions from succession duties and amendments to the Male Minimum Wage Act, the Companies Act, the Mineral Survey and Development Act, the Game Act and the School Act.

"The speech, which indicates little else of the government's plans, is in part as follows:

"Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislative Assembly, in the first session of the Seventeenth Parliament of British Columbia, it is with pleasure that I note the improvement in the

condition of His Majesty the King. Throughout his serious illness his loyal subjects in this province have followed with deep anxiety the reports upon His Majesty's condition, and we are all rejoiced to learn of his steady progress toward recovery. This trying period has served to bring out in a most striking manner the affection with which His Majesty is regarded by his subjects, and our prayer is that he may yet be spared to us for many years.

"Since the Legislature last met the province has suffered a severe loss in the death of the former lieutenant-governor, the Hon. W. C. Nichol. He was a generous and public-spirited citizen, who represented the crown with honor and distinction, and his passing is sincerely mourned.

"Within the past year the province has received visits from the foreign secretary in His Majesty's Imperial Government, the under-secretary for the Dominions, the leader of the British Labor party, and the British Empire Parliamentary Association. These visits are very gratifying and should do much to create a better understanding between the different parts of the Empire.

"It is with pleasure that I observe that business conditions in the prov-

ince are showing rapid improvement. There are indications that the aggregate output of our basic industries in the present year will surpass all previous records. The bank clearings and building statistics of our leading centres also reflect the general prosperity.

"In harmony with the general advancement of the province, the City of Vancouver and the municipalities of South Vancouver and Point Grey have been amalgamated into a Greater Vancouver which takes a proud place among the leading cities of the Dominion.

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"The public accounts and estimates for the coming year will be submitted to you.

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ON WRONG SIDE OF MR. SPEAKER.

Across the way everything was upside down, as if the old House had played a game of general post. The big three of the opposition, Mr. Pattullo, flanked on his right by Mr. Manson and on his left by Captain Mackenzie, sniffed for the first time the cold air of opposition and for the first time gazed upon the left cheek of Mr. Speaker. Mr. Manson had Mr. Hinchliffe's old seat, which he occupied with arms crossed in frowning resignation or resolve, it was not clear which; Captain Mackenzie had succeeded to the place of Mr. Jones, with a lustrous cravat and burning desire to be up and at 'em; and Mr. Pattullo sat bolt upright, agreeable but frigid, in the place where Mr. Pooley used to tilt backwards in easy elegance, and where Mr. Bowser before him crouched in gloomy state.

The new opposition was lost in a sea of Conservatives, who overflowed the benches to the right and took up more than half the other side as well. In this flood such stalwart Tories as Col. Cy Peck, Col. Fred Lister and old Mike Manson found themselves washed up high and dry on the Liberal sands, amongst Mr. Pattullo's cohorts.

PRIMROSES ON GOVERNMENT LAPELS.

A wise precaution, however, distinguished those who were on the left of Mr. Speaker by conviction and those for lack of space elsewhere. Mr. Pooley, who prides himself on his garden more than on his cleanup of New Westminster, had prudently presented every Conservative with a yellow primrose, grown out of doors, as an evidence of Victoria's climate and as the emblem of Conservatism, chosen originally by no less a personage than Disraeli himself. Every lapel on Mr. Speaker's right was so adorned, and the sprinkling of primroses on the left also clearly marked the vast gulf of political principle between their wearers and the unshamed, flowerless Liberals.

That was the strangely new background against which the seventeenth Parliament of B. C. sprang to resplendent life. Everything proceeded like clockwork. The Lieutenant-Governor arrived, declined to say why, until the Assembly had elected a Speaker and retired. The Assembly elected Mr. Jones, who had been sitting in a back seat with an air of detachment as if he had no expectations of any preferment whatever. Mr. Jones accepted with surprise and modesty and the Lieutenant-Governor returned.

Mr. Jones, having by a strange chance provided himself beforehand with black robes, a three-cornered hat and a judicial collar, informed His Honor that he was quite unworthy of the Speakership, really—but had taken it on anyway, and he hoped he would do his best, and if anything went wrong would His Honor please blame Mr. Jones and not the Assembly, even if, as probable, it were the Assembly's fault?

His Honor read his speech from the throne and the cabinet leaned forward in their seats with rapt attention, just as if they had not written, rewritten, erased and written again the entire address. The Conservative members appeared impressed. But the godless opposition looked as if it would take a lot more than that to impress them, for they had written many such in their time and said far less.

OPPOSITION IS NOT IMPRESSED.

His Honor retired, his guard following with the clink of spurs and the rattle of swords. Mr. Speaker returned and took full charge. Mr. Jones assumed his well-earned dignity and South Okanagan came into its own. Mr. Speaker said he had obtained a printed copy of the speech to avoid mistakes, which was not remarkable, as newspaper correspondents, attendants and pages had secured copies by the dozen half an hour before.

Mr. McKenzie solemnly moved that if any honorable member had been elected improperly, the House would proceed against him with utmost severity, and the House agreed to this gruesome threat as it always does, seeing that it involves no exertion for anyone.

CUPBOARD FULL OF DEFICITS.

Mr. Shelly begged to file public accounts showing that the old government had a cupboard full of deficits never before suspected. Other ministers jugged to file other reports, and the Premier was just about to close the day when the opposition showed for the first time that things could not go on in this merry fashion for long. Mr. Pattullo arose in the middle of the Premier's sentence and the cabinet looked up with pained surprise. When asked Mr. Pattullo icily, would the honorable finance minister bring down the result of the special audit which is burrowing into the expenditures of the old government?

The honorable finance minister showed that he has already grasped the essentials of parliamentary life. He, too, arose and said he would file the desired audit, of course; he would file it as soon as—as soon as possible.

And with that point cleared up so definitely, the House adjourned to drink tea at the Empress Hotel with Premier and Mrs. Tolmie, after the gayest opening day it has known in modern times.

GOVERNMENT WIPES OUT COMOX COUNTY

Goes Back as Part of Nanaimo by First Act of Legislature.

VICTORIA, Jan. 23.—The first act of the new Legislature introduced Tuesday by Attorney-General Pooley, will wipe out the judicial county of Comox, which was created by the former government. As a result of the new legislation Comox becomes again a part of Nanaimo. While the new county was officially formed, judicial machinery was not set up in it.

The Log of the House

The House is opened and everything is different from the royal salute to the treasury benches—the whole House is gay as the session gets off to a jolly start—but Mr. Pattullo gives gentle warning that it can't go on this way long.

By BRUCE HUTCHISON.

VICTORIA, Jan. 23.—A new session, a new Parliament, new chapter in provincial politics and a new way of doing things opened across James Bay yesterday. It opened with a pagentry which James Bay has not known since pre-war days, and with an air of public expectation which few British Columbia Parliaments have ever excited. It opened with the boom of heavy guns, with martial music and gay uniforms outside in Parliament Square and with what changes inside the Legislative Chamber.

Everything was different from what we have grown accustomed to since the long Liberal regime commenced back in 1916. The war was in its darkest hours then, there was no room for anything but the barest ceremonies and the old government, starting under this shadow, continued in somewhat Spartan style to the end.

BIT COLD FOR GUARD OF HONOR.

Yesterday all the pomp which British parliaments have accumulated since the Witenagemot of Saxon times was revived in miniature. There was a guard of blue-clad tars from Esquimalt, who nearly froze in the north wind, and another from the Canadian Scottish, whose kilts left their knees blue in the biting cold. There was a gubernatorial suite of thirty officers in scarlet and gold braid and many medals. And as the Assembly waited for his honor to appear the great stone building seemed to rock from the booming salute of fifteen guns, which really boomed this time. (A similar salute has always been recorded officially at other openings, but no one has ever heard it before.)

The House itself was full of distinguished and undistinguished visitors, of new members and old members and of those who have known it in other days.

What a topsy-turvy House it seemed after those twelve years, during which it hardly seemed to change at all! We have already passed one full session, of course, without the familiar grey heavy-set figure of John Oliver, which used to dominate the Assembly from the moment it was called together, but it was hard to get used to the bodily departure, bag and baggage, of the whole Liberal cabinet from the benches to the right of Mr. Speaker.

PREMIER STICKLER FOR NICETIES.

In the first seat of the front treasury row, where old Bill Sloan used to sit and smile like a sphinx at his friends, the opposition, sat Mr. Hinchliffe in a post of high honor. Next to him was Mr. Pooley in the chair which used to harbor the restless form of Mr. Manson, and in the third chair was the new Premier, half-hidden behind a bouquet of chrysanthemums and the soul of dignity despite this obstacle, the third premier to hold that mighty place in two years and, as it turned out, the greatest stickler of all for the niceties of parliamentary life. This taste, no doubt, was acquired in the ceremonious atmosphere of Ottawa and in its strange contrast to the rural setting against which one likes to picture him. The new Premier, by the way, had his cabinet well schooled and everything arranged so that it went off like a play carefully rehearsed beforehand, as, indeed, it probably was.

At the Premier's right was Mr. Shelly as guardian of the treasury, and behind him the remainder of the largest and best-dressed cabinet the province has ever seen, immaculate in outworn coats, vests, grey ties and an air of utter blandness.

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GOVERNMENT TO SPONSER NEW WAGE ACT

INSTEAD of leaving it to the House as the former ministry did, the Provincial Government itself will take hold of the Male Minimum Wage Act and make it operative again, it was learned today.

As foreshadowed in the speech from the throne at the opening of the House, the government plans to overcome the difficulties created by recent court decisions which invalidated all minimum wages established so far under the statute. The new amendment is expected to validate the plan under which the administrative board fixed wages for entire industries like lumbering and catering. This will eliminate the lumbering and catering orders already passed but recently thrown out by a Canadian Supreme Court decision.

The government's plan of procedure will lift the wage act to the status of a government measure. In the past it had been considered a matter entirely for the decision of the House, and the old government carefully denied all responsibility for it.

JANUARY 24, 1929

DRASTIC GAME BOARD CHANGES

Commissioner Will Have Full Charge of B. C. Administration.

NEW DISTRICTS

VICTORIA, Jan. 24. — Appointment of a game commissioner who with his own force of officers will have complete charge of game administration in British Columbia is provided for in legislation introduced by Attorney-General Pooley in the Legislature.

The government's plan for the replacement of the present Game Conservation Board involves other important changes in the game administration. In future trapping licenses will be issued for a period of years, subject to good behaviour, and trapping thus will be put on a permanent business basis. The equity of trapper's heirs in his trap line will be protected also.

Private farms devoted to the raising of game for sale will be allowed under special licenses. There will be no restriction on such operations provided official licenses are obtained and game so raised is marked in accordance with the law.

It is planned to divide the province into game districts to be administered for game purposes as similar districts are administered for police purposes. The game commissioner will be charged with the duty of organizing the new game law enforcement force.

Queries Tolmie On Employment of War Veterans

VICTORIA, Jan. 24.—Capt. Ian Mackenzie filed a series of questions with Mr. Speaker in the Legislature directed to the minister of public works, the attorney-general and the minister of lands, relative to the employment of returned soldiers by the new government.

He asked how many returned men were employed on August 30 last; how many are at present employed, and how many have been dismissed and employed since the change of government.

ALDERMEN SEEK REOPENING OF CHARTER

Finance Committee Would Apply for Amendments Over Pooley's Advice.

ASK MAYOR FOR SPECIAL COMMITTEE

Text of Attorney-General's Letter to Council on Recent Proposal.

Despite the advice of Attorney-General R. H. Pooley, that no amendments to the city charter should be sought this session, the civic finance committee Wednesday afternoon decided to ask Mayor W. H. Malkin to appoint a special committee to consider charter amendments, and to recommend that an application should be made for changes in the charter this year.

To this sub-committee were referred two proposed changes and a number of amendments suggested by the Associated Property Owners of Vancouver.

Ald. E. N. Fraser and Ald. W. C. Atherton presented to the finance committee a resolution for a charter amendment to permit the city to appoint a permanent assessment commission.

Ald. Fraser and Ald. J. A. Paton sponsored a resolution asking a charter amendment to give a Supreme Court judge wider powers in dealing with appeals from the civic court of revision on assessments. The property owners, among other proposals, also suggested the latter amendment.

TEXT OF A. G.'S LETTER.

"While there may be circumstances which would justify suspension of the rules of the House with regard to private bills, yet I would respectfully point to the gravity of doing so with such an important measure as the Vancouver charter. A very large section of the public is interested in that legislation, and any contemplated change, I venture to say with great respect, should have not only full deliberation but due publicity. Both are provided for by the rules.

"I think that, after the statute enacted for the government of the enlarged area has been in operation for some time there will occur opportunity to observe its effect and give due consideration to points that may require amendment. There has been scarcely time yet to observe fully the effect of the statute, so that I would suggest that the request indicated in your letter be not made for the approaching session of the House."

Ald. Fraser remarked that Mr. Pooley had intimated that House rules might be waived if the circumstances were important. He said the question of assessment appeals was one which had been discussed by the amalgamation committee and later both in legislative committee in Victoria and on the floor of the House.

OPPORTUNITY OPEN.

It had been stated in Victoria then, continued Ald. Fraser, that the Greater Vancouver council should be afforded an opportunity to voice an opinion on the proposed amendments. The time for the council to take action had now arrived, he said, and he felt sure the government could be prevailed upon to open the charter if the City Council desired. He urged that the special committee to be formed should prepare a report as quickly as possible so there would be no time lost if the council decided to press for amendments this year.

J. A. Paton asked that the city solicitor prepare a report as to whether the charter provided that all owners of private subdivisions be compelled to cut and grade streets and lanes before the subdivision plan was approved. The Municipal Act contained such authority and the alderman intimated that if the charter did not contain a similar provision an amendment should be sought, to give the city the necessary powers.

MUST FIND WAY TO KEEP YOUTH IN PROVINCE

Dr. G. K. McNaughton Says House Should Provide Means of Employment.

WOULD GO SLOW ON IMMIGRATION

"Too Much of Our Raw Material Is Being Manufactured Elsewhere."

(Special to the Province.)

VICTORIA, Jan. 24.—It is time the lawmakers of British Columbia removed the stigma which attaches to them because of their failure to provide employment for the sons and daughters of this province and to prevent the wholesale manufacture of British Columbia materials in a foreign country, Dr. G. K. McNaughton, Conservative, of Comox, told the Legislature Wednesday in seconding the formal motion in reply to the speech from the throne.

British Columbia has enjoyed a great measure of development and prosperity recently, the Island member said, but there was too much unemployment still.

"Too much of our raw material is going to foreign lands to foreign laborers and to keep the wheels of foreign industry turning," he declared. "While the main remedy for this situation is in the hands of the Federal Government, this Provincial Government should do all within its power to give employment to our own people."

Dr. McNaughton warned the government not to embark on too large a programme of immigration until employment had been provided for all the people already here.

He congratulated the Tolmie government and the Federal Government on the success of their recent negotiations covering the return of the Peace River block and the railway belt to provincial control. Gloomy prophets who had predicted that a Conservative government could not secure the east of the Liberal administration in Ottawa had been discredited, he said, by the praiseworthy attitude of the federal ministry.

While not prepared to offer any solution for the Pacific Great Eastern Railway problem, Dr. McNaughton said the province's white elephant, aided by land grants, might yet "achieve portia-like form and have many suitors."

He entered a plea for consideration for returned soldiers in the Merville district, who deserved assistance, he said.

"More roads and better roads are the demand of the people of British Columbia," he said, urging the extension of the Island highway to Menzies Bay, north of Campbell River.

The competition of United States fuel oil has caused whole villages on Vancouver Island to be deserted, following the closing of coal mines, Dr. McNaughton declared, and recommended diligent research to discover new uses for British Columbia's coal resources.

ELECTION ACT PROBE ASKED BY MANSON

VICTORIA, Jan. 24.—Complete investigation into the workings of the Provincial Elections Act, as amended at the last session, is asked by A. M. Manson, Liberal of Omineca, in a motion filed in the Legislature. He suggests that a select committee of the House launch this enquiry immediately. In his resolution on the subject Mr. Manson points out that the revised election act was used in a poll last July for the first time and "it is desirable to enquire into the workings of the act as amended." The amendment passed last year related chiefly to the absentee vote, which was retained with changes.

The Log of the Legislature

Snow covers Victoria but inside the House everything is still warm and agreeable; young members "point with pride" to the Government and the opposition prepares to "view with alarm."

By BRUCE HUCHISON.

VICTORIA, Jan. 24.—A blizzard of snow followed the birds.

Victoria yesterday, half-hid the Parliament Buildings in a grey blur as it fell. Inside the Legislature began to get down to the facts of the session after the ceremonies of the bright opening day. That process is, always somewhat slow and started as usual with the debate on the speech from the throne. This is allowed to include anything at all, and may end tomorrow, this day week, or any other time when it is discovered at last that no one wishes to say any more. It is under way anyhow, and the serious business of the seventeenth Parliament of British Columbia may be said to have commenced.

PLEASANT PRELIMINARIES.

The whole day, and it was a short one, was devoted to the rather pleasant preliminaries of the debate in which two government speakers, according to ancient custom, point with pride to the government, and explain how well the province is getting on, and the opposition sits unmoved and everyone is very agreeable about it.

Today things will not be so agreeable. The atmosphere will be chillier in the House as it already is outside, and the opposition will regret that it can not agree with everything that has been said about the government. This year it will most certainly not agree, for Mr. Pattullo himself will commend to express the opposition's regrets and while he is new at this job he will prove well able to do it.

W. F. Kennedy of North Okanagan opened the debate and did it very well. Mr. Kennedy is one of the most promising of the younger members. They like him in the House on both sides, and up in North Okanagan they think Bill Kennedy is about all right. One recalls how he carried that seat in the celebrated by-election of 1927, against the massed forces of the Liberal government, under Dr. MacLean—Premier Oliver then being close to his end—and his success has not gone without recognition. He has been made chief Conservative whip, the first of the ladder which often leads up to cabinet elevation. Dr. Sutherland started that way and so did Mr. McKenzie, who has found his reward in the mines portfolio.

INFORMATIVE SPEAKER.

Mr. Kennedy is a clear, if not an eloquent speaker, and he gave the House a good deal of information; but as the member chosen to move the reply to the Governor's speech is by tradition limited to a statement of facts already well known, Mr. Kennedy was given little scope for the very sound ideas he has on many public issues.

As he was bound to do, Mr. Kennedy extended congratulations to everyone, including Mr. Pattullo, who, he hoped, would reach a ripe old age in his present position. To which expression of regard Mr. Pattullo smiled as if he thought he would live to a ripe old age all right, but would change his position for something better while he was still a young man which, indeed, he is, despite twelve hard years of office.

Dr. McNaughton of Comox followed Mr. Kennedy with his maiden speech and turned out to be a decided acquisition to the House. While evidently reluctant as a new member to express too many strong opinions among more experienced legislators, Dr. McNaughton proved to be a logical speaker, who has a sharp, rapid-fire, somewhat nervous delivery. With some common sense about the problems of a rural community like his constituency, he mixed a few pleasing classical references, which are uncommon in the House. He hoped, for instance, that the P. G. E., the province's white elephant, backed by large land grants, "would become Portia-like and attract many suitors." The House thought the Shakespearean metaphor a little stretched, but hoped that behind the reference Dr. McNaughton had some confidential grounds for this remarkable expectation.

TOLMIE GOES HOME.

The Premier's chair was empty yesterday, as it has been many times in the last few years, fortunately for a serious cause. The Premier had been bundled off to bed by his cabinet and he had caught cold on the opening by standing bareheaded on the steps in a piercing north wind.

In his absence Mr. Pooley's business of the session really got away with the unexpected intrusion of half a dozen bills. Such a

on the first working day showed that the government, despite its youth, was well prepared to meet the House, and that so far as it is concerned, the House can go home in four weeks or so. That prospect is alluring, particularly since the snow came, but it is not for the government to say. Governments fix the opening of sessions, oppositions the closing dates.

Any way, Mr. Pooley has his legislation well in hand and it was not surprising to those who know him that his very first bill was one which will give the province a new system of game administration, for those who know Mr. Pooley know that game is closest to the heart of the attorney-general.

The House was back to normal after the congestion of the opening day, when scores of visitors were seated on the floor and members were huddled in odd corners. Conservatives still overflowed the benches to the right of Mr. Speaker, however, and seated with the opposition, were not distinguishable from the Liberals except for their more enthusiastic applause and air of heavier responsibility.

Mr. Speaker Jones was in full charge for the first time, but he probably envied former Speaker Buckham the easy chair he has inherited at the head of the Liberal row, for the Speaker's own high-backed seat is as ornamental and uncomfortable as its creator could devise. And it must have irked Mr. Jones also to find himself in a place where his remarks were perforce confined to reading the motions of other members or calling for order, and where he could not sit back and fire disconcerting remarks across the House at his old friend, Mr. Pattullo, as he used to do in the carefree days of opposition. There are many drawbacks to winning elections.

ABLE ASSISTANT.
Mr. Jones has the right, according to custom, to order his own chair, and take it away with him, too, when he ceases to be Speaker, if ever. So far he has not exercised it, and Mr. Buckham took away the last remnant of comfort in the form of the billowy blue leather seat with which he supplied himself in the last Parliament.

The new Speaker has secured an assistant in the person of Mr. Twigg of Victoria, who as such will often preside. This arrangement will uphold the dignity of the office, but will rob the government side frequently of perhaps its most fluent speaker for comfort. There was some comfort for the Speaker today when the government moved to legalize the slight token of regard which the House pays to its presiding officers. It appears this has been rendered in the past without due legal authority, but there is no disposition to call it back and no one grudges it to a man who must sit and listen to all that the House cares to say without so much as a chance to smoke in the lobby.

Also it is hinted in one of Mr. Pooley's bills that the House will provide some practical consideration for the two ministers who have no portfolios but plenty of worries. The new House has hardly found its sea legs yet and, which is equally embarrassing, it has lost an important piece of furniture. This is the desk used by the Deputy Speaker when presiding in committee. When Mr. Twigg attempted to take charge for the first time with great dignity he found he had no desk to sit at, looked around in vain for it, tried the desk of the King's printer in the corner, where he could not be heard or seen, and finally had to preside standing up. Something will have to be done about that.

KENNEDY LAUDS PROGRESS OF OKANAGAN

Moves Reply to Speech From Throne in Legislature.

MADE MILLION POUNDS BUTTER

Per Capita Production of Province Is Largest in Dominion.

VICTORIA, Jan. 24.—The Legislature got down to its first business sitting yesterday. The address in reply to that of the Lieutenant-Governor was moved

and seconded in turn by W. F. Kennedy of North Okanagan and Dr. G. K. MacNaughton, Comox, respectively. T. D. Pattullo, leader of the opposition, moved the adjournment of the debate and will be the speaker today.

VICTORIA, Jan. 24.—Progress in British Columbia in the past year has been substantial and every indication points to more rapid advancement and increased prosperity, according to W. F. Kennedy, member for North Okanagan, in moving the reply to the speech from the throne in the Legislature Wednesday. The speaker reviewed industrial and commercial development, touched briefly on the promised legislation contained in His Honor's address, and dwelt at greater length with the problems of the farmers in his own district.

The future of the Okanagan country, he said, was largely dependent upon diversified farming interests, and caused some amazement by his statement that the dairying industry had made such rapid strides there that last year saw a production of more than one million pounds of butter.

In opening his address, Mr. Kennedy congratulated Mr. Speaker Jones upon his elevation to the chair, Premier Toulme, upon his being chosen to lead the Lieutenant-Governor's advisers, and Mr. Pattullo, upon his selection as leader of the opposition, a position which he trusted the Prince Rupert member would occupy for many years to come.

Touching reference was made to the double bereavement in the family of Mr. W. H. Sutherland, former minister of public works and present member for Revelstoke, and to the loss sustained by British Columbia in the death of former Lieutenant-Governor W. C. Nichol.

RECORD REVENUE FROM INDUSTRY.
It was a source of satisfaction, went on Mr. Kennedy, that the progress of the province had been so marked in the past year, and also to learn that in the present year the production from basic industries of the country would surpass all previous records. The per capita production was larger than for any other province in the Dominion.

The eyes of the world were watching British Columbia, he said, and this was particularly so in connection with mineral production. In 1928 there had been an increase of \$4,000,000 in the revenue from mining. Fisheries had also improved. "While many looked with grave concern upon our lumber industry during the early months of last year," he went on, "it is pleasing to note the very marked improvement during the last part of 1928, which will, am satisfied, show a very healthy increase over the previous twelve months. Our timber industry at present has its problems, and it will be the duty of this Legislature to consider them very carefully in order to maintain this huge business for British Columbia."

The development of hydro-electric was another auspicious sign for the future prosperity of B. C., said the North Okanagan member.

COMPLIMENTS VANCOUVER.
He referred in complimentary terms to the growth of Vancouver, which he said was destined to become in time "Canada's greatest city." The trade of the port of Vancouver had increased by 10 per cent. in the past year, while tremendous strides had been made in building.

Turning his attention to agriculture matters, Mr. Kennedy said that production figures had been nearly \$4,000,000 larger than for the preceding year. Livestock industry showed a gain of \$1,000,000, while poultry production had also advanced, and a similar increase had been noted in fruit growing. More satisfying than the increased production, he commented, was the fact that imports of agricultural products had decreased.

"We are fast becoming a mixed province, and in this I am satisfied we will find a solution for many of our difficulties in this industry. We have many parts of our province well suited for mixed farming. The people of the Okanagan are greatly interested in the fruit industry," added the speaker. "This industry is responsible each year for a large volume of business amounting, according to the Committee of Direction, to the payment out in various charges for the handling of the fruit and vegetable crops of \$9,267,000."

MIXED FARMING PAYS.
"All these expenditures must be met before the producer obtains his returns, and up to the present time no system has been found which will ensure to the grower even a reasonable return."

"The people of my district realize," he declared, "that to be successful they must give more thought to mixed farming, and with this in mind I would point out that the dairy industry is growing in the Okanagan very rapidly, and is second only to that of the Fraser Valley. You will be surprised to learn that last year the Okanagan produced over a million pounds of butter

and had no difficulty in marketing their product. They received approximately forty cents a pound butter fat. The farmers' share of the return on butter in our district is very satisfactory, as

we find out of each dollar collected eighty cents is returned to the producer. We have a country well suited for dairying, we can produce feed there cheaper than in most parts of Canada, and our production per cow is well above the average.

"The Okanagan is also well suited for the growing of tobacco, and samples of our product have been proved to be of as high quality as those produced elsewhere in Canada. For the past four years the experimental farm at Summerland has been giving special attention to the cultivation of tobacco, and I hope the department of agriculture will follow this up, as we must not lose the ground we have gained."

It was impossible for the Okanagan farmers to carry on successfully under the burden of the present charges for irrigation facilities, asserted Mr. Kennedy.

"If the great volume of business coming from this fertile valley means anything to our province, then it will be necessary for our government to come to the assistance of the farmers by giving a measure of relief which will enable the farmers to remain on the land."

BILLS TO LEGALIZE FITZSIMMONS VOTE

Doubt Regarding Assignment of Ferry Charter Is Cleared.

VICTORIA, Jan. 24. — Two special bills were introduced in the Legislature on Wednesday as to the legality of Captain James Fitzsimmons, member for Kaslo-Slocan, to occupy his seat in the Assembly by reason of the fact that prior to his election he held a ferry subsidy contract with the government. The purpose of the measures is to remove all shadow of doubt as to his right to continue as a representative of his riding.

According to the preamble of Bill No. 4, "an act to indemnify and relieve Captain James Fitzsimmons respecting his election as a member of the Legislative Assembly," the captain held a charter or license issued "under the Great Seal of the province," for the operation of a ferry on the Arrow Lakes, but before accepting nomination he assigned his interest to the Beaton Boat Co. Ltd.

After his election some doubt arose as to whether he could under existing legislation assign his charter. It is to make clear that he is entitled to do so, and to indemnify him against being unseated for that reason that the bill is brought forward.

Co-incident with this measure is an amendment to the Ferris Act, introduced by Hon. Nels S. Loughheed, minister of public works, defining the right of a license holder to assign his charter or rights.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEES ARE SELECTED

VICTORIA, Jan. 24. — Legislative committees for the session have been drafted as follows, the first named being chairman.

Agriculture—Berry, Kennedy, Lister, Kingston, Michell, Peck, McNaughton, Carson, R. McKenzie, Wrinch, A. M. Manson, Gillis, Gray, MacPherson and Hanna.

Private bills—Twigg, Davie, Beatty, Dick, Spencer, Kingston, M. Manson, I. A. Mackenzie, Kergin, MacPherson, A. M. Manson.

Public accounts—Walkem, Kirk, Beatty, Ruledge, Fitzsimmons, M. Manson, Twigg, Hayward, Sutherland, A. M. Manson, Buckham, Pearson.

Printing—Peck, B. McKenzie, Michell, Twigg, Hanna, Buckham, Uphill.

Railways—Spencer, Carson, Cornett, Fitzsimmons, Schofield, A. M. Manson, I. A. Mackenzie, Kergin.

Municipal—Hayward, Kennedy, Cornett, Kirk, Peck, Kingston, Dick, Berry, Gray, Gillis, Hanna, MacPherson, Sutherland.

Forestry—McNaughton, M. Manson, Spencer, Lister, Fitzsimmons, Pattullo, Buckham, Hanna.

Mining—Borden, Schofield, Lister, Carson, Kingston, Fitzsimmons, Kergin, Wrinch, Pearson, Uphill.

B. C. to Abolish By-Elections Of Ministers

Allowance of Entertainment Fund for Speaker Legalized.

VICTORIA, Jan. 24.—By-elections for cabinet ministers are to be abolished by an amendment to the Constitution Act which was introduced in the Legislature on Wednesday by Attorney-General Pooley. The new legislation not only abolishes at one sweep the necessity for cabinet ministers being endorsed in office by the electors, but legalizes the acceptance of an allowance by the Speaker and Deputy Speaker and indemnifies previous incumbents of these offices from action for having made use of the annual allowance that has been granted to them for many years past.

Under the new amendment, it is stated, allowances may be made to members of the cabinet who are not in charge of departments, such as the president of the council and ministers without portfolio.

Apparently, according to the wording of the section, Mr. Speaker and his deputy, who have been allowed \$1800 and \$500, respectively, each year, ostensibly for entertainment of distinguished visitors, have not had the right to accept it. The amendment will permit of the acceptance of these emoluments. Further, the position of deputy speaker has never been clearly defined, or fully authorized by the Constitution Act, and the bill aims to give to him all the authority possessed by Mr. Speaker while he is presiding in the absence of the regularly elected presiding officer.

B. C. Bee Keepers Must Be Registered

VICTORIA, Jan. 24.—All beekeepers in British Columbia will be required to register with the department of agriculture under an amendment to the Apiaries Act to be introduced in the Legislature by Hon. William Atkinson, minister of agriculture. No fee will be charged for registration, which in the opinion of the government is necessary, so that the operations of the apiaries may be kept under close review. The menace of foul broods, it is explained, can not be met without some such arrangement.

Government Will Not Sponsor Milk Legislation

Bill May Be Brought in By Private Member of House.

Report May Be Shelved Until Marketing Plan Brought In.

VICTORIA, Jan. 24.—While members generally are still more or less at sea as to the detailed proposals advanced in Dean F. M. Clement's report on the Vancouver milk situation, there is a fixed opinion at the Parliament Buildings already that the government will not

Province Is Asked to Place Reserve on False Creek Foreshore

sponsor legislation to implement these proposals. If legislation along these lines is introduced, as it may be, it will probably be brought in by a private member, just as it was two years ago when the idea of controlling the Vancouver milk supply was first advanced.

MILKSMEN ANXIOUS.

Already representatives of the Fraser Valley Milk Producers' Association, which was behind the original milk bill, are arranging to come here and examine the Clement report, apparently with a view to securing action on it. So far, of course, the association, like the Legislature, has no definite idea of what the report involves, and is not ready to express an opinion on it one way or the other.

If legislation based on the report is introduced it will undoubtedly go to a committee of the House, probably the agricultural committee, so that all representations on the subject may be heard. The committee thus will have to wrestle from the beginning again with the whole milk problem.

MAY SHELVE REPORT.

Among members close to the government there is talk of shelving the report, and the whole subject of milk for the time being, until Premier Tolmie puts into effect his plans for a marketing branch of the department of agriculture, which would consider milk with other kindred subjects. But at the moment no policy has been adopted by the government, which has not had an opportunity to digest Dean Clement's proposals. Consideration of the matter is to be facilitated by the immediate issuance of printed copies of the report to all members. These will be ready today, after being hastily prepared.

VICTORIA, Jan. 24.—Asking that the Provincial Government place a reserve on the granting of further foreshore leases on False Creek, George A. Walkem, Vancouver member, has filed a resolution seeking protection for the plan of the Town Planning Commission. The proposals as set out by Mr. Walkem are set forth in the following resolution:

"Whereas the tidal lands within the city of Vancouver known as the False Creek area form a valuable asset as a site for industrial plants, and all manufacturing and shipping interests are deeply concerned with the economic problem involved in the appropriate development of such area.

"And whereas the Provincial Government controls a large portion of the foreshore upon the northern side of False Creek and reported to be making plans for its development and use;

"And whereas the Town Planning Commission of the city of Vancouver, under the guidance of experienced consulting engineers, has prepared plans for the ultimate development of such False Creek area upon the principle of leaving a navigable channel in an appropriate location with a necessary turning-basin; which channel and basin will be bordered by conveniently arranged wharfage facilities, which would be reached by railway tracks and roadways serving the remainder of the area, which the plans propose should be filled in;

"And whereas it is desirable that all developments that take place henceforth should coincide with the most beneficial plan for the ultimate development of False Creek, and it would be contrary to public interest that any new vested rights should be created which would hamper the ultimate development of the area.

"Therefore be it resolved that this House would welcome an announcement from the government that no long-term leases will be granted on False Creek, or other vested rights created in private individuals, until a commission has been appointed to investigate the proposed plans for the improvement of False Creek, and, has reported thereon; and that the government will proceed upon receipt of such report, to either concur in or obtain the modification (as may be called for by the report) of the aforesaid plans for the development of the area, and will frame its policy on the basis of what will be found to best serve the whole economic situation."

NO LONG-TERM LEASES.

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SAWMILLS BLOCK PROJECT.

"And whereas the type of industry which would furnish the highest economic use for such area is one which requires shipping facilities by both rail and water, but is not of such a heavy nature as to monopolize too large an area, in comparison with its industrial output; but at the present time there are large sawmills in operation on False Creek, and consequently the execution of the plans for the ultimate development may have to await their removal, or the removal of some of them, so that the project may proceed progressively."

Pattullo Raps Sale of Bonds Without Bids

Asserts Government Not Master of Its Own Finances.

Enquires As to Government's Milk Control Policy.

VICTORIA, Jan. 25.—Statements of T. D. Pattullo, opposition leader in the Legislature yesterday about the recent bond deals of the government will be answered immediately by the government, it was indicated at the Parliament Buildings today. Detailed facts will be given the House probably today to show that the transactions in question were highly satisfactory to the province, and that if open tenders had been called for provincial securities a low price would have been obtained. As Mr. Pattullo's statements were heard with some surprise by many members, the government's reply is awaited with much interest on all sides of the House. Who will voice the government's views of the matter was not announced, but it is expected Hon. W. C. Shelly, minister of finance, may do so himself, although it is usual for a finance minister to reserve all his ammunition for his budget speech.

VICTORIA, Jan. 25.—Following an attack upon the financial policy of the government, which already in its borrowings had, he said, piled up an enormous expense by reason of its failure to call for tenders on the open market for the \$12,000,000 of bonds issued, Hon. T. D. Pattullo, leader of the opposition, Wednesday moved an amendment to the reply to the address of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor. The surprise action of the former minister of lands is in effect a want of confidence motion.

In leading up to the presentation of his motion, which was seconded by Ian A. Mackenzie, member for North Vancouver and former provincial secretary, Mr. Pattullo charged that the government had entered into an agreement with a financial syndicate to place all loans on the market through this group until February 28 next, and to pay a commission for the service. This meant, he declared, that the government was in the humiliating position of not being master of its finances.

The agreement stipulated that borrowings up to \$20,000,000 could be handled through the syndicate. The commission was 1 per cent. If the total named in the arrangement was borrowed it would mean that \$200,000 would be paid out in commissions. Over a period of forty years, the life of the bonds, interest on \$200,000 with the original amount would approximate \$1,400,000, he said.

His address was featured by flashes of bright wit, scathing sarcasm and just a tinge of bitterness. On the whole, it was a masterly effort of rhetoric and one of the best oratorical endeavors heard in the Legislature for a long time.

LIBERALS CLAIM FULL CREDIT.

Mr. Pattullo asserted that the government was taking credit for matters where no credit was due to the present administration. This was so in connection with Vancouver amalgamation, and again in respect to the return of the railway lands.

"The former administration secured from the Ottawa government the pledge that these lands would be returned and they also arranged that officers representing both governments would convene for the purpose of adjusting the many matters that necessarily arise in connection with the transfer," he continued.

Turning his attention to the P. O. E. Mr. Pattullo asked for information respecting the solution of that problem. He noted that the Premier intended to make a survey of the resources. He would like to know what further information was necessary in respect to the territory traversed by the line than that which was already on file in the lands department.

Reference in his honor's address to the creation of a commissioner of colonization, who would handle Sumas, he said, meant only that there had been another political appointment, and that there would be additional expense. He would hold the government to account for the administration of Sumas.

WOULD SUPPORT MARKET BRANCH.

"I note with interest that a marketing branch is to be established in connection with the department of agriculture. I wish to assure the Prime Minister that if the proposals which he submits to the House are of a beneficent character, that the opposition will be glad to support them and to commend his administration for this initiative.

"We will have to judge the proposals upon their merits, but my name is 'Thomas,' and I may be forgiven if I look upon the purport of this paragraph in his honor's speech as nothing more than a gesture and a means to reward a few more of the faithful."

Mr. Pattullo then proceeded to ask a number of questions based on criticisms offered by the Conservative party when in opposition.

What measures were being taken to improve the administration of justice? What was the government's liquor control policy, he demanded, adding: "Has any change been made by the government in the manner of liquor purchases and is it true that party patronage in liquor purchasing is rampant as never before?"

Hon. E. L. Maitland—Oh, you admit that there was patronage! (laughter.)

Pursuing his interrogations, the former minister of lands asked what policies had been framed for forest conservation and extension of timber markets; what had been done to stop the export of logs? What had been done about mining, and did the government intend to sponsor every mining prospect; what was the parks policy; what had been done about state health insurance and about education? Was taxation to be reduced?

TOLMIE CELEBRATES BIRTHDAY IN BED

VICTORIA, Jan. 25.—Premier Tolmie celebrated his 62nd birthday in bed at his home today, but was much improved in health, according to word received by his colleagues at the Parliament Buildings. He will return to his desk Monday, it is expected, and meanwhile is attending to routine business and getting ready to speak in the debate on the speech from the throne next week. The Premier's indisposition will prevent him observing another important birthday, that of Robert Burns. He had planned to speak this evening on Burns Night to the Victoria Burns Club, of which he is a member.

WOULD DIVIDE CITY RIDING INTO EIGHT

Walkem Claims Method of
Electing Members Here
Is Archaic.

PEACE GROWING
FAST ENOUGH

M.L.A. Believe That No Big
Colonization Scheme
Should Be Tried.

VICTORIA, Jan. 25.—Abolition of what he declared to be the "archaic system of representation" by which members of the Legislature are elected at large for Vancouver, and the creation of eight separate constituencies was advocated by Geo. A. Walkem, sixth member for Vancouver, in the opening debate in the Legislature on Wednesday.

He pointed out that it was impossible for the members to become sufficiently acquainted with the people they represented under the present system, and believed that more effective work could be done by separating the city into individual wards.

OPPOSES BIG COLONIZATION.

Mr. Walkem interested the House by a detailed description of his recent visit of five weeks to the Peace River block. He told of the immense areas of land that some day could be settled. While he refrained from declaring the district as "an empire," he was attracted by its agricultural possibilities which only awaited the completion of proper transportation facilities to open it up.

In the meantime, he warned, no extensive scheme of colonization should be entered upon and the Peace River was "being settled as fast as was good for it."

He proposed that an automobile road be extended to the Peace River district from Prince George. This would tend to turn business that was now going out of the province to British Columbia. It would also permit of the development of a tourist traffic and would give residents of the district the opportunity of driving to Prince George and other British Columbia centres.

LINE OF GRAIN BARGES.

The Alberta Government, prior to the sale of the E. D. & B. C. Railroad to the C. P. R. and C. N. R. had planned an extension of the line south of the river into the B. C. block, for a distance of thirty-seven miles. This would encourage settlement, and prosperity would follow. For the development of the section of the B. C. block north of the river, which was difficult to bridge, he advocated the establishment of a line of grain barges to be served by granaries.

The bulk of the lands in the Peace River district could be made productive in time, he said. The climate was milder than that in Saskatchewan and Alberta. He suggested that efforts be made by the government with up-to-date equipment to bore for water that was required for community purposes in some sections, declaring that the machinery previously used was inadequate and was not operated by experts in its management.

The Log of the House

The day is ruined by slush and wet feet and Mr. Pattullo's unkind words—but it was a good speech and the non-confidence vote was gallantly moved as it would demolish the government—Mr. Manson bobs up—and milk stays out on the doorstep.

By BRUCE HUTCHISON.

VICTORIA, Jan. 25.—The House yesterday was in the double grip of real winter and the winter of its own discontent. Three inches of snow was melting as fast as it had fallen, everyone's feet were wet, Vancouver members complained that they had to buy rubbers for the first time in their lives because of Victoria's climate, everything was as uncomfortable as it could be, and then Mr. Pattullo accomplished the final ruin of our day.

It was not that Mr. Pattullo failed to be interesting. He was intensely interesting for a full hour and a half, but he broke the cheerful spell of ceremony and congratulation which always surrounds the opening days of the House, and he told us how we had just lost a king's ransom through the improvident business of our new government. Mr. Pattullo broke the spell of the opening days all right. He broke it completely and he did it so well that even the government through its opponents had made no mistake in choosing their new chief.

PATTULLO'S BEST SPEECH.

Probably it was the best speech Mr. Pattullo ever made in the House. That was your impression as you listened to it and thought about the many other able speeches Mr. Pattullo had made in different vein from the other side. As for the matter in it, time and the replies of the government show how much there was to that. But as an opposition leader's speech at the opening of a new Parliament it was as good a one as the House remembers ever hearing.

Mr. Pattullo has learned many things by recent events, by what he, with a new flare for wordy periods, termed "the cataclysmic devolution of July 18." Perhaps he had the cause of that event in mind, at least so the government thought, when he added that "civilization is penetrating to the most backward peoples and the diffusion of knowledge is bewildering." It certainly proved bewildering enough to Mr. Pattullo's party on the occasion in question.

Whatever the penetration of civilization meant to the old government, Mr. Pattullo has learned a great deal about public speaking since his days of office. He speaks with more smoothness than he used to do, with less hesitancy, and without his old desire to bustle out his ideas ahead of his words. His facts, too, were admirably marshalled in order (whether they were correct remains to be seen). After congratulating everyone from the King to the mover of the address, he ascended in easy stages from a tone of courteous skepticism in regard to the government to an effective crescendo of denunciation as he thought of Mr. Shelly's bond deals. And concluded by moving a motion of no confidence in the new ministry.

It was hard to get used to Mr. Pattullo over on the left of Mr. Speaker and it was hard for Mr. Pattullo to get used to being there. Several times he referred to the government as the opposition, out of the habit of twelve years in the treasury benches, and he admitted that on leaving the House he day before he had walked straight down to the office of the minister of lands, forgetting for the moment that he no longer held a long-term lease on it.

ACCUSTOMED TO NEW JOB.

The physical changes of the House may have been irksome, but Mr. Pattullo evidently finds no trouble in getting used to his job. He leads his little group (the Twelve Apostles he called them) gayly and with as much confidence as if he might overwhelm the government whenever he felt in the humor for it.

His motion of no confidence, of course, is simply a gesture but some of the new, untutored Conservative members looked almost alarmed as he moved it. Such motions are always a little alarming when you hear them for the first time. In the last Parliament, indeed, such a motion meant something. In these days there would have been hurrying and scurrying among the whips to get all the government members into their seats in time to vote and, with the existing narrow majority, anything might have happened.

Now, however, Attorney-General Pooley, leading the House in his chief's absence, and taking copious notes of the speeches for the later's guidance,

could afford to sit back and smile as Mr. Pattullo thundered his demand that the new government instantly hurl itself into the street, where it had lived for twelve years. Mr. Pooley smiled at this suggestion, but when it was all over and he came outside for a smoke, Mr. Pooley said: "Old Duff made a good speech," which speech, of course, Mr. Pooley and others will seek to demolish utterly in due course.

After Mr. Pattullo's effort came Mr. Walkem, who speaks in a peculiar and chanting style of his own, but with great earnestness and constructive ideas. After him Mr. Manson (now plain Mr. Manson of Omineca, but as able in argument as ever) bobbed up for the first time this year. Mr. Manson was worried about the public accounts of the province and he got in his say on a point of privilege in the face of everything that an enthusiastic group of Conservatives could do or say to stop him. Mr. Manson has the immeasurable advantage of knowing more about the rules than anyone, and the way he leads his attacks through the barb wire entanglements of those regulations without a scratch is amazing. It is Mr. MANSON BUSY.

Mr. Manson is busy also with the absentee vote, to which there appears to be no end. He is asking the House to investigate it all over again, and there is a great weariness upon the House as it thinks about that idea. It was only last year that both parties solemnly denounced the absentee vote and said they would have nothing more to do with it, so help them, and ended by clasping it to their respective bosoms. Before doing so, however, they sought to ensure the purity of that unusual instrument of democracy by wrapping it around with many restrictions, designed to prevent the recurrence of dismal things, alleged to have happened in 1924.

Now Mr. Manson wants to see if the absentee vote, thus purified, is as pure as the old House hoped it would be, and whether it came through the last general election unscathed. No one is very interested in the absentee vote at this stage, but everyone is interested to find out whether, behind his apparently innocent move, Mr. Manson has anything shocking to say about the last election. If he does, it will be the first really shocking thing the House has heard so far and would be welcome as a diversion.

The milk is on the doorstep of the House now, but so far no one has moved to bring it in. Among the government at least there seems to be no enthusiasm about bringing it in at all. As for the House, it has only the haziest idea yet of what Dean Clement's report is all about. Milk has proved in the past too strong a fare for British Columbia legislators to digest, though they can swallow many things, and no one has forgotten how it upset us all in the last two sessions.

One recalls, for instance, how dear old Abe Barrow, who knew all about milk but nothing about politics, had a milk bill nicely drafted, put his name at the head of it, and sent it to the King's Printer. It was all ready to be brought into the House as a government measure when the late Premier Oliver spotted the name of his minister of agriculture glistening upon it. Whereupon, it is related, he roared aloud (as that gallant old gentleman only could roar), helped himself to three peppermint drops, and had every copy of the bill burned. It appeared later but without Mr. Barrow's name on it, so that when it was duly smothered, the government did not have to smother with it.

The present Premier does not roar like his grand old predecessor, but if he allows any member of his cabinet to affix his name to a similar bill, well then, the House doesn't know its Tolmie.

A QUEEN ANNE STATUTE.

It used to be customary to say of a thing which had no life in it at all that it was "dead as Queen Anne," and before Queen Anne's day, it was "dead as Queen Elizabeth." It appears, however, that though Queen Anne may be dead, some of the legislation passed in her reign is still very much alive, though obsolete, and is the occasion of some worry to Premier Tolmie and his colleagues at Victoria.

When Anne was on the throne, not much more than half a century after the Great Rebellion and the execution of her grandfather, King Charles, real responsible government had not yet come to Great Britain. The Crown and Parliament were still jealous of one another, still pulling in opposite directions, and each was doing what it could to circumvent the other. The Crown, when a question in which it had a real interest was at issue, was not above endeavoring to influence the members of Parliament by means of honors or flattery or even money, and it was discovered, on one occasion, that a member who was a very enthusiastic partisan of the Crown had a post in the royal kitchen and was drawing a salary from the Queen.

The net result of the struggle was the passage of an act making it illegal for any person enjoying an office of profit or emolument under the Crown to sit in the House of Commons unless his constituents endorsed his position. This, of course, made it necessary for every cabinet minister in receipt of a salary to go back to his constituency for re-election after accepting office. Years went by, and the struggle between Crown and Parliament gradually petered out. Parliament won. For a long time there has been no antagonism, but rather co-operation. Still, the old statute remained as it was passed until, during the war, it was found to be a nuisance and was modified. When the legislative machinery of Canada was built up, following Confederation, the British act requiring ministerial by-elections was embodied in it, and it was embodied, also, in the machinery of the various provinces. Some of the other Dominions did not accept the act at all. Some adopted it and discarded it later. In Canada it is still the law, but it is to be thrown overboard in British Columbia this year.

So far as protecting Parliament against the Crown is concerned, there is no need of ministerial by-elections in Canada. The contests have some value, however, as an index of public opinion if they are brought on two or three years after the general election and may be useful in curbing the arrogance of executives which sometimes grow despotic and careless of the people's rights. But when they come immediately after the general election, as when a new government takes office, they do not appear to have any value at all. They are simply a nuisance and an expense. They prevent a new minister from giving his office the full time and attention that office should have, and they encourage a prime minister, in choosing his cabinet, to take men with large majorities rather than men of large capacity.

CITY WORKERS SEEK INCREASED PENSIONS

VICTORIA, Jan. 25.—An increase in the scale of pensions paid municipal workers in British Columbia under Provincial Government Superannuation Act, will be sought from the present session of the Legislature by groups representing Victoria and Vancouver workers.

Increase in Number Of Veterans Taken On By Government

VICTORIA, Jan. 25.—In answer to the questions of Ian A. Mackenzie, member for North Vancouver, who filed interrogations as to the number of veterans employed and discharged by the government since it took office, returns have been made covering the departments of the attorney-general and lands.

Specific information was requested in respect of the provincial police. Answers given showed that on August 20 the strength of the force was 236, of which 130 were returned men. The present strength of the force is 254, of which 188 are veterans. New appointments included thirteen veterans, while only four were included in dismissals, or forced resignations.

It is noted that because of the age limit governing the employment of recruits, as time goes on the addition of veterans of the late war must necessarily be reduced. In the lands department (not including seasonal employees) there were 369 employees when the government took office, of which number 153 were veterans. The staff has been reduced to 362. One veteran was dismissed or resigned, and one veteran was hired, leaving the number of former soldiers on the payroll where it stood formerly.

RISE IN MILK PRICE IS URGED

Clement Report Claims Better Quality Would Be Worth More.

Cut Down Delivery Cost and Establish Bottle Exchange, Says Commission.

Owing to the voluminous nature of the report of the Milk Commission, previous statements in print as to its contents have been made after only a cursory examination of the document, and thus many important points contained in the recommendations have been overlooked.

Some idea of the voluminous nature of the report can be gathered from the fact that the evidence taken covers 3764 pages of transcript. In all the commission called eleven health officers, eleven physicians, milk specialists and bacteriologists, five government officials, twenty-four dealers and distributors, twenty-four dairymen, nine representatives of transportation companies and individual truck drivers, and twelve feed merchants and grain specialists.

In addition, 226 documents, many of them lengthy, were filed as exhibits, and nine briefs, setting forth grievances of the various interests, were presented to the commission.

In making its recommendations, the primary aim of the commission appears to be to assure urban districts of a plentiful supply of milk of good quality, now and in the future, and to remove the possibility of a shortage, which some consider likely to occur in the event of a continuance of present conditions; also at the same time to maintain our present position as a supplier of dairy products in foreign markets.

The dairy farmer for his part is asked by the commission to do two things: (1) To improve the quality of his milk; (2) to make production more uniform by increasing the winter supply.

MUST IMPROVE QUALITY.

To bring about the improvement in the quality, it is recommended to gradually reduce the bacterial count. At present a bacterial count of 1,500,000 per cc. before pasteurization is permitted. This, it is proposed, shall be reduced to 1,000,000 per cc. in the second year and to 500,000 in the third year, the reason for making the change gradually being that otherwise many farmers would be forced out of business.

As a means of increasing the winter supply the commission recommends that a basic fluid quantity be established annually for each farmer-shipper, and that this basic fluid quantity be that part of his production of the six winter months which is his proportionate share of the fluid market for that period, and that this basic fluid quantity be carried into the six summer months; and that the basic fluid quantity be paid for at the market price of fluid milk; that that part of each farmer's production, over and above his basic fluid quantity, be considered surplus, and be paid for both winter and summer at the surplus price (which is really the pooled products price).

CONSUMER TO PAY MORE.

While the aim of the commission has been to secure a greater return to the producer without increasing the price to the consumer, it feels that in procuring a better quality of milk, and an assured and more uniform supply, the consumer can fairly be asked to pay a little more. It thus suggests the following scale of summer and winter prices for fluid milk in bottles:

Summer prices—Not less than 3.25 and not more than 3.6 per cent. butterfat, at 9 quarts for \$1; 3.6 to 4.24 per cent. fat, 8 quarts for \$1; 4.25 to 5 per cent. fat, 7 quarts for \$1.

Winter prices—3.25 to 3.6 per cent. fat, 8 quarts for \$1; 3.6 to 4.25 per cent. fat, 7 quarts for \$1; 4.25 to 5 per cent. fat, 6 quarts for \$1.

These prices, the report states, are lower than those prevailing in almost any city in either Canada or the United States.

CUT DOWN DELIVERY COSTS.

Considerable space is devoted in the report to the retail delivery cost, which is given as averaging 5 cents per quart in Vancouver, though one retail distributing company indicated that its distributing cost (figured from the time the milk is received at the receiving platform of the dairy till the consumer gets it) is in the neighborhood of 3 cents per quart. The lowest record in any eastern city was 3.9 cents, while two others varied from 6.4 cents to 7.72 cents, both of which cities charged about 2 cents per quart above Vancouver prices. Could the distribution costs be brought down to the figure of the firm mentioned, the report states it would be possible to pay the farmer an advance of at least 7 cents per pound butterfat from this saving alone, and the commission draws attention to the need of abolishing the present wasteful system of overlapping in distribution.

Mention has been made in previous summaries of the recommendation of the commission for the appointment of a committee of equalization, or committee of direction, together with an advisory committee, to be composed of representatives of producers, distributors and consumers. The powers, duties, and functions of the committee of direction are recommended to be similar to those laid down in the proposed bill entitled "An Act for the Relief of Dairy Farmers," the introduction of which led to the appointment of the commission.

SUGGEST BOTTLE EXCHANGE.

Other recommendations are that trafficking in bottles bearing the name of a dairy, or their use other than as containers for milk, be made illegal, and that dairies establish a bottle exchange; also, that while the commission does not consider the time ripe for the organization of municipal milk distribution, or receiving, and grading stations, the production, distribution and sale of fluid milk should be treated as a public utility.

Towards the end of its numerous recommendations the commission advises that no discouragements be placed in the way of the present distributing companies that wish to amalgamate; that in any amalgamation that may take place, a merger on the basis of the source of the milk supply must be preferred to indiscriminate amalgamation that may seriously disrupt the channels of trade and lead to the disuse of dairies or produce plants that are now modern and efficient, and in the event of such an amalgamation being consummated, adequate protection be afforded those now engaged in the industry who are properly equipped to handle the business efficiently and in accordance with the regulations.

ATTACKS PROVINCE ON REVENUE FIGURES

Mr. Manson Appeals to House—Where Summary Came From.

VICTORIA, Jan. 25.—On a question of privilege, A. M. Manson, member for Omineca, launched an attack on The Province and the minister of finance.

He declared that the newspaper had incorrectly reported the current revenues of British Columbia and the concurrent expenditures, and characterized the item as "a gross abuse of the privileges of the press, which was only allowed to attend the sessions on surface."

He proceeded to make a speech on the subject, which brought C. F. Davie, Cowichan-Newcastle, to his feet with a declaration that the Omineca member was himself abusing the rules of procedure.

After further argument over rules, he was permitted to state his objection. He said that he was convinced that the information had been given to the reporter by the minister of finance, and upon this assumption proceeded to castigate Hon. W. C. Shelly.

The information upon which The Province article was based was taken from the public accounts, which set out the figures and totals exactly as quoted in this newspaper of Tuesday. The official document is headed "Public Accounts April 1, 1927, to March 31, 1928." The item published on Tuesday quoted the total revenues and expenditures and gave a summary of the details showing how these were made up.

JANUARY 26, 1929.

House Is in Turmoil As Opposition Is Voted Down.

Tolmie Government Is Sustained By 29 to 8.

VICTORIA, Jan. 26.—The Tolmie government carried its first division in the Legislature on Friday afternoon by twenty-nine votes to eight, but only after the most spirited and stubborn fight the House has witnessed in a long time.

Before the Assembly finally voted down a non-confidence motion by T. D. Pattullo, opposition leader, attacking the government's recent bond sales, it found itself twisted in double knots on questions of procedure, and at times the House, in the words of Hon. Joshua Hinchliffe, was a bear garden.

Behind all the turmoil was the government's determination to reach an immediate vote on Mr. Pattullo's want of confidence motion and the opposition's equally firm determination to delay a vote until after the week-end. Liberals sought to adjourn the debate on this motion on the ground that they wished to consider statements made by Hon. W. C. Shelly, minister of finance. To achieve this adjournment they adopted every possible recourse. Finally, every Liberal member individually moved an adjournment and each was ruled out of order in turn—a manoeuvre designed to register as emphatically as possible the opposition's protest against what Capt. Ian Mackenzie called the government's "brute majority."

MOTIONS DEFEATED.

In the end both a motion to adjourn the debate over the week-end and the main Pattullo amendment were defeated by the same decisive margin of 29 to 8.

The trouble started originally when A. M. Manson, Liberal of Omineca, concluded his speech on the want-of-confidence motion moved by his leader as an amendment to the address in reply to the speech from the throne. After speaking on this amendment, Mr. Manson sought to adjourn further discussion so that he could resume his address on Monday.

(Continued on Page 3, Col. 3.)

This request for an adjournment brought instant cries of "No! No!" from the government benches.

"At no time in the history of the Liberal government did we refuse the opposition the fullest opportunity of discussion," Mr. Pattullo protested.

TO OBSERVE THE RULES.

Attorney-General Pooley, leading the government in Premier Tolmie's absence, declared that under the rules Mr. Manson could not adjourn the debate after having spoken to the amendment, and added: "So far as this government is concerned, we propose to see that the rules are observed."

Mr. Manson said Mr. Pooley was quite wrong about the rules, but the Conservative floor leader replied that the motion of no confidence in the government must be settled during the day and not left over for further discussion.

"It must be settled today," Mr. Pooley repeated.

"Perhaps it will and perhaps not," retorted Mr. Manson, a remark which made members wonder whether the opposition intended to blockade the House with further speaking.

Mr. Pooley protested that Mr. Manson had no right to speak further, having concluded his address, and Mr. Manson sat down.

Mr. Manson still pressed his motion to adjourn the debate, however, and Mr. Pattullo asked for a division on it. The division was duly taken and Mr. Manson's adjournment motion was defeated by 29 to 8, Thomas Uphill, Labor member for Fernie, voting with the Liberals. There were five pairs.

OUT OF ORDER.

Capt. Ian Mackenzie, Liberal of North Vancouver, immediately moved to adjourn the debate on the want of confidence motion but Mr. Speaker Jones ruled him out of order on the ground that such a motion could not be made again after being once defeated.

Mr. Manson was on his feet instantly, declaring, "Mr. Speaker you are absolutely and entirely wrong!" and adding that he was surprised Mr. Speaker could be "so rash" as to make such a ruling. This was greeted with cries of "Order!" from the Conservative benches and Mr. Speaker rang his bell.

After a good deal of argument, Mr. Pooley quoted the rules to support Mr. Speaker's ruling, and Mr. Pattullo intervened with a plea for the "courtesies and decencies of debate." He added significantly that if the government would extend these courtesies to the opposition it would save a great deal of time in future.

Mr. Pooley insisted that the opposition should have been prepared for the situation, and that the issue of non-confidence must be settled at once.

HAD ENOUGH.

Mr. Uphill sought also to adjourn the debate, and Captain Mackenzie declared that while the government had allowed one of its own members, W. E. Ruteledge of Burnaby to adjourn the debate on the preceding day, it would not accord the same privilege to a Liberal.

Finally Mr. Speaker protested: "We have had enough of this sort of thing. The proceedings should be carried on with some dignity."

Mr. Manson suggested that Mr. Speaker think over the situation during the week-end and possibly correct his ruling, letting the debate stand meanwhile. This idea being unacceptable to Mr. Speaker, Dr. H. C. Winch, Liberal of Skeena, moved the adjournment of the debate so that he could speak on Monday. He, too, was ruled out of order. H. F. Kergin, Liberal of Atlin, moved an adjournment and met with the same ruling. F. M. MacPherson, Liberal of Cranbrook, took the same course and also was ruled out. J. A. Buckham, Liberal of Oolumbia, the only remaining Liberal member, moved the same motion and also was rejected, after he had declared that not in his memory had the right of adjournment been refused to a member.

This was the opposition's last protest and a division on the Pattullo non-confidence amendment was taken. This, like the Manson adjournment motion, was lost by 29 to 29, Mr. Uphill voting with the opposition.

HOUSE MISLED DECLARES MANSON

Former Attorney-General Claims Liberals Never Sold Bonds Privately.

RUNS GAUNTLET OF GOVERNMENT FIRE

Attacks Finance Minister for Alleged Secrecy in Recent Deal.

(Special to The Province.)

VICTORIA, Jan. 26.—Never in its twelve years of office did the Liberal government sell provincial bonds privately, as the Tolmie government has done recently, and never did it pay commissions like those recently paid, A. M. Manson, Liberal of Omineca, declared in the Legislature yesterday when he replied to a speech on government financing by Hon. W. C. Shelly, minister of finance.

Mr. Manson sought to prove that Mr. Shelly had misled the House in his statement that the former ministry had made sixteen private bond sales during its life. He also defended the former ministry's refusal to float bonds after it had been defeated at the polls and immediately before a policy which Mr. Shelly had vigorously assailed.

Going back to the days of the Liberal government's election in 1916, and recalling the difficulties of financing then, Mr. Manson said the Brewster ministry had decided to do away permanently with fiscal agents like those used recently by Mr. Shelly, and also had ceased to pay any commissions on bonds like those recently paid.

NEVER PAID COMMISSION.

"Never once did we pay a commission on the sale of bonds," the former attorney-general asserted.

Conservative members declared Mr. Manson had no right to go into these matters at that point under the rules of the House, but after a long argument he was allowed to proceed. He declared that the former ministry had sold all its bonds by public tender and not privately, as was done recently.

"And," he added, "the prices we received improved so much that recently B.C. bonds sold at a better rate than those of any province, and sometimes better than the Dominion."

Mr. Shelly wanted to know when the province got a better price than the Dominion, and Mr. Manson said he had a distinct recollection of the case, but could not quote it offhand. In any case, prices for B.C. bonds were better than those for the securities of other provinces.

"And the fact is now," he said, "that under this government for the first time in five or six years our bonds have brought a less price than those of other provinces, despite the good financial shape of British Columbia."

IN HANDS OF AGENTS.

Mr. Manson could not understand why Mr. Shelly had made his recent bond sales secretly, so secretly that the agreement between the government and the purchasing syndicate had never been revealed until read to the House by T. D. Pattullo, opposition leader, on the previous day. The agreement, he said, put the province irrevocably in the hands of its fiscal agents until the end of February, a proceeding unparalleled before. In addition, the province was bound to pay the fiscal agents 1 per cent. commission on all bonds sold.

Mr. Manson wondered whether Mr. Speaker Jones, if he had been finance minister, as he was more qualified and entitled to be than Mr. Shelly, would have entered such a deal. He wondered also if T. H. Kirk, Conservative

of Vancouver, would have done such a thing if he had taken the finance portfolio. Mr. Manson did not believe that these gentlemen or any other gentlemen experienced in finance would have done any such thing.

Hon. B. L. Maitland asked Mr. Manson several times whether the interests

which purchased the Liberal government's bonds went without any remuneration at all, if they were paid no commission. Mr. Manson replied that they received their profit from the public by selling the bonds at a higher price than they paid for them. The purchasing public in many parts of the world and not the government thus paid the dealers' profits, he said.

DENIES SHELLY'S CLAIM.

Mr. Manson denied pointblank Mr. Shelly's statement that the former government had made sixteen private bond sales. When the old government went into the market and floated a \$5,000,000 loan, for instance, he said, the successful tenderers often came back and offered to purchase another block of government securities at a similar price, he explained. In such cases the government sometimes made such a second sale without calling new tenders. But at no time was a sale initiated without the calling of tenders so that anyone might bid, he asserted. All the sixteen sales referred to by Mr. Shelly would be found to be in this category, Mr. Manson said.

For political purposes and to injure the opposition, Mr. Manson charged, the new government was ready to sacrifice the good financial name of the province through statements like Mr. Shelly's.

Mr. Shelly had suggested, Mr. Manson went on, that the former government should have gone into the bond market and sold up to \$20,000,000 in bonds early in 1928, according to advice received from financial authorities. Such a course, Mr. Manson replied, would have brought down the price of provincial securities several points, and would have been unwise.

UNCONSTITUTIONAL.

As for the suggestion of the finance minister that the government should have sold bonds after the election when the market was good, Mr. Manson declared that such a proceeding, after the government's defeat, would have been entirely unconstitutional.

"If the leader of the Conservative party had been consulted and agreed to a sale of bonds, what then?" asked Mr. Maitland.

"Why it would have been almost tantamount to insolence to the Lieutenant-Governor to have told him we had consulted Dr. Tolmie and asked him to approve a bond sale," Mr. Manson retorted.

When all the details were boiled down, Mr. Manson concluded, the fact remained that "under a Conservative government the country is paying more for its money than under a Liberal government."

"Not One Province Financed by Tender Since Spring of 1928"

—Shelly

Extraordinary Market Conditions Justified Action.

MacLean's Procrastination Lost Huge Sum.

VICTORIA, Jan. 26. — Prompt answer was made by Hon. W. C. Shelly, minister of finance, on the floor of the Legislature to the charge hurled at him on Thursday by T. D. Pattullo, opposition leader, that the financing of the government through sales by private tenders of \$12,000,000 of long-term bonds had been improvident. The minister in making his debut on the floor of the House went exhaustively into the history of the credit of the province, and declared that as a result of the policy of procrastination of the late administration a serious situation had arisen. He defended his action in selling through a private syndicate, and declared that as a result of this there had been effected a saving of a substantial character. Further he contended that as a result of the confidence inspired in the province by a change of administration the bank rate on temporary borrowings had been reduced from 5 per cent to 4 3/4 per cent., and the treasury had been notified that accommodation on temporary financing by treasury bills would be increased from \$10,000,000 to \$12,000,000.

MEETS PATTULLO'S CHALLENGE.
The minister charged that the Liberal administration had on no less than sixteen occasions borrowed money through fiscal agents, or by private sale of bonds. Moreover, he said, one of the most important of these transactions had been effected when the present leader of the opposition was acting as minister of finance.

Challenged by Mr. Pattullo to produce a copy of the order-in-council signed by him as acting minister, Hon. Mr. Shelly did so without waiting, a certified copy of the minute being sent across the floor.

ALL PROVINCES IN SAME BOAT.

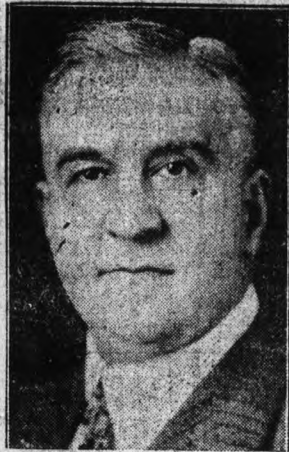
"A careful survey," said Mr. Shelly, "will reveal the fact that not one province in Canada has on account of the peculiar sort of public tenders since May, 1928. During the year there has accumulated \$215,000,000 of government and high grade municipal financing, most of this has been accomplished by short-term (three to nine months) in the hope that the market would recover."

FORNER GOVERNMENT WARNED BY BANK.

Mr. Shelly explained the position in which the new government found itself on taking power on August 23 last, following the election on July 18, when the Liberal government was defeated.

He pointed out that as early as January, 1928, with over \$20,000,000 of securities that would need to be refunded, the old government had been warned by financial institutions like the Bank of Commerce that it would be a wise policy to take advantage of the money market as it then was and not delay, as the situation was one which promised that there would in the matter of rates on government securities be a decided advance. There was a warning that the maturing bonds could be placed as early as January of last year at 4%.

Justifies Action



HON. W. C. SHELLY, Minister of Finance.

LOST INTEREST AFTER ELECTION.

Again in five days before the election the government was warned again that there was need for action, but nothing was done. The warnings continued after the election, and while the old government was still in power, the Bank of Commerce intimating that while the 1927 market had been abnormally favorable, they were not likely to see as favorable a condition again for a long time.

Mr. Shelly said the government, after the election, did not seem to be taking any interest in the country's welfare and Premier Tolmie was warned as to the situation, but before the reins of government were handed over, Dr. Tolmie was ready, said Mr. Shelly, to have done anything possible to aid in the matter, but was not appealed to.

The new government came in with a serious situation awaiting it and had to act quickly. The adoption of the fiscal agent system, whereby six of the most reliable institutions on the continent took over the task of placing the bonds, and did the refunding with very favorable results as far as the province was concerned, had to be resorted to.

DELAY COST PROVINCE \$2,000,000.

The delay of the old government had cost the province, extending over the term of the bonds, the loss of \$2,000,000.

The new government of B. C. had taken prompt action and while some \$215,000,000 of securities were handled on short term in Canada, owing to the situation the province of B. C. got in, and placed its issue, although \$60,000,000 elsewhere in the Dominion remained unpaid.

"The fiscal agency method adopted by this government has, indeed, proved the best," said Mr. Shelly; "and while it is conceded that public tender, during favorable market conditions, is by far the most preferable course, it would have proved fallacious so to do during the past six

months or so, as unprofitable bids would not only have been subject to refusal, but would have tended to impair the provincial credit.

Although the minister was somewhat nervous as he rose to make his maiden address, which, through the circumstances of the previous day's debate, forced him to rise to participate in what will probably be one of the most important fights of the session, he made a speech that won for him the unqualified applause of the government benches. While he followed his notes carefully he gave good account of himself when interrupted from across the floor.

FINANCING LEFT OVER BY MACLEAN.

When the Conservative government took office, he said, it was found that treasury bills amounting to more than \$12,000,000 were maturing on November 30, and in addition debentures were maturing in New York on January 25 amount to \$6,000,000, making a total of \$20,068,769 falling due in the near future. This, he said, represented an accumulation of financing held over by the late government, which instead of going to the market when it was favorable, permitted the refinancing issues to pile up.

"Many overtures were made to the government to clean up this financing, as the market outlook of the future was very discouraging," declared the minister. "With this heavy programme of financing to do, and a constantly curtailed market for provincial bonds, it is self evident that the position had become a very serious one, and the following is a synopsis of our endeavors to make the most of the unfortunate position in which the former government relegated us, and an unprejudiced mind would readily admit we have been successful in our endeavors.

INEXCUSABLE PROCRASTINATION.

"It is therefore incumbent upon me to comment upon the financing of these maturities by the past regime, and to utter not only severe criticisms, but also indictable imputations against a policy of inexcusable procrastination which has proved to be very costly indeed to the people of the province.

"In support of this statement let me cite excerpts from correspondence on file in the treasury, representing most of the information given by institutions whose advice had been sought in the matter.

"Letter from the Canadian Bank of Commerce, Victoria, to the deputy minister of finance, dated January 5, 1928; giving the contents of a telegram received from the general manager of the bank.

"Our impression is money rate may become stiffer next few months and long term issue likely to sell on a better basis now than later. Present cost to province 25 to 30-year bonds about 4.50 or slightly better. Unless there are strong reasons to the contrary, would advise principal \$3,000,000 one operation. Two-year notes would sell about same price. We think 4 3/4 rate fair at present for temporary financing."

"Telegram from Dominion Securities Corporation Ltd., January 4, 1928: 'Good demand both short and long term. Suggest issue \$5,000,000 to \$6,000,000 take care substantial part February maturity.'

"Letter from the same firm dated January 9, 1928:

"There is good demand in the United States market for both short and long-term securities, and as advised in our telegram we believe you could

net approximately a 4.49 per cent. basis for 1, 2, 25 or 30-year 4 per cent. bonds, payable in New York and Canada."

NO ACTION TAKEN DESPITE ADVICE.

"Strangely enough, in the face of such definite advice, no action was taken and the expedient of temporary refunding was resorted to. As predicted, money rates became stiffer and stiffer, yet no action was taken to convert these treasury bills; on further enquiry by the treasury department it was learned that the market continued to go against advantageous marketing of securities, as is evidenced by the following excerpt from a telegram from the Canadian Bank of Commerce, dated July 17, 1928:

"We should also like to say to him that we are inclined to think he should do his long term financing now, as the prospect for money rate is upward if anything rather than downward. A large volume of Canadian financing is waiting and the security markets are not particularly receptive, and many are likely to be disappointed. He might get 4.85 now, and if he waits he might do considerably worse. The 1927 market was abnormally favorable. We are not likely to see such favorable rates for some time."

LEFT FINANCING TO INCOMING CABINET.

Further dilatoriness is now evidenced by the following letter of the deputy minister of finance dated July 23, 1928:

"The outgoing cabinet unfortunately is not inclined to enter at present into any new financial obligations for the future, and feel disposed to leave this financing for the incoming cabinet. This I very much regret as I feel a loss will be sustained by the delay."

"The six months' notes were renewed by a further issue of treasury bills in New York, the best obtainable rate therefor being 5 per cent. Finally, it became imperative that conversion of at least part of the treasury bills should take place, and this was accomplished at the most advantageous possible terms, at a time when every evidence pointed to a weak market situation, and at a time when many dealers had taken smarting losses in disposing of undigested issues; at a time when New York bankers were

paying 5 1/2 per cent. to some European banks for either three or six months money, and ample opportunity for them to loan it at higher rates for fixed periods; at a time when one Canadian province had been asked to pay as high as 6 1/2 per cent. on three-months money.

"After combing every source of information, and having indisputable evidence that the best recourse was a fiscal agency arrangement, this was entered into with a syndicate comprising an as powerful and influential group as could be desired, that is: The Canadian Bank of Commerce, A. E. Ames & Co. Ltd., the Dominion Securities Corporation, Wood, Gundy & Co., and Dillon, Read & Co., the last-mentioned of New York, the price for \$9,000,000, the syndicate to receive 1 per cent. marketing charge. On or about the same time Ontario sold in London \$10,000,000, paying 5.118 per cent., with sterling against them and Nova Scotia paying 5 3/4 per cent. for six-month bills.

"Since closing the last year with the syndicate, which since 1916 has purchased 82 per cent. of all our provincial issues, we have received a wired offer from an eastern house, which reads in part as follows:

"If province contemplates doing any borrowing near future would it consider bid two or three million 4 1/2 per cent. at 4.90 basis. Market is extremely flat and there is very little demand. We believe at present time we could sell block around 4.85 basis, if we were able to obtain concession of this price."

"Our sales of bonds net the province 4.87 yield basis," said Mr. Shelly, "therefore, the price we obtained from the syndicate is far in excess of this offer for a small block.

MIGHT HAVE SAVED PROVINCE HUGE SUM.

"The unjustifiable apathy and procrastination of the late administration reduced in terms of dollars and cents expresses best the censure it received at the last election. Had the advice sought been acted upon, it would have meant the refunding of \$8,000,000 at a time when the province could have floated its debentures on a 25-year 4% basis to yield 4.80%, the saving to the taxpayers being one-half of 1% annually in interest charges, or \$40,000 per annum over the 25-year life of the issue; this principal sum in itself represents \$1,200,000, but its worth to the province is that compounded at 4% to maturity and amounts to \$1,732,469.60.

"I am satisfied, Mr. Speaker, that when all these facts are considered, you will agree that the way the MacLean government allowed this accumulation, refusing to accept the attractive prices that were offered, is subject to severe censure.

"I am also satisfied that this explanation will reveal the fact that the government has successfully met a most unfortunate circumstance. Much as I am opposed to private deals under normal circumstances, I nevertheless, felt that placing ourselves in the hands of such powerful syndicate with such a large selling force and institutional connections, this government has done the proper thing under the peculiar financial cycle that now exists."

The Log of the House

The week which started so quietly ends in a pitched battle—Mr. Pattullo's gallant band is routed but not until it has turned the House upside down—and annoyed Mr. Speaker—and made everyone wonder when the end is to be.

By BRUCE HUTCHISON.

VICTORIA, Jan. 26.—The seventeenth Parliament of British Columbia finished its first week yesterday, and if the last day of its first week is anything like the days to follow, the seventeenth Parliament of British Columbia is going to be a stormy one.

The week finished in a first-rate row, in a paroxysm of protest from the opposition, in a grim determination on the face of the government, in a score of resolutions, counter-resolutions, an amendment, in a bewildering wrangle over points of order and finally in the government's first victory by twenty-nine votes against a group of eight, who fought like wildcats to the last breath.

FIRST CLASH AT ARMS.

The ebb and flow of that struggle will never be known except to those who witnessed it and they will never remember it all. They will be lucky indeed if they remember what it was all about in the first place. There is no Hansard to record the events of the day and even a Hansard could never paint the picture of the new House in its first battle array.

There will never be any record of Mr. Manson's righteous wrath, or Mr. Pattullo's passionate plea for the "courtesies and decencies" of debate, or Mr. Fooley's blunt refusal to yield an inch, or Mr. Davie's aggravatingly calm demands for order, or Colonel Peck's rough growls down in the far corner, or Mr. Matland's smiling, acid sarcasm, or Capt. Mackenzie's rolling 'r's and waving arms, or Mr. Uphill's insistence in a rich brogue that he be heard as the leader, rank and file of the Labor party, or Mr. Speaker Jones' stern rebukes, or Mr. Buckham's plaintive resignation, or of many other things that filled Friday afternoon.

All the votes and proceedings will say is that the House had two divisions and a few motions and adjourned. They will not tell the people of British Columbia how their representatives battled for the faith within them. They will not tell either that if we are going to have many more battles like this we won't be home until pink blossom covers the orchards of Okanagan.

STARTED QUIETLY.

The day started quietly enough and everyone figured on winding up the week in a couple of hours. But there was lightning and thunder in the air from the start. In fact, as Mr. Shelly opened his discussion of government financing, he was so calm and quiet about it, as if he were addressing a board of directors, that the House scented something behind it, and emerged without delay.

The government, it was soon clear, intended to make this its day exclusively, just as the previous one had been the opposition's. (Governments always like to get their innings on Fridays, so that the newspaper-reading public may ponder these things over the week-end.) The government was going on an offensive of its own after taking all Mr. Pattullo's thrusts on Thursday.

Mr. Shelly was not quiet and subdued long. He soon opened an attack which showed that the new finance minister knows how to take care of himself in debate as in business. While trying out his wings of oratory in the rare atmosphere of the House, however, he wisely did not scorn to use the artificial aid of a carefully-prepared manuscript which, strictly speaking, is not according to Hoyle, as Capt. Mackenzie was kind enough to point out. With this manuscript Mr. Shelly was able to deluge the House with figures and facts until its head swam. After listening to him toss millions around, the average member wondered why he was bothering with a \$2000 indemnity.

FORCES GO WILD.

It is always comforting to have the full force of a big majority behind you on such occasions and Mr. Shelly had it as his back as he charged into the opposition. Again and again the Conservatives pounded their desks with de-

The leader of the opposition could give me all the cards in the pack and beat the hands down in this game," cried Mr. Shelly and then proceeded to tell the House what he thought of "this man who appears to be premier" and the "remnant of the Brea-

ster government." When he waved aloft a document which purported to prove that Mr. Pattullo with his own signature had authorized a private loan, which he now condemned, the Conservatives went fairly wild.

The din of desk thumping was so deafening that Mr. Uphill remarked wearily: "Look here, Mr. Speaker, sir, I want to say that if you don't stop this there we're going to need new furniture and that's a fact."

After Mr. Shelly came Mr. Manson, and he came to life with all his old fire, all his old mastery of words, all his nervous gestures, all his passion for the truth. Mr. Manson sought to answer Mr. Shelly, but that was only the beginning of the real trouble. The real trouble started when he sought also to adjourn the debate so that he could say more on Monday. There the gov-

ernment put its large, heavy foot down with a thud.

Mr. Manson insisted on adjourning. Mr. Fooley insisted that a vote be taken on Mr. Pattullo's no-confidence motion. For an even hour the battle raged.

Finally the House voted down the motion to adjourn. If Mr. Manson could not adjourn the debate, other Liberals thought they could. They were wrong.

Capt. Mackenzie, with many biting remarks about free speech and brute majorities, moved an adjournment to that he could speak Monday. Mr. Speaker Jones said he was out of order. Mr. Manson said Mr. Speaker Jones was quite wrong and surprisingly rash for so new a Speaker. "Order!" "Order!" thundered the indignant Conservatives, in protest against such a remark about the new Speaker.

"How about doing some business?" suggested Hon. Ralph Bruhn, who has no use for these wrangles, but his was a voice crying in a wilderness of argument and was instantly lost in the clamor. Mr. Bruhn subsided in despair. The whole cabinet subsided. The new Conservative members sat back with a puzzled look in their first baptism of fire and let the old-timers carry it on with a will.

SUNK WITHOUT TRACE.

By this time the House was sunk without trace in questions of procedure. Everyone was looking up the book of rules, which are Greek to most of them. Mr. Manson's desk was littered with authorities and he and Mr. Davie and Mr. Fooley and Mr. Mackenzie were all speaking at once.

During a moment's pause, while both sides looked up some obscure point few understood, Mr. Pattullo, who was enjoying himself hugely, rose to plead for "the decencies and courtesies of debate." He added significantly that these courtesies and decencies would save a lot of time later on. That threat did not escape anyone, for the opposition had already demonstrated its ability to tie the House up in knots and delay the adjournment hour.

Blocked in other channels, Mr. Manson was resourceful as usual. He suggested patiently that Mr. Speaker think his ruling over during the week-end, and see if he hadn't made a mistake, but Mr. Speaker had no such intention. In his first test Mr. Jones of South Okanagan did not budge. He remarked sharply that it was time the House recovered some sense of dignity.

Foiled again, the opposition made its last gallant stand. One by one each of the seven Liberals present rose and moved an adjournment, and one by one were ruled out of order. Dr. Wrinch was solemn and deliberate as he asked time to prepare a speech for next week. Mr. MacPherson was indignant. Mr. Kergin was logical, and Mr. Buckham was a picture of resignation as he hurled himself into the breach to suffer the same fate as the others. All were out of order. Even Mr. Uphill found himself in the same plight, as he protested loudly in his rich brogue.

Whether this was the end no one knew. The Liberals can yet discuss the main motion. They can move more amendments and discuss them. They can talk for a week yet, if they want to. The House thus went home for the week-end not knowing what Monday might bring forth, or into what new forlorn hope Mr. Pattullo might lead his undaunted little battalion.

COMMISSION TO STUDY HEALTH INSURANCE

W. R. Rutledge, M.L.A., Burnaby, Will Seek World-Wide Enquiry.

MEASURE NEEDED BY WAGE EARNERS

House Amused at Dissertation on Advantages of "Sentinel Municipality."

(Special to The Province.)

VICTORIA, Jan. 26.—That he intends to introduce a motion asking for the appointment of a commission to study the methods of health insurance operating in different states and countries, was the declaration of W. R. Rutledge, member for Burnaby, speaking in the Legislature on Friday.

The member in the course of what he termed "a few remarks" and which developed into a constructive address of an hour and a half's duration, touched upon a number of subjects which concerned his riding. Possessed of a fund of information and a happy manner of expressing it, he was accorded an attentive hearing.

He caused some amusement when at the outset he informed the House that he represented the best riding in the province, which he could easily demonstrate. This he proceeded to do, explaining in detail the peculiar advantages possessed by Burnaby as the sentinel municipality to the Fraser Valley, with its fringe on Burrard Inlet, and on the Fraser River, and lying between the great city of Vancouver, and the rapidly-growing city of New Westminster.

These advantages, he said, made Burnaby an ideal location for industrial development. He favored the government giving every possible encouragement to industries—"especially in Burnaby," he added. He pointed out that the large sum expended in Vancouver annually for unemployment relief, as well as contributions made by other municipal corporations, indicated the necessity for creating additional employment.

WOULD TAKE UP LANDS.

Another suggestion which he advanced was that any advantages offered by the government in the way of encouragement to immigrants to settle in British Columbia should be made available to residents of the province. He knew many working men who would be glad to take up lands upon the conditions that were offered to newcomers.

As the father of three sons who had served overseas, he said that he stood 100 per cent. for the veterans of the war. They should have preference in employment above all others, and he urged that this policy be followed.

He had heard the opposition leader say something about political patronage, declared Mr. Rutledge. "Well," he added, "he reminds me of a boy who starts to cry before he's been whipped for fear he's going to get the whiplashing."

Mr. T. D. Pattullo—I understand that after this session we're going to get another hundred stripes.

Mr. Rutledge—He's afraid. Mr. Speaker, that the Liberal political heelers who were put in jobs are going to lose them. Why, the reason they lost the election was that just before it they filled every available office with officials of the Liberal associations and had no one to run their campaign for them.

REAL "VICIOUS PATRONAGE."

Continuing, the speaker invited Mr. Pattullo to come with him to Vancouver and make a round of the liquor stores and beer parlors and he would point out real "vicious patronage." He would show the opposition leader hundreds of Liberal workers who had been given jobs because of their political affiliations. He would point out beer parlors and tell him how different licensees obtained their franchises. He would demonstrate that even the employees who served beer in some of these places had to be endorsed by twenty Liberals before they obtained employment.

He had worked too long on the waterfront not to know political patronage when he saw it, the Burnaby member intimated.

He then passed on to the consideration of state health insurance, a subject upon which he was well posted. He had been astonished to hear the leader of the opposition ask the Premier why he had not done something about this matter because, while a commission had reported on the subject in 1921, the Liberal Government had not even printed the commission's report. Why then, he asked, should Mr. Pattullo show such a sudden interest in the subject after he was out of power?

Mr. Rutledge gave the House a great deal of data on health insurance and told of the need for it among the wage earners. He reviewed the development of the legislation since it was first introduced in Austria in 1848. There were many kinds of health insurance, and it was his intention to later move for a committee or commission to investigate and decide upon the best features that should be incorporated in an act for this province.

COMMITTEE REQUESTED.

Following closely upon the announcement of Mr. Rutledge that he would move for the appointment of a committee, Dr. H. C. Wrinch, member for Skeena, filed a resolution to that effect with the Speaker.

The principle of health insurance was approved by the Legislature last year and a committee was to have been appointed for the purpose of gathering information on the subject. The MacLean administration left office without taking any steps in the matter, and Dr. Wrinch's motion calls for re-endorsement of the principle and the appointment of the committee.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 26, 1929.

THINK AGAIN, MR. POOLEY.

The bill to extend the censorship of moving pictures in this province to advertisements of movies in newspapers embodies an unnecessary and objectionable piece of legislation. It stands on the order paper of the Legislature in the name of Mr. Attorney-General Pooley, and we hope he can be persuaded either to remove it or to let it die there.

The bill proposes to give new powers to the Board of Motion Picture Censors. Already that board passes upon the films to be shown in places of public entertainment, and can prohibit or excise, as it pleases. But if this legislation passes of Mr. Pooley's fathering, our censors are to be made policemen as well, and policemen of the Cossack rather than of the traditional British variety. For under its provisions, movie advertisements in newspapers will not be submitted to the board for its approval, but if a movie advertisement appears that is in anywise objectionable to the censors, they can order its instant withdrawal.

Perhaps we shall be told that we are hostile to this bill, more because it interferes with our own business as newspaper publishers, than because it is against public policy and good government. Well, we are certainly against the bill on the score of its interference with our own proper concerns. We are against this bill, if Mr. Pooley will permit us in all kindness to say it, because we know that it interferes with us in the fulfillment of a duty and a responsibility which we owe to the people who read The Province newspaper, and which we can fulfill much better than Mr. Pooley's bureaucrats. It would certainly be an intolerable thing if Mr. Pooley's bureaucrats should have the power to say what news was fit for us to print, or what comment we could make on any matter of public interest. And if those functions of our business as newspapermen, which are much more important than our business in the publication of movie advertisements, must be left to our public and private responsibility, upon what theory does Mr. Pooley say that his precious censors should interfere in the lesser business?

We can tell Mr. Pooley—although he ought to know it without being told—that we exercise an incessant and a tolerably expensive censorship on all the matter in all the columns of this newspaper, news, comment, advertisements and all. If we had no better motive for it, we know that we should suffer in our business if we did not do our level best to keep our paper honest and to keep it clean. Again in all kindness, we have to tell Mr. Pooley that we know our own business better than he can tell us, and that when he proposes this censorship he is interfering with business which is none of his.

But if that were all, or the worst, we had against this bill, we think we should hold our peace, and let Mr. Pooley go ahead and find out for himself what sort of a mistake he was making. For we can not imagine anything more practically futile than this proposal. If newspapers are to be left—as they are now—to their own discretion about accepting movie advertisements, and then the censors are to order withdrawal of any that may be objectionable, it would only mean a very elaborate and irritating locking of the door after the horse was stolen. By the time the censors saw that the advertisement was objectionable, all the other readers of the newspaper would have had plenty of time to see it too, and the mischief, if mischief it was, would have been done.

No, we have something more important than that against our old friend Mr. Pooley, in his new and surprising role of invader of British liberties. Our objection is that the invasion—which was not begun by Mr. Pooley, and to which he had many objections of his own in the days of his predecessor—has already gone far enough in this province. This bill is no better than a silly extension of the process by which government by meddling official bureaucracies is made to supplant responsible citizenship.

We do not know what the present movie censorship in this province amounts to. But we do know that a sufficient number of trashy films seem to pass muster with our censors, and we know very well that there is one of the great inherent defects of all censorships. If governments assume to become the arbiters of public taste, the danger is not so much from their prohibitions as from their approvals. The thing prohibited is not seen, the thing permitted is seen with the stamp of tacit official commendation upon it, and the rubbish and the tawdry stuff that dances on the edge of pornography can escape the natural penalty of public disapproval because it carries the blessing of the censors.

The fact is that the newspapers of British Columbia do not deserve the implied slight which Mr. Pooley puts upon them in this bill of his. They have not been sinners against the code of public decency, they have not violated the canons of public taste, in the movie advertisements they have been publishing. If the hawkers of movie salacity are offering their wares to us or our contemporaries, they are not making any sales. If Mr. Pooley will believe us, the public morals, as far as our movie advertisements are concerned, are much safer with us than they are likely to be with his censors. And if we do offend, Mr. Pooley can put his police on us.

There is one other aspect of this business of movie morals and manners, and it concerns the movie showmen themselves. We think they will do better if they are let alone as much as possible than if they are officially censored and blue-pencilled and scolded in every direction. If the movie censorship were removed altogether, we know very well that Vancouver moviegoers would not make profitable the presentation of the unclean, and we have no fear that our Vancouver theatre managers would attempt to present it. In the long

run, anyhow, there is only one effective censorship, and that is public opinion. We know it as newspapermen, and the movie people know it as showmen. We hope that Mr. Pooley is going to convince us that he knows it as attorney-general.

JANUARY 27, 1929.

**NO HITCH IN PEACE
• BLOCK LAND DEAL**

**Ratification By Governments
Will Be Delayed One
Year, However.**

VICTORIA, Jan. 26.—While there is no possibility now that the transfer of the Peace River block and the railway belt to the province will be accomplished at the present session of the Legislature, no complications stand in the way of the deal, it was stated officially at the Parliament Buildings today. Suggestions from Ottawa that there may be difficulties about a final settlement are completely discounted by the provincial authorities.

It has been hoped that both the Legislature and the Canadian Parliament could finally ratify the land transfer this year, and preparations to this end had been under way here. Federal representatives who will negotiate an agreement with the province have not yet reached Victoria, and are not expected now for a week. It will take them, and officials of the province, about two weeks to draft a final settlement, it is expected. After that the two governments must exchange the bills which they propose to introduce on the subject to make certain that they dovetail. This process will occupy altogether about a month at least, it is thought now.

On this account the idea of getting the necessary legislation through this year has been virtually abandoned.

A definite understanding will be reached before adjournment, however, and at their next sessions the two parliaments can give it final approval.

**GRANBY FIGHTS
POWER CO. BILL**

**Joins With Grand Forks to
Oppose West Kootenay
Firm's Measure.**

SEEK RATE CONTROL

VICTORIA, Jan. 26.—The big interior power rate fight, and with it the whole question of controlling public utility operations in British Columbia, has reached the Legislature at last with the presentation of a petition from the Granby Consolidated Mining, Smelting and Power Company Ltd., which asks the House to protect it and other consumers in the right to a continuous supply of power.

The Granby company's petition, introduced by Dr. C. M. Kingston, Conservative of Grand Forks-Greenwood, follows closely the lines of the petition already filed by Grand Forks city, but not yet formally presented to the House. In effect it asks the House not to pass a private bill proposed by the West Kootenay Power and Light Company without important amendments for the protection of the public.

The West Kootenay company, in effect, is asking the House to validate the sale of its power to all its present consumers, the courts having held that it can sell only in a limited area around Rossland. In thus asking for an enlargement of its powers, the company has not included provisions which force it to supply power to those who need it, the Granby petition declares.

The most significant feature of the Granby petition is the request that the water board be given power to adjudicate on power rates. It is the general understanding of members that the government intends to make the water board, in effect, a public utility commission and apparently this arrangement is satisfactory to the Granby interests.

The New Play at the Old Playhouse

(Continued From Page One.)

change its color or reduce its feed bill. And he reaches a thundering climax when he dashes back to the old homestead just in time to prevent an unscrupulous landlord from foreclosing the mortgage. He pays off the mortgage, by the way, in able fashion by raising the gasoline tax, reducing the pay of the farm hands and issuing a new and larger mortgage without public tender.

The plot of the new play has yet to be revealed and most of the actor-manager's stars are being kept in the background until they become more accustomed to the glare of the footlights. Richard Pooley, for instance, who used to have plenty of lines as the persistent but unsuccessful suitor in many romantic plays, is paid a higher salary but is cast as a strong, silent man from Esquimalt. He finds the part irksome and occasionally his stage whispers have interrupted the actor-manager in the middle of his most dramatic moments.

That prince of conjurers Will Shelly, too, has had little scope for his talents yet, though most of the spectators are counting on him to pay back the price of admission, not only for this year but for all previous performances, with interest. What rabbits Professor Shelly will pull out of the top hat no one quite knows, but back stage it is said there is a grave scarcity of rabbits of any kind, other conjurers having used up most of the available supply in former shows and left the top hat quite empty.

WHERE ARE THE STARS OF OLD?

Whatever else it may do, the new show already had fulfilled its guarantee to be different. And one misses the old stars and the old days, the old technique and the old boisterous school of acting, when an actor was an actor and thought nothing of interrupting a show to throw some piker in the audience out on his ear. Ah, yes, the good old days when admission was by campaign funds only, when beer by the glass was served between acts at retroactive prices and one never knew when half the cast would quit in a body.

We miss the good old stars, too. We miss the smooth direction of Stage Manager MacLean, who could make our flesh creep so with one of his ghost scenes that we forgot all about the price of tickets and never noticed

what was going on in the wings. We never could be sure indeed if anything was going at all. Stage Manager MacLean's super-spectacle, "The Man of Destiny," failed to catch the fickle public fancy and, most of his cast being killed in a Peace River railway accident, he went back to his old profession of acrobatics. At his opening performance in Victoria he slipped from a trapeze but with remarkable presence of mind altered his course in midair and landed on a large soft cushion in Ottawa. He decided to stay there.

IN NEED OF AN "ANGEL"

Most of the other old stagers are gone, too, or relegated to minor roles. T. Dufferin Pattullo, who starred in burning melodrama for twelve years, was cast in the new play as an ominous silence off stage, but as always, unable to escape the spotlight which he abhors, he opened an opposition show of his own. There are lots of lines in this production, but it has no financial backing, always a drawback in the theatrical business. Ian Mackenzie, cast as a poor relation from North Vancouver, will have ample stage business but no salary. Alexander Manson, who, as the "Man From Omineca," kept the audience in breathless suspense and the management in nervous prostration for six years without a single intermission, is in the back row of the chorus now. Dodsley Barrow, distinguished character actor who was starred in the powerful problem play, "Milk," has moved on to Sumas where he is playing the same part with still greater realism. Mary Ellen, the veteran tragedy queen, got lost during a barnstorming tour of Esquimalt and has never turned up since. Victor Odium could not endure the unconventional morals of stage life and went into journalism instead, where there is nothing of that sort to worry anyone and where, instead of aspiring to be one, he makes stars by the thousand.

And so we have started another theatrical season across James Bay, but what the denouement may be, tragic, comic or burlesque, we do not know. We only know that it will be an entire change from anything we have known before and that the more things seem to change across James Bay the more they remain the same.

THE LIVELY FIRST WEEK.

The temptation to cast the horoscope for the first session of the Seventeenth Parliament from the records of the first week of it is certainly a strong one. It ranged, that short first week, from the decorous and the dignified and the ceremonious to the stormy and passionate and disorderly. We could say with great justice that if the first session meant to go on as it began, then we are going to see lively times in Victoria. And unless we are going to take the most dismal view of legislative prospects under the Tolmie regime, we shall have to apply that famous saying of John Tyndall's, "Better the breezy heap of the torrent than the fetid stillness of the swamp," and perhaps we shall have to say that anything is better at Victoria than apathy.

After all, we ought not to be surprised at this evidence of the first week of the first session that where the politicians are gathered together, there shall politics be found also; and if we put the high passions and the righteous indignations and the stern repressions of last week down to the natural, and mainly harmless, ebullition of emotions long denied expression, we shall not go far wrong, and we shall not take the high words and the stormy scenes too much to heart. It is the time of the debate on the Address, and the tradition is that everybody there who feels like it shall disclose his broken or his swelling heart—as the case may be—and there is really no good reason out of the first week to fear that the first session will not get down to business in good time.

Neither should we be greatly surprised or alarmed if the desirable getting-down-to-business takes a little longer than usual. For the circumstances are all in favor of the unusual. Here is a brand-new government, coming into office with an invincible majority—the opposition already describes it, we observe, as a brute majority—after twelve painful years on the left of Mr. Speaker. Here is a brand-new Premier, who never sat in that House before, with ten brand-new cabinet colleagues, six of whom likewise never sat in that House before, nor in any similar place, for that matter. And here are twenty-five new members in a House of forty-eight; and here is

a ministry with a clear conscience and a clear majority of twenty-one, or twenty-two at any pinch when Mr. Speaker's vote might be necessary; and here is an opposition of twelve Liberals and one Labor man, all prepared to die in the last ditch, and some of them already digging the ditch themselves, so that they can die in it with greater convenience and to the greater glory of the Grand Old Party.

So that when we find Mr. Pattullo and Mr. Manson and Mr. Mackenzie viewing the new government with an intense and virtuous detestation because it has been selling its bonds by private treaty, we need not fear that the foundations of our liberties have been irrevocably undermined. They are there to countermine this iniquitous government with its tyrannical majority and its autocratic Mr. Speaker Jones from South Okanagan. And when we find Hon. Minister of Finance Shelly explaining how it was all forced upon him by the late wicked government, which never did anything about the late finances except to revel in deficits, and plunge in orgies of extravagance, and pile up mountainous debts, we can take it that everything is going as well as can be expected in Victoria. And if they all, new ministers, new members, new opposition leaders, must have their oratorical fling before they settle down at Victoria, well, it is all according to May and Bourinot and Hoyle, and all the other authorities.

For the sacred tradition of our parliamentary system is that there shall be no supply granted until the well-known grievances have been redressed. And if you think there are no grievances to redress, you just wait until Mr. Pattullo and Mr. Manson and Mr. Mackenzie have done telling us about it, and until Premier Tolmie's unscrupulous minions have done telling them that they used to be the same, only more so. And after that, we shall get down to business over there.

CENSOR BILL DUE FOR ROUGH RIDE

Members Resent Attempt to Interfere With Freedom of Press.

VICTORIA, Jan. 28.—Attorney-General Pooley's bill, designed to create a censorship of motion picture advertising, will have a rough ride through the Legislature, it was indicated by members today.

With the opposition strongly opposed to the drastic measures covered by the bill, some private members of the Conservative side are known to regard the legislation as highly dangerous.

The measure will be attacked on the ground that it gives the board of censors the right to interfere with the time-honored liberty of the press, and that the newspapers will not be disposed to submit to it.

It is pointed out also that the attorney-general's department is able, under the Criminal Code of Canada, to prosecute all persons guilty of obscenity of any kind. On this account many members find the new censorship proposals entirely unnecessary. In any case it is argued the bill specifically provides for censorship after publication already has taken place. That is, the legislation does not force motion picture advertisers to submit their advertisements to the censorship board before they are published. The board only has power to order publication to cease if the advertisements are regarded as objectionable. Assuming that any obscene advertising is published in British Columbia, all its harm will have been done before any official action is taken to stop it.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 29, 1929.

TO RECOMMEND VARSITY GRANT

Minister of Education to Urge Home Economics Course.

GOVERNORS ADVISED

An estimate for the establishment of a home economics course at the University of British Columbia has been included in the budget to be presented to the government and will be considered by the Provincial Legislature at its present session. It was announced at a meeting of the board of Varsity governors on Monday night.

Grant of a specific sum for the course will be recommended to the Legislature by the minister of education, Hon. J. Hinchliffe, Dean R. W. Brock, the acting president, stated.

The University authorities, Dean Brock said, are now awaiting the action of the Legislature, for until they have knowledge of a definite allotment of money, nothing can be done toward the institution of the course.

ESTIMATE \$80,000.

The cost of establishment of the course was estimated two years ago at \$80,000, it is stated. Both the University senate, which has control of all matters of curriculum, and the board of governors have favored its institution for several years.

Agitation for establishment of the course has been particularly strong in the Provincial Parent-Teacher Federation, which recently sent a delegation to the minister to press for government recognition of the matter.

TO REJOIN FACULTY.

The board also authorized the return to duty on February 1 of Dr. T. H. Boggs, head of the department of economics, and Dr. Francis G. Walker, associate professor of English, who have been absent for some time on sick leave.

PATTULLO SAYS SHELLY WAS WRONG

Replies to Charge That Liberals Sold Bonds by Private Tender.

HOUSE WRANGLES OVER PROCEDURE

Minister of Finance Charged With Giving Incomplete Information.

(Special to The Province.)

VICTORIA, Jan. 29.—Private sale of government bonds, the most absorbing topic of the present session, bobbed up again in the Legislature Monday before any business could get under way, when Mr. T. D. Pattullo, opposition leader, moved to censure Hon. W. C. Shelly, minister of finance, for "making erroneous statements" about the financing of the former Liberal ministry. In the end, the motion was ruled out of order by Mr. Speaker Jones, but by that time the opposition had got over to the House all the facts it desired in another of the free-for-all wrangles on procedure, which took up most of last Friday's session.

Mr. Pattullo raised the issue as soon as the House met by rising on a question of privilege to resent Mr. Shelly's statements and to move that "This House regrets that the hon. the minister of finance, dealing with the question of sale of provincial securities during the course of his speech on Friday afternoon, January 26, submitted to this House incomplete and erroneous information which was misrepresentative of the real facts."

RECALLS SHELLY'S CHARGE.

Mr. Pattullo recalled that when he objected to the recent private sale of government bonds, Mr. Shelly had replied that the former Liberal ministry had made many such sales; and that one of these sales had been authorized by Mr. Pattullo himself as acting minister of finance.

"There is nothing in the order-in-council quoted by the minister of finance and signed by me to specifically authorize sale of debentures by private sale and I wish the House to know as a matter of fact that the debentures which were sold under the authority of the order-in-council were part of a larger issue which had been sold by public tender and the issue referred to in the order-in-council, namely \$310,000, was awarded to the syndicate which had secured the larger award by public tender at the price of the public tender," he said.

"In the statement submitted by the minister of finance it is indicated that some \$18,000,000 of securities of the province were sold by private sale by our administration. That statement is very misleading."

"Of the sixteen items quoted by the minister as having been sold by private sale, in five of them, aggregating \$1,100,000, the sale was made to the Workmen's Compensation Board. I do not think that anyone will look upon a sale of British Columbia securities to the Workmen's Compensation Board as a private sale."

"The item of \$5,900,000 quoted by the minister consisted of Pacific Great Eastern collateral stock guaranteed by the province. The Pacific Great Eastern is a corporate body itself and the guaranteed collateral stock was in an entirely different position from the ordinary securities of the province."

"Another item mentioned by the minister of \$4,000,000 was nothing more nor less than a six months' note of hand and was disposed of just as an ordinary treasury note is sold to the Bank of Commerce and cost only 4.37 per cent."

"Of the balance of approximately \$7,500,000 referred to by the minister as having been sold by private sale, this additional amount was only awarded after tenders had been first called and a price had been obtained by public tender."

"MINISTER NOT CORRECT."

"During the time that our administration was in office we disposed of over \$62,000,000 of securities, and approximately \$6,000,000 indirect obligation, guaranteeing F.G.E. collateral stock. Of this amount of \$68,000,000 the minister of finance only alleges that we sold \$18,000,000 by private sale, so that even if his statement were correct, which it is not, that would leave approximately \$50,000,000 sold by public tender, which is an indication beyond question of just what our policy was.

"The statement of the minister in connection with the amount of \$18,000,000 is grossly misrepresentative, and I trust that I have made it clear to the House that the statement which I made as to our policy was in no sense incorrect and on the contrary the minister of finance gave a very wrong impression as to my personal attitude upon this issue."

Mr. Pattullo's motion censuring Mr. Shelly and his speech launched the debate on nearly an hour's rather hectic debate on questions of order. Mr. C. F. Davie, Conservative, Cowichan-Newcastle, insisted that the Pattullo motion must have two days' notice before being voted on, but Mr. Pattullo said it must be considered immediately under the rules. Attorney-General Pooley supported Mr. Davie, but Mr. A. M. Manson, Liberal, Omineca, quoted many authorities to prove that the motion must be considered forthwith.

Mr. Davie went further and insisted that Mr. Pattullo had not discussed a question of privilege, was "trying to put something over on the House" and he did not propose to let him do so.

Mr. Ian Mackenzie, Liberal, North Vancouver, delivered a vigorous address in support of his leader, accused Hon. Joseph Hinchliffe of his "customary sophistries" in supporting Mr. Davie's view, and also attacked Mr. E. D. Twigg, Conservative, Victoria, who shared the Conservative viewpoint.

When Mr. Davie interrupted Mr. Mackenzie turned on him and called him "the new dictator," and said it was too bad the Cowichan-Newcastle member was not in the chair, where he could "exercise his Mussolini tactics."

This brought instant objection from Mr. Speaker Jones, who held that it was unparliamentary to call a member Mussolini or a "dictator."

Mr. Mackenzie concluded by remarking that even if the government smothered the Pattullo motion with its "mechanical majority," the opposition had set itself right with the country. Mr. Thomas Uphill, Labor, Fernie, protested against "this spectacle," which he said was a bad example to everyone, and indicated that the members had not been where they should have been over the week-end.

Finally Mr. Speaker ruled that the Pattullo motion was out of order as the matters raised did not constitute a question of privilege, and the incident ended there.

**POOLEY DEAF TO
MOVIE MEN'S PLEA**

**Attorney-general Refuses to
Withdraw Bill to Censor
Advertising.**

VICTORIA, Jan. 29.—Attorney-General R. H. Pooley refused point-blank this morning to amend the bill which he has introduced into the Legislature setting up a censorship on moving picture advertising, according to R. Rowe Holland and J. Muir, a delegation representing the moving picture theatres and film exchanges of British Columbia, who waited upon him.

The delegates pointed out to him that the attraction of patronage to a theatre was a business which had been built up through years of experience, and not only in the shows that were offered but in the manner in which they were announced, the public had to be satisfied. In addition to the censorship that the theatre men established, the newspapers exercised a strict censorship over their advertising columns.

"You now intend to displace this dual control of advertising by some 345-week clerk," the delegation was said to have told the attorney-general. His reply was to the effect that the bill would be put through the Legislature as it was at present drafted.

**MEMBERS PLEAD
FOR INTERIOR
HIGHWAYS**

**More Important to Build
Roads for Farmers Than
For Tourists.**

**SAYS PATTULLO
CHANGES TUNE**

**Insistent Demand for Trails
And Bridges in Min-
ing Districts.**

VICTORIA, Jan. 29.—The requirements of the Kootenay ridings were forcefully brought before the members of the Legislature Monday afternoon by Col. Fred. Lister, Creston; Dr. L. E. Borden, Nelson, and Capt. James Fitzsimmons, Kaslo-Slocan. The problems of the Southeastern portion of the province ranging from Doukhobor parades to the need of more adequate appropriations for mining, and forestry trails and roads, were set before the House by the three Conservative members in clear and unmistakable language.

Col. Lister was particularly pointed in his remarks, intimating that unless what he considered to be the just demands of his constituency were met, he would be heard from later.

Col. Lister warned the government to proceed carefully in the consideration of any proposals to reduce the royalties on lumber. The operators, he said, claimed that they were losing money, and that logs were worth less today than four years ago. The workmen in the industry, he maintained, were not getting any greater advantage, and he felt that losses in the industry must be due to undue overhead expenses, and costly methods of operation.

Agriculture was increasing steadily in the province, due to larger acreage being put under crops as a result of clearing, but it was questionable if the farmer was making sufficient money to compensate him for his labor.

In reference to the fruit marketing act, he thought that it had been of benefit to the industry, but there remained a great opportunity for improvement. He congratulated the government on the intention to establish a marketing branch.

**SAYS PATTULLO HAS
CHANGED HIS TUNE.**

In reference to irrigation matters, the Creston member noted that the opposition leader, T. D. Pattullo, now took a different view as to the need of giving the farmers consideration than he had held as the minister dealing with irrigation matters. He recalled that on one occasion the former minister was reported as having said that the assistance sought "would only be given over his dead body." It was pleasing to see that it was intended to give consideration to this important subject. The question could be summed up: "If the fruit industry is worth anything to B. C., then how much is it worth, and to what length was the government prepared to go to save it?"

The former government, he went on,

had been promising assistance to certain irrigated districts, and if this was not available then they must abandon fruit raising. "I want to warn this government that I am still asking for that assistance, and I may say that I expect to get it," he asserted.

Turning his attention to matters of soldiers' settlement, and land settlement generally, the Creston member said that he was pleased to see that "the member for North Vancouver (Ian Mackenzie) has suddenly taken an interest in returned soldiers." For eight years, went on Col. Lister, he had fought for the veterans, and had failed to gain the support of the North Vancouver member, who was then on the government side of the House.

"I want to warn the government," declared Colonel Lister, "that I am just as interested today in the returned men as I have been at every session since 1920. I hope that the government will look into the conditions in the settlement areas at the earliest possible moment, and will rectify the almost incomprehensible mismanagement that has existed."

He described conditions at the Creston area, where, he said, many places were untenanted; houses were falling down; land that had been plowed for seed was deserted, and was covered with noxious weeds, and the settlers that remained were in some cases forced to carry water for several miles. He asked that a domestic water supply system be constructed. The district was a good dairying locality, he said, although it was originally looked upon as a fruit-raising district. Dairying demanded ample water for stock.

He was eager that proper roads, bridges and trails should be cut into the hills to aid in the development of the great mineral resources of not only his riding but of the Kootenay country generally.

**DR. BORDEN
PLEADS FOR ROADS.**

Dr. L. E. Borden, Nelson, pressed upon the government the necessity of making careful plans for the construction of roads, and of then building them of a permanent grade that would not have to be altered. He drew a graphic picture of the necessity of good roads in the country surrounding Nelson to assist in the opening up of the natural resources of that section of the province. Particularly was it essential to give miners and prospectors access to their properties.

He pointed out that the Kootenays produced 60 per cent. of the lode minerals of British Columbia, one-half of the silver mined in the province, and the greater percentage of the lead and zinc mined in Canada, and that, exclusive of the properties of the Consolidated Mining & Smelting Corporation, there were no less than ninety shipping mines in the Kootenay country. In addition to these were many very excellent properties that were fast approaching production stage.

With these actual producers of wealth and potentialities, he claimed that he was entitled to come to the Legislature and ask for sufficient appropriations to assist in still further increasing the possibilities of the mineralized zones of the district. His appeal was for roads, trails and bridges that would aid in the opening out of new sections and new properties.

**TELLS OF VAST
MINERAL WEALTH.**

He pictured the development in the Slocan district, where enrichment had been discovered with depth in many of the old properties that had formerly been worked, and in new mines. He said that the wealth of the Cordilleran ranges in B. C. had been estimated at \$4,500,000,000, and he was justified in asking that every possible facility be granted to the recovery of this treasure.

Dr. Borden concluded with a review of the Doukhobor problem. He gave a brief but picturesque history of the people, and told of trouble experienced with one branch of them known as the Sons of Freedom. These people, he said, were inspired by a man named Rabin, living in California, to resist the laws of the country.

**SCORES FIGHT FOR
PARTY ADVANTAGE.**

Capt. James Fitzsimmons won applause when he remarked that the people were more interested in the welfare, progress and prosperity of British Columbia, and the manner in which such could be assisted by the Legislature than in idle arguments across the floor of the Assembly for the purpose of gaining some party advantage on points of order.

The captain endorsed the plea of Dr. Borden for larger appropriations for roads and trails for mining districts, and added that he wished to see work on these projects commence earlier in the year so as to delay mining as little as possible. He enlarged on the subject of roads and put forward a strong argument for good roads to open up farming areas, declaring that it was of paramount importance to provide settlement roads.

Col. Lister had also touched upon this, saying that it was of more importance to give the farmer a road over which to market his crops, than to build an expensive highway for a tourist from California to drive his automobile over.

Capt. Fitzsimmons asked for a greater measure of assistance for rural hospitals, claiming that it was a matter of plain humanity to accord to the poor man in outlying districts just as efficient facilities for his treatment when sick as could be provided.

The debate was adjourned by Roder Mackenzie, Cariboo.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 29, 1929.

THE LOG OF THE HOUSE

After the week-end holiday the House comes back still out of sorts—and launches into another wrangle over procedure—Mussolini being sternly frowned on by Mr. Speaker—and little business being done.

By BRUCE HUTCHISON.

VICTORIA, Jan. 29.—The House came back to work on Monday as out of sorts as it went home for the week-end after Friday's fuss. Perhaps, indeed, after wading through the new-fallen snow and slipping on the icy driveway, it was feeling a little worse. This was unusual, for after its weekly holiday the House generally comes back quite human.

Whatever was the trouble, we could not get down to business for over an hour, and in those sixty hectic minutes the hon. members had got to calling themselves "Mussolini," "dictator," "obtuse headed" and other kind things, until Mr. Speaker Jones at last called off the whole show.

It was all over the sale of provincial bonds again. Evidently that subject did not end in the exchanges between Mr. Shelly and Mr. Pattullo last week. It did not end yesterday either for that matter. Mr. Shelly had on his desk a long list of figures which suggested that he, like Mr. Pattullo, had a lot more to say when the time comes.

The House is so worked up over the merits or demerits of the private sale of bonds that it keeps reverting to them again and again. This time Mr. Pattullo delivered a speech on a question of privilege to prove that Mr. Shelly had misrepresented him. And not with any hope of it passing, but to conform with an ancient rule which has never been conformed with before. Mr. Pattullo moved a motion censuring Mr. Shelly for so doing.

LONG DEBATE.

This offered alluring and irresistible bait to the pundits and the authorities on procedure. The Conservative authorities were quite sure Mr. Pattullo had no right to press his motion, at least without two days' notice. The Liberal authorities, curiously enough, were quite sure Mr. Pattullo was right. Nothing would satisfy these few gentlemen, who alone understand anything about the rules and alone are interested in them, except explaining what they knew from beginning to end. As everyone knew something different to be the only possible truth, the process was lengthy.

Mr. Davie, who would sooner worry a point of order than adjourn for dinner, thought Mr. Pattullo was trying to put something over on an innocent House, and assured the House that he would protect it if he could. Mr. Manson came back with a dozen authorities to show that Mr. Pattullo was not trying to put anything over but was having something put over on him. He even went to Bourinot, authority in the Canadian Parliament, page 432, but Mr. Pooley cut him short by saying he ought to confine himself to May, the British authority, page something else. The House could not get enthusiastic about either.

Mr. Twigg thought it could not be a question of privilege. Mr. Hayward thought it would be a good idea to do some business. Mr. Pattullo thought his veracity had been challenged. And the rest of the House thought the snow would be two feet deep on the lawns before it could quit for the day if this went on much longer.

CALLED "TIME WASTER."

In vain was the soothing voice of Mr. Hinchliffe raised for the first time during the session to prove with his inimitable logic that Mr. Pattullo must, in the very order of nature, be out of order. Mr. Ian Mackenzie lit into him as of old time in a speech full of passion and Scottish eloquence. Mr. Hinchliffe, said Mr. Mackenzie, was relating to his "customary sophistries." As for Mr. Twigg (whom he jolly called the junior member for Victoria, even though he is Deputy Speaker); well, Mr. Twigg was the greatest time waster the House has ever known. Also Mr. Mackenzie, despite his ignorance, was as good a judge of common sense as Mr. Twigg; and of courtesy, he added, leaning his tall figure out over his desk at the Victoria member. This, of course, was the inevitable revival of an old feud and sounded familiar to members who recollect the sessions of 1927 and 1928.

Mr. Mackenzie got warmer as he thought of the injustice that had been done to his leader. He found to his horror that Mr. Davie's head was obtuse, which brought a sharp rebuke from Mr. Jones. He found to his horror also that the privileges of Parliament had been violated and he pounded a pile of rule books as he said so. And he concluded by declaring that Mr. Davie was a "new dictator" and that it was too bad Mr. Davie was not in the Speaker's chair where he could exercise his "Mussolini tactics."

OUT OF ORDER.

At this point, which must be forever historic, Mr. Speaker stepped in with a ruling which will go down in the records among the really important rulings of speakers of the British Columbia Legislature. He ruled that to call a member Mussolini is unparliamentary and unpardonable. So far as is known, British Columbia is the first political entity in the world thence to disapprove of Fascism in so brutal a fashion that an honorable member dare not compare another honorable member to the leader of that movement.

In the end Mr. Mackenzie sat down with a smile, having, as he was at pains to point out, accomplished the result desired by getting Mr. Pattullo's views over to the public despite the "mechanical" and "brute" majority of the government. This latter remark, he added, when objection was taken to it, was used, of course, as the House would understand, in the Pickwickian sense, and had been used by no less a person than Sir John A. Macdonald himself. This silenced objection to it.

Mr. Uphill had listened to all this with quiet resignation, but he could contain his Irish soul no longer.

"I am afraid," he said, "that the honorable members haven't spent their week-ends as they should, or we would not have seen this here spectacle." He graciously accepted on behalf of everyone present "the government's apology," which the government had not made; and as the government had "seen the error of its ways and repented," he would support it, which the government probably did not desire.

Mr. Speaker cut him short by ruling the Pattullo motion ever more out of order than the Conservative authorities had suggested. The opposition accepted this ruling with fortitude, for the motion already had served its purpose. It had enabled the opposition to say all

it wanted to say anyway, and no one regretted its premature burial.

That is not the end of bonds, however. We shall hear more and more of them and of Mr. Shelly and Mr. Pattullo and private sales and rates of interest before the snow melts.

After this argument the House started to plow doggedly on through the debate on the speech from the throne with four short but worthwhile addresses. Mr. Carson of Lillooet, who is said to be the baby of the House and a clean-cut young chap, introduced the P. G. E., which is not altogether a new subject, but on which he had some new ideas. Dr. Borden of Nelson gave a businesslike talk on the interior country. Colonel Lister of Creston, who says what he has to say in blunt soldier style, brought up his favorite topic of soldier settlement. Then Capt. James Fitzsimmons of Kaslo-Slocan, capped the day's speaking with the statement that the people of British Columbia are more interested in good business in government than in eloquent speeches on questions of procedure. This nasty dig from so unexpected a quarter probably made the House feel that it had had enough for the day, and it adjourned.

These things and the importation of a large new armchair for the return of Premier Tolmie (whose figure does not agree with the smaller ones generally provided), formed the full programme. Until the Premier fills the bigger and better but less comfortable chair the House will do more talking but little business.

B. C. Loans to Industries Will Be Called In

Government Will Not Shut Down Any Business.

MUST PROCURE MONEY OUTSIDE

Hundred Thousand Already Written Off As Total Loss.

VICTORIA, Jan. 29.—The policy of the government will be to unload its industrial loans as rapidly as possible, without injuring any business. This was indicated today when the public accounts committee of the Legislature started on its annual investigation of the industries department.

"My idea," said Geo. A. Walkem, chairman of the committee, "is not to shut down any business, but I would like to see the industries which are in good position and which have loans from the government, secure money from somewhere else and let the government out."

"We are agreed on that," said A. M. Manson, head of the Liberal representation on the committee.

NURSING SOME, WHILE OTHERS STRUGGLE.

Mr. Walkem added that the government had no business to "nurse" highly competitive industries, when other industries of a similar kind, without government loans, were having a hard time to finance.

Colonel D. B. Martyn, deputy minister of industries, explained that the government was in the process of "cleaning up" its loans to industries of this class.

Many of these more successful industries assisted by the government could get money by floating securities to private investors, and pay off the government," Mr. Walkem explained.

"The sooner the government gets out of the loaning business, the better," Mr. Manson declared.

\$100,000 WRITTEN OFF AS LOSS.

While the committee reserved for a further hearing figures on the total results of the industrial department's operations, Colonel Martyn supplied the information that twenty-five loans had been paid up in full, and \$100,000 had been written off as loss.

Tolmie to Remain at Home Several Days Longer

VICTORIA, Jan. 29.—Premier Tolmie will not be in the Legislature for several days yet, it was stated today. His health has improved so much, however, that he is able to confer at his home with members of the government and is attending to his correspondence. He hopes to speak in the debate on the speech from the throne before the end of the week.

MAIDEN SPEECH IS PLEA FOR PEOPLE

Lillooet M.L.A. Says Homes And Chance to Earn Living Desired.

(Special to The Province.)
VICTORIA, Jan. 29.—What the people of British Columbia desire is the opportunity of building up homes and earning their daily bread, and not promises, declared E. C. Carson, member for Lillooet in his maiden speech in the Legislature on Monday.

The speaker without any attempts to attain oratorical effects created an excellent impression as he told of the resources of his riding and made a plea for the roads, trails and bridges necessary to its proper development. Transportation problems of the district featured his address, and in the course of his argument he exclaimed: "Much has been heard of the famous freight rates case of the last government, and I am sure that the Liberals would have fared better had they started their fight for lower rates closer at home."

He rapped T. D. Pattullo, opposition leader, for his having asked the other day what further information was required by the government on the resources of the country traversed by the P.G.E. other than that which was on file. If, argued Mr. Carson, this information was complete why had not the Liberal administration done something to assist in the solution of the problems of lack of development and tonnage?

Mr. Carson made an eloquent plea for the inclusion as an occupational disease which would be given compensation, miners' consumption. He pictured the life of the miner underground and insisted that miners' consumption was a hazard of the calling that was worthy of consideration.

"On the broader question of pecuniary compensation," he went on, "for all classes of workers, I am strongly of the opinion that the percentage of earnings on which is based the amount of compensation payable under the Workmen's Compensation Act should be raised to at least 65 per cent., or if possible, 70 per cent. While I have made specific reference to miners' consumption, which is not covered by the provisions of the act, it is hardly necessary for me to state that I hold no brief for any one class of worker, coming as I do from a constituency of such diversified resources and occupation."

JANUARY 30, 1929.

Public Accounts Committee to Be Non-Political

Announcement of Walkem Makes Opposition Members Gasp.

VICTORIA, Jan. 30.—The public accounts committee is to be changed. For years it has been the hotbed where political discussions were bred for culture on the floor of the Assembly, and upon the party platforms of the country. But all this is to be changed. No more will the voice of partisanship be raised across the committee table, and the motto henceforth will appear above the door: "Abstain all prejudice ye who enter here."

It was Chairman G. A. Walkem who made this announcement of change of policy, and enunciated this new and higher outlook.

TO BE NON-POLITICAL.

"This committee henceforth will be conducted on purely non-political lines" he announced, and the declaration coming out of a clear sky left veteran members who could recall many a hard-fought party squabble that had originated in the committee, speechless for a moment.

A. M. Manson was the first to recover and applauded, while Ian Mackenzie relaxed into Gaelic in his astonishment and J. A. Buchanan could only gasp in amazement.

"ON TO PRINCE GEORGE" PLEA REVIVED

Cariboo Member Would Start P.G.E. Construction Right Away at North End.

TRAVELLING CLINIC URGED

More and Better Roads Chief Needs of Province, Claims Mackenzie.

VICTORIA, Jan. 30.—The old demand for construction of the Pacific Great Eastern Railway on to Prince George was revived in the Legislature Tuesday by Roderick Mackenzie, the newly-elected Conservative member for Cariboo.

"Construction should be started on the northern end of the line as soon as possible," Mr. Mackenzie declared during the debate on the speech from the throne. "On the southern end, until we know exactly what is going to happen to the P.G.E., its needs are not the same as in the north."

NO DIRECT RAIL COMMUNICATION.

He explained that navigation from Vancouver to Squamish, the present terminus of the line, is not difficult, whereas at the northern end of the railway Prince George has no direct railway communication with the Coast.

Mr. Mackenzie urged that the interior be divided into hospital districts, which would pay levies necessary to support hospitals. For the benefit of settlers in outlying districts he suggested the inauguration of a travelling clinic.

"More roads and better roads are the great need of the province," Mr. Mackenzie asserted, as he told of the road needs of his own constituency.

TOO MUCH ON HIGHWAYS.

"I am not sure but that we are spending a little too much on main highways at the price of neglecting lateral roads needed by our farmers," he added. He urged attention to the roads of the Barkerville, Horsefly and Chilcotin cattle country.

Mr. Mackenzie congratulated the government on its prompt action in going ahead with the new Quesnel bridge project after the contractor who was carrying it out threw up his contract.

Manson Says Two Are Sitting in Legislature Without a Majority

VICTORIA, Jan. 30.—That two members of the Legislature, through the operation of the Elections Act, were occupying seats in the Legislature without having obtained a majority of the votes cast in their particular ridings, was the declaration of A. M. Manson, member for Omineca, who sought, backed by J. A. Buchanan, member for Columbia, to have a select committee appointed to enquire into the operation of the act in reference to the recent elections. The motion after considerable debate was voted down on a straight party lineup by 23 to 10.

The former attorney-general refused to give particulars of what he hinted, saying that if there was no opportunity of enquiring fully into the matter he preferred not to cast doubts upon the right of the members to be seated. He did not suggest, he said, that the members in question were privy to the circumstances or had anything to do with the peculiarities of their election.

\$3-A-TON IRON BOUNTY PLAN

Assistance Up to \$2,000,000 Allowed in Legislative Bill.

VICTORIA, Jan. 30.—Legislation by which the government will be able to pay bounties on all kinds of iron and steel produced in large quantities in British Columbia was introduced in the Legislature yesterday by Hon. W. A. McKenzie, minister of mines.

It repeals all former steel bounty legislation and allows the payment of bounties as follows:

1. In respect of pig iron manufactured from ore, on the proportion produced from ore mined in the province, up to \$3 a ton.

2. In respect of pig iron manufactured from ore on the proportion produced from ore mined outside the province up to \$1.50 per ton.

MODIFICATIONS.

3. In respect of steel shapes of commercial utility, manufactured in the province, a bounty not to exceed \$1 per ton.

"Bounty," says the act, "as on pig iron under this act, may be paid upon the molten iron from ore which in the electric furnace, Bessemer or other furnace enters into the manufacture of steel by the process employed in such furnace, the weight of such iron to be ascertained from the weight of the steel so manufactured."

Bounty on steel shapes will be paid only on articles manufactured in a rolling mill having a rated productive capacity of at least 20,000 tons a year.

No agreement under the act may remain in effect for more than five years and not more than \$2,000,000 shall be paid out for the first two classes of product. In the case of the third class, up to \$20,000 a year may be paid or \$100,000 in the aggregate.

VANCOUVER WINTER FAIR GRANT CUT

VICTORIA, Jan. 30.—The Vancouver Exhibition Association was asked by Hon. William Atkinson, minister of agriculture, today to co-operate with him in reducing the agricultural department's expenditure on fairs. At a conference with J. K. Matheson, manager of the Vancouver Exhibition, Mr. Atkinson intimated that the government can not continue to make a grant of \$10,000 a year to the Vancouver Winter Fair, as its estimates are being pared to the bone.

"I am asking the Vancouver Exhibition authorities to meet us half way and help us in this matter," Mr. Atkinson explained. "Our estimates are being pared down, and it is our determination that the small fairs of the province must not be put out of business. This means that we shall have to exercise economy in the larger fairs, and we feel it is up to the Vancouver Association to co-operate with us, particularly as it is vitally interested in the success of the smaller fairs, which build up the larger exhibition."

New Act Provides for Quarry Inspection

VICTORIA, Jan. 30.—An act to regulate quarries is being introduced in the Legislature by Hon. W. A. McKenzie, minister of mines. This measure is the outcome of an accident that took place in a rock quarry last year, and which was followed by a recommendation from the coroner's jury to the effect that closer inspection of quarries should be undertaken.

Upon examination it was found that under the mining law there was no authorization for the inspection of quarries, and the minister of mines immediately drafted legislation that has for its object the protection of the lives of the workers.

FIRED BECAUSE OF POLITICAL ACTIVITY

This Is Explanation Given for Dismissal of Jail Surgeon At Nelson.

VICTORIA, Jan. 30.—Detailed questions about the soldier settlement schemes launched by the former Liberal government, and their results to date are being asked in the Legislature by Col. Fred Lister, Conservative of Creston. He wants to know the total sums of money expended on these schemes the amount of land sold and the number of settlers established on the land.

In answer to questions from A. M. Manson Liberal of Omineca, Attorney-General Pooley said that such expense "as may be necessary" will be involved in the government's new system of game law enforcement. Mr. Pooley added that estimates covering the scheme would be brought down later. Salaries to be paid to the new game commissioner and inspectors are "under consideration."

Mr. Pooley informed Dr. H. C. Wrinch, Liberal, of Skeena, that H. H. Mackenzie was removed from the position of jail surgeon at Nelson for "activity in politics." No notice of removal was necessary, and no remuneration was given Dr. Mackenzie in lieu of notice. Dr. W. O. Rose was appointed to the position. Asked whether Dr. Rose was formerly a Conservative member of the Legislature, Mr. Pooley suggested that Dr. Wrinch "see journals of the House."

Hon. S. L. Howe, provincial secretary, informed Ian Mackenzie, Liberal, of North Vancouver, that his department employed 494 men when he took office, including 130 returned men. Now 481 are employed and 132 are returned men, two returned men have been appointed under the present government and none dismissed.

GRAND FORKS WOULD OWN POWER STOCK

Application Placed Before Municipal Council of House.

VICTORIA, Jan. 30.—The municipal committee of the Legislature started today to grapple with many municipal questions which will be laid before it during this session. The first decision was to require all persons who wish to make representations to attend before February 19.

The Union of B. C. Municipalities will appear with its annual budget of proposed legislation on February 5.

The request of Grand Forks for legislation enabling it to own the stock of the Grand Forks Light & Water Co. was presented by F. A. McDiarmid, solicitor for the interior city. Certain changes in the legislation were suggested, and Mr. McDiarmid will confer on them with Attorney-General Pooley before the matter proceeds further.

The committee agreed in principle with the request of New Westminster School Board that School Trustees should not be subject to disqualification if companies in which they held stock did business with the School Board of which they were members.

New Westminster also declared that February 15 was too early a date for school boards to be required to file their annual estimates with councils, but the committee decided that no action in this regard was necessary as boards were not held to the letter of the law by councils generally.

**CAUSE OF
CAL ACTIVITY**

**Explanation Given for
of Jail Surgeon
Nelson.**

Jan. 30.—Detailed question of soldier settlement and their results to be asked in the Legislature later. Conservative members to know the total expended on these units of land sold and settlers established on questions from A. M. Omineca, Attorney-General, that such expense will be involved in the new system of settlement. Mr. Pooley mates covering the brought down later. Inspectors are "un-
formed Dr. H. C. Skeens, that H. H. moved from the po-
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**WORKS WOULD
POWER STOCK**

**Placed Before
Council of
House.**

Jan. 30.—The municipal Legislature started with many municipal bills to be laid before it today. Its first decision will be on the petition of all persons who wish to attend the session of B. C. Municipalities on its annual budget of \$10,000,000 on February 5. Grand Forks for legislation to own the stock of Grand Forks Light & Water by F. A. McDermid, Interior City. Certain legislation were suggested by McDermid will come before Attorney-General Pooley later proceeds further. The committee agreed in principle to the best of New Westminster that School Trustees subject to disqualification in which they held shares with the School in they were members. Minister also declared that it was too early a date for to be required to file estimates with council. Committee decided that no regard was necessary as not held to the letter of council generally.

**INCREASE IN
PENSION ASKED**

Delegation of Municipal Employees Interviewing Government.

BASIS IS \$75

VICTORIA, Jan. 30.—Amendments to the Superannuation Act as the legislation affects municipal workers are being sought by a delegation representing policemen, firemen and other civic employees of Vancouver, Victoria and other important British Columbia centres. They have been in conference with H. D. Twigg, Victoria member, who has placed their requests before the cabinet.

The civic employees ask that the basic figure for long service employees who are approaching the age limit be increased so as to give them larger retiring allowances; that arrangements be made to permit the transference of fund credits from one municipality to another in the event of an employee changing his civic employers, and that the changes be made retroactive.

ALLOWANCE FIXED.

Under the present legislation which came into force within the past year the basis of \$75 is used in computing the amount payable to a long service employee from the special fund set up for the retirement of veterans who had served years in municipal employment. This fund is in addition to that which is currently set up for the employees, and the municipal treasuries. It consists of a 1 per cent. charge on the payrolls of each municipality where the superannuation scheme is in operation, and is for the purpose of making an allowance to the employees who had served many years prior to the coming into force of the act.

In computing the allowance the basic figure of \$75 is taken. This is divided into the average annual wage paid to an employee, and is then multiplied by the number of years the pensioner has served, and the result is the yearly amount of the pension. The request of the delegation is that this basic figure be reduced to \$50, resulting in an increase in the annual allowance.

They ask that this change cover existing contracts as well as future pensions.

**PREMIER TOLMIE MAY
BE BACK TOMORROW**

VICTORIA, Jan. 30.—Premier Tolmie was so improved in health today that he will return to his office, and his seat in the Legislature tomorrow or Friday, it was stated at the Parliament Buildings. The Premier has left his bed, and is doing much of his regular work at his home. He is expected to wind up the debate on the speech from the throne early next week.

**False Creek Lease Motion
Is Withdrawn by Walkem**

VICTORIA, Jan. 30.—The resolution put on the order paper by George A. Walkem, sixth member for Vancouver, suggesting that the government refrain from granting further leases on False Creek, was withdrawn by the member on Tuesday. It is contrary to the rules of procedure for a private member to put forward a motion dictating matters of policy.

**Debate on Address
Must Finish Next Week**

VICTORIA, Jan. 30.—The debate on the reply to the Lieutenant-Governor's address at the opening of the Legislature will be closed early next week, Attorney-General R. H. Pooley, acting leader of the government, announced on Tuesday.

It is expected that the government will keep the debate going until Premier Tolmie has sufficiently recovered from his recent indisposition to attend and take part in the speech-making.

**\$282,000 Lost
On B. C. Loans,
Members Hear**

Committee Told \$1,573,884 Was Advanced to Industries All Told.

VICTORIA, Jan. 30.—In the past year the government, through its department of industries accepted a loss of \$282,000 in principal and interest on loans. Col. D. B. Martyn, industrial commissioner, reported to the public accounts committee of the Legislature. Prior losses, in principal and interest written off, totalled \$100,000, and there will be a further loss, Col. Martyn said, of probably another \$100,000, making a total loss to the government of \$382,000.

LOANED \$1,573,884.

The total amount advanced to industries was \$1,573,884, stated the commissioner. Many of the loans when made were dictated by the peculiar circumstances of the times, when the major problem of re-establishment of veterans of the war was before the country. As a result, industries of a competitive character were assisted in some instances, and consequently it soon became apparent that losses must later be accepted. Repayments on account of principal had been made, he said, to a total of \$587,319.

BOOKKEEPING MYSTERY.

An argument developed over the correctness of crediting interest due on loans as an "earning" in view of the fact that interest had to be paid by the government upon the money borrowed on public credit for the departmental loans. It concluded with a request by Ian Mackenzie that an expert from the finance department be called to explain some of the "mysteries of economics" that bewildered many of the members who tried to understand the system of bookkeeping as reflected in the public accounts.

Various loans made by the government were reviewed by the committee, and details of the progress being made by the industries were given by Colonel Martyn.

LAX IN COLLECTIONS.

Chairman G. A. Walkem announced that he intended to call witnesses from the forestry branch of the land department to explain why delay occurred in the collection of timber dues owing to the government. The result of this laxity, he said, often worked injuriously to wage earners, as in the event of liquidation the government had first claim on the assets in payment of dues, taking precedence over wage claims.

**Tuesday in
The Legislature**

VICTORIA, Jan. 29.—Petition from Delta municipality for a private bill presented.

Petition for a private bill ratifying a bylaw of Saanich municipality received.

Upon report from the private bills committee that the following four bills complied with standing orders they were read a first time and referred back to the same committee: An act to incorporate the Provincial Telephone Co.; an act to amend the Royal Plate Glass Insurance Co. of Canada act, 1906; an act to amend the West Kootenay Power & Light Co. act, 1897; an act to amend the Chartered Commercial Co. of Vancouver act, 1899.

Debate on the address continued by R. Mackenzie and T. Uphill; adjourned by J. W. Cornett.

The following bills were introduced and read a first time: An act to amend the civil service act, by Hon. S. L. Howe; an act to regulate the working of quarries, by Hon. W. A. McKenzie; an act respecting mineral survey and development, by Hon. W. A. McKenzie; an act respecting bounties on iron and steel, by Hon. W. A. McKenzie.

Resolution for a select committee to investigate workings of the election moved by A. M. Manson defeated by 32 to 19.

Debate on resolution for a select committee to investigate state health insurance moved by Dr. H. C. Winch adjourned by G. E. Pearson.

THE COUNTRY MEMBER.

Even if there were nothing else to be said for the Debate on the Address than that it enabled the House, and the province, to hear from the country member, it would be worth its place in the economy of the session. The country member talks about his own district, about crops and mines and timber royalties and transportation; and he almost invariably demands from the minister of public works a much larger vote for roads than he has any expectation of getting. But the country member manages to convey the sense of that far-flung population and that great territory which does the business of its ordered civilization in the Parliament Buildings at Victoria. And when Capt. James Fitzsimmons, the new member for Kaslo-Slocan, tells the House in his maiden speech that the people of British Columbia are more interested in the practical problems of its welfare and development than they are in partisan squabbles about procedure, he speaks wisely and he will be heard with attention outside the House.

Capt. Fitzsimmons was one of four country members who spoke when the Debate on the Address was resumed on Monday. For two others of them, Mr. E. C. Carson of Lillooet and Dr. L. E. Borden of Nelson, as for Capt. Fitzsimmons himself, it was their first venture in that place. The fourth, Col. Fred Lister of Creston, has the right to consider himself as much a veteran of the Legislature as of the war. All four of them talked legitimate political business rather than party politics, and, as it chanced, all of them were speaking on the government side. The point to note about the speeches of all of them, and the refreshing and encouraging thing, is that they were concerned first of all with the bread and butter problems of that country which we call British Columbia, and that they seemed to be very little concerned with the technical manoeuvres for party advantage which have already wasted so many of the early days of the session.

Mr. Carson made a reasoned plea, which ought to bear fruit in appropriate legislation, for the inclusion of miner's consumption among the occupational diseases recognized under the Workmen's Compensation Act. Dr. Borden sketched the outlines of the picture of the growing mining industry of the Kootenay country, and reminded us that most of the lead and zinc produced in Canada comes from that single district of our own province. Also, he rendered the House a real service in his first-hand information about the Doukhobor settlements, and the problems raised by the peculiar customs and beliefs of the sect, 6000 in number, whose members maintain themselves as an alien community in British Columbia. And Col. Lister added his warning to the government to that of Capt. Fitzsimmons—a familiar one in the mouth of the country member—not to forget that the British Columbian of the hinterland has claims to more and better roads which must be balanced against the concern of the townsman for more roads for the tourists.

By and large, in all the flood of talk which by ancient tradition is poured out in the Debate on the Address, the contribution of the country member is not the least valuable.

The Log of the House

The Day Is Deadly Dull—And the Government Says We Must Get Down to Business Early Next Week—Mr. Uphill Quotes Shakespeare—The Committees Start Work—And the Attendance Begins to Fall Off.

By BRUCE HUTCHISON.

VICTORIA, Jan. 30.—It was deadly dull in the House yesterday, except for a small explosion, which would have gone unnoticed on a livelier day, it seemed as if all the Assembly's fire had burned out in its two previous days of excitement. There wasn't a joke worth retelling, nor a single moment of suspense, and no one called anyone else anything that could make Mr. Speaker's bell ring.

In this uninteresting atmosphere, however, some progress was made, and by the end of the day the order paper, except for government legislation, was almost clear. Evidently, though, things are not moving quite rapidly enough, for Attorney-General Pooley issued a solemn warning that the present general debate must be closed up and an address presented to the Lieutenant-Governor, thanking him for his speech from the throne, early next week. Not that the Lieutenant-Governor is pressing for any thanks, of course, but until that is done the real business of the session will have to wait.

The debate on the throne speech yesterday did not go far. There were only two speakers and no interruptions. The House got to know Roderick Mackenzie of Cariboo for the first time as the discussion resumed. He is a tall, thin, grey Scotman, who talks informally, with a slight burr, and his arms akimbo. He told about the great open spaces of Cariboo, where, he said, you could drop one of the large Coast constituencies into a small lake and it would only make a tiny island.

Among other things Mr. Mackenzie told the world what he thought about the climate of the Coast, about which most members are thinking their share at the moment. Since coming here he said, he had reached the conclusion that the ice-bound Cariboo had the best climate in the province. The other up-country members, who had just walked through the snow that lies eight inches deep on Parliament Square, thumped their desks in approval.

COAST WEATHER.

The trouble with the Coast, Mr. Mackenzie added, is that it has no honest thermometers, for when the mercury registers eight degrees of frost here, under similar conditions it would record twenty below zero at Quesnel. To which someone replied that the hot air emanating from across James Bay at this season warms the Victoria atmosphere like the Japan current.

Tom Uphill of Fernie returned to the field for the first time this year with one of his old-time speeches, but was more effective than usual. With much waving of his arms, pounding of his desk, quotations from the Old Testament, a unique sentence structure which defies reproduction and a great earnestness, he told the House that British Columbia's widely-heralded prosperity is only a thin layer on top of a great mass of poverty. Mr. Uphill evinced sarcasm of a broad and brutal sort as he told how the Tolmie government was preaching high tariffs and opposing duties on American coal, while Liberals, who preached low tariffs, were busy advocating these very duties.

"Ah," quoth Mr. Uphill, ascending for a moment to Shakespeare's level, "consistency, thou art a jewel!" And when the House smiled, he insisted that he was entitled to respect as the real leader of the opposition, the leader of the Labor party and the rest of the Labor party as well.

The debate on the throne speech stalled there for want of speakers. The government seized the opportunity to push along resolutions and make some use of the rest of the afternoon.

ABSENTEE VOTE.

The first was that, finding in the name of Mr. Manson of Omineca, asking for an investigation into the recently-reformed absentee vote. Mr. Manson thought the House should see how the new election law worked in the poll of July 18 last when it worked wonders for the old government's enemies. Mr. Hinchliffe could see no use in such an investigation, but indicated that there would be further changes in the Election Act, among them the removal of transparent ballot papers which Conservatives have called for years.

All this seemed friendly enough until Colonel Peck dropped a spark which set off a minor opposition explosion. Mr. Manson said two members of the House had not received a majority of the votes of their constituents and Colonel Peck wanted to know their names, so that the ballots in question could be preserved and not burned, as was the custom of Mr. Manson's government.

This Mr. Manson called a smart remark, typical of the gallant member for The Islands. The House should know by this time that the old government never burned ballot papers before their time and often held them long afterwards.

With these few remarks the House rejected the idea of an election investigation by 32 votes to 10. This verdict alone saved it from another of those interminable and highly moral debates on the absentee vote which in the past have made the average member's life more insupportable than usual.

Meanwhile the House committees, where much of the real work is done, are getting down to business. The public accounts committee has started in a strangely genial frame of mind this year and with the unique spectacle of the government members on the offensive. For the last twelve years the opposition has done most of the enquiring and the Liberals have seen that the government's side of the case was adequately presented. Now it is for the Liberals to guard the memory of the late government, while Conservatives burrow into the records to show that the former administration was not all that it should have been.

George Walkem is the new boss of the public accounts committee, where a great part of the dirt of the session is usually sifted. Under him the committee swings along in genial style, everyone calling everyone else by his first name and no politics played so far.

FRIENDLY TONE.

"Now, then, Alec, it's this way," says Mr. Walkem to Mr. Manson of Omineca, and "Yes, yes, George," says Mr. Manson to Mr. Walkem as friendly as can be. There is an air of frankness and common sense about these informal committee meetings, a freedom of politics which speeds up business. The House, under similar circumstances, would be stalled in the ruts of procedure, convulsing itself over political considerations and wondering what the public was thinking of it. The public never sees the committees and they can devote themselves entirely to work.

The public attendance at the House is growing smaller and smaller. The crowds that watched the opening ceremonies, many of them because it was the thing to do, have been replaced by a few earnest squibs who lean over the railings and drink in the wisdom which

ascends to them from below. There is the usual brigade of elderly gentlemen who listen with hands to ears in wrapt attention to every syllable about some question in which they can have no possible interest and the corps of ladies who ply knitting, needles assiduously and whisper to one another about how handsome Attorney-General Pooley is getting and what a nice suit Mr. Mackenzie is wearing.

Some of the spectators, however, have been a little too boisterous lately, that is to say, boisterous for a solemn place like the Legislature, where only honorable members are entitled to such privileges and exercise them frequently, too. There have been several reprehensible outbursts of applause from friends of members anxious to show their appreciation of some bright sally.

This is a grave crime in a British Parliament, "strangers," even if they are your own friends, being tolerated only so long as members fail to see them. When any member actually discerns the people sitting in plain view in the gallery and informs Mr. Speaker of this shocking phenomenon, it is his duty to have them removed. This was proved by Mr. Manson on an historic occasion about a year ago.

There won't be any more bursts of applause from the misguided galleries under Mr. Speaker Jones. Mr. Speaker has strong ideas on the dignity of the House, and a fine sergeant-at-arms staff to carry them out. All this staff are returned men, who wear in the form of half a dozen medals each the evidence of service to their country in more dangerous places than the Legislature.

REMEMBERS HIS DESERT YEARS

Pooley Reminds Pattullo of Them When Latter Seeks Concessions.

OPPOSITION RIGHTS

VICTORIA, Jan. 31.—With the memories of a dozen years in the opposition, Attorney-General R. H. Pooley, acting government leader in the Legislature, is not prepared to concede any unnecessary courtesies or privileges to the opposition. This was again demonstrated on Wednesday when twice he crossed swords with T. D. Pattullo, leader of the Liberal party, and on each occasion reminded him of the Tories' long sojourn to the left of Mr. Speaker.

The first clash of the afternoon came when Mr. Pooley warned the opposition that the debate on the reply to the speech from the Throne would close early next week, and hinted that if the opposition members wished to speak, they had better avail themselves of the opportunity.

TWELVE YEARS' DICTATION.

Mr. Pattullo reminded the attorney-general that the opposition numbers were small compared with the government forces, and added that, with the exception of Hon. W. C. Ehelly, who spoke to an amendment, not a single member of the cabinet had taken part in the debate. "We are anxious to hear the cabinet ministers explain the things that they have perpetrated since they have been in office," he added, with just a trace of sarcasm.

Mr. Pooley—"We'll speak when we're ready."

Mr. Pattullo—"Well, it is the same thing here."

Mr. A. M. Manson—"This suggestion of dictatorship comes with poor grace from the hon. attorney-general. It is out of place. Surely, Mr. Speaker, this opposition has some rights in this House!"

Mr. Pooley, with a bitter laugh, recalled that for twelve years the Liberal government had dictated to the opposition.

TILL PREMIER RETURNS.

A few moments later Mr. Pattullo rose to ask that a resolution standing in his name seeking the right of any member of the Legislature to examine orders-in-council be adjourned until the return of the Premier. The attorney-general objected, whereupon the Liberal chief snapped back that he was within his rights in asking that the motion be stood over, and moreover was surprised that objection was being taken to the granting of a common courtesy. "This opposition has some rights," he exclaimed with heat.

"Oh," answered the attorney-general, "I was not aware that you were so anxious to have the Premier hear you speak. You may rest assured that the Premier is aware of what is on the order paper."

CONSENT GIVEN.

Mr. Pattullo answered that the circumstances surrounding the resolution were such that it was only right that the Premier should be present, as he was aware of discussions that had taken place before the meeting of the Legislature touching upon the matter.

The attorney-general repeated that if Mr. Pattullo was anxious to have the Premier present then he would consent to the adjournment, adding that the government was not intending to use the "big stick" to the same extent as the previous administration had done.

Urges Probe Into Health Insurance

Nanaimo Member Points To Spectre of Sickness And Want.

VICTORIA, Jan. 31.—In advocacy of the appointment of a committee to study health insurance and maternity benefit systems, George S. Pearson, member for Nanaimo, made his debut as a speaker in the Legislature on Wednesday. In a short but interesting address upon the subject, Mr. Pearson dealt at some length with the human side of the social legislation that he was supporting, and pleaded that it should not be regarded as a subject for political argument and difference, but as a present day necessity.

He pictured in a sympathetic strain the spectre of sickness, and want, that hovered about the dwelling of the day-wage worker, being an ever-present and oppressive fear. This, he contended, more or less retarded the fullest development, in many instances, of the best qualities within a man, to the detriment of the individual and with loss to the state.

POOR CAN NOT PAY.

"Is it not a fact," he went on, "that the reason hospitals in this province have such difficulty in financing is because in cities, such as Vancouver and Victoria, approximately 50 per cent of the patients who enter such institutions are unable to make any contribution towards their treatment? Even in smaller communities where workmen's compensation and benefit funds aid considerably, half of the patients in public wards are unable to assist in bearing the cost of treatment."

He further suggested that under existing conditions the most eminent medical men congregated in the larger centres where their services were not available to those who lived in the smaller communities.

Mr. Pearson concluded his argument by claiming as the right of every individual "a full measure of health, a reasonable degree of comfort and a full opportunity to develop the best that is in him or her."

DOCTOR UPHOLDS PROFESSION.

Dr. C. M. Kingston, Grand Forks-Greenwood, pointed out that the medical profession stood ready at all times to assist in the attainment of any social legislation that was for the general good of the citizens. Personal considerations, he said, were not permitted by the profession to stand in the way of social progress or of matters of benefit to mankind. He made the explanation to remove any suggestion of a doubt as to the attitude of the profession in respect of public service.

W. R. Rutledge of Burnaby adjourned the debate.

ROYALTIES THREATEN SMALL SAWMILLS

VICTORIA, Jan. 31.—If the forestry department of the government insists upon the prompt collection of timber royalties and does not permit occasional latitude, serious injury will result to many smaller milling and logging concerns, Chief Inspector S. W. Barclay of the forestry branch told the public accounts committee.

Chairman Geo. A. Walker called the inspector to explain how it happened that in so many cases of liquidation it was found that the government fees were many thousands of dollars in arrears. He argued that as the government claims had priority over commercial collections and wage claims, often the workmen were unable to collect and merchants were compelled to suffer losses, while the government obtained its full account.

If the prompt collection of fees was insisted upon, he said the government would not so often appear as a preferred creditor and greater protection would be given to the wage earner and the merchant.

Drastic Change In School Act Is Announced

**All Districts Must
Share Taxes to Pay
Teachers.**

**FREE CLASSES
FOR POOR PUPILS**

**May Increase Salaries
Of Rural Instruc-
tors.**

VICTORIA, Jan. 31.—Important and far-reaching amendments to the Public Schools Act were introduced in the Legislature Wednesday by Hon. Joshua Hinchliffe, minister of education. Radical changes are to be made in the financing of rural schools; the peculiarity of the franchise which permitted taxpayers, other than British citizens, to vote for school trustees, is to be abolished; the special provisions and privileges granted years ago to rural schools in the E. & N. belt on Vancouver Island are wiped out, and hereafter all rural school districts irrespective of assessment, must pay a levy of three mills for the payment of the teachers' salaries. The foregoing are but a few of the changes included in the new legislation.

**BETTER CONDITIONS
FOR WOMEN TEACHERS.**
Provision is made in the amending bill whereby the permanent appointment of a woman officer of the department may be made to enquire into the living and social conditions in various rural school districts for women teachers. The minister has already appointed provisionally under the statutes Miss Lottie Bowron to carry on this duty. Her work is regarded as so essential that the position at the discretion of the government may be made permanent under the amendment.

**MAY INCREASE SALARIES
OF RURAL TEACHERS.**
The fixing of the salaries of teachers in assisted rural school districts will continue to be set by the Legislature. In the case of a teacher of two years' standing in the profession, in rural schools, there is provision made that the Council of Public Instruction may increase the salary of such teacher to the extent of \$10 a month where it is deemed expedient to do so. There is some clearing up of points that had been overlooked in the act and which left no statutory authority for what has been going on for a long time. The free text book distribution will be made statutory. Provision will be made that these books may be distributed free or at cost or partially so. This will be made to apply to summer schools, also.

**NO LONGER
"PUBLIC SCHOOLS."**
Minor changes include the abolition of the time-honored designation of primary educational institutions as

DRASTIC CHANGE IN B. C. SCHOOLS ACT

(Continued from Page 1.)

"public schools," and the substitution of that of "elementary schools," "high schools" and "superior schools." Reduction in the size of classes from forty to thirty-five pupils; statutory advances for teachers in government assisted schools, based on experience and length of service; establishment of liens on property paid for in full or part, by the province, in the proportion of the assistance given. In the past, school districts were divided into three classes: regularly organized school districts, assisted school districts, and assisted school districts without assessment. This last class is being eliminated.

RURAL SCHOOLS PAY THREE MILLS.

Government assistance was given to the first two on an arrangement of proportionate costs of teachers salaries but in districts without assessment the provincial treasury paid all the charge for teachers. Under the new system all rural school districts must contribute three mills on assessment towards the salary lists of the teachers in the locality. While, of course, the districts "without assessment" have always been charged land taxes they were not charged with the cost of teachers' salaries. These districts include school areas in the province where the land assessment was below \$150,000, and in addition rural schools in the E. & N. belt.

The elimination of this particular class of school district and the fixing of a flat 3-mill rate on rural school districts means that every district in British Columbia must henceforth bear its share of the teachers' remuneration. In assisted districts (with assessments over \$150,000) formerly the government paid up to \$580 of the salary of each teacher. Now, as in all rural areas, it will absorb the difference between the levy of 3 mills and the required amount.

LARGE SAVING TO GOVERNMENT.

It is anticipated that by this means a very large saving will be made to the provincial exchequer, and all school districts will be on a parity, paying according to their assessment. In addition, of course, each district as in the past, must provide for the maintenance of schools.

Qualifications for the office of school trustees will in future include the payment of the school taxes for the preceding year, and any trustee falling in arrears will be disqualified. A man and wife can not be trustees or candidates at the same time, and while a wife may qualify on her husband's property, either as a candidate or as a voter, she must have attained the age of 21. British subjects only will be qualified to vote or hold office. In the past the only exception to the qualification of nationality in voting in this province has been for the election of school trustees.

TO PROVIDE GLASSES FOR POOR CHILDREN.

Included in the expenditures that are authorized by trustees in the future will be the fitting of indigent children with defective eyesight with eye-glasses.

It has been found that in the past no statutory authority existed for the government correspondence schools, for summer schools or for the providing of free textbooks, or textbooks partially paid for by the government. This authority is to be set up in the new measure.

NO LONGER \$50 HIGH SCHOOL CHARGE.

Another very important change in the educational laws provides that in school districts where there exists no high school, and where pupils desire to take high school studies in districts so provided, the charge of \$50 a year, which is customarily charged to pupils attending such high schools from outside districts need no longer be borne by the parents of a pupil of the age of 16 or under, but must be paid by the school district from which the pupil comes. This change is based on the principle that a school district is obliged to provide a high school, and where this is not done then the district must pay the charges levied by another district where a pupil may seek education. This charge must be borne until the pupil reaches 18, which is the age at which he or she is compelled to attend school.

If, however, the pupil whose fees are being paid by his home district is lacking in diligence and attention to his studies, then upon the report of the teacher the obligation of the district to continue payment of fees ends.

NEW VANCOUVER SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT.

Under the new legislation the municipal inspector of schools in Vancouver becomes the "superintendent of schools, Vancouver." His powers and duties are defined as "the chief administrative and executive officer of the Board of School Trustees. He is to have the assignment of teachers to their respective positions on the staff of the public schools of the district, subject to the approval of the Board of School Trustees; the determination, subject to the approval of the board, of the school which pupils shall respectively attend; advisory functions in respect of such matters as are within the official jurisdiction of the board; supervision and direction of the work of all officials and employees of the board." In addition, he is to act in "aiding the superintendent of education in carrying out a uniform system of education, and generally in giving effect to the act and the regulations of the Council of Public Instruction." He automatically assumes his new title with the passing of the bill.

MEMBER ASKS ELECTION PROBE

VICTORIA, Jan. 31.—That the Legislature appoint a committee to investigate the right of Capt. James Fitzsimmons, Conservative, of Kaslo-Slocan, and J. R. Michell, Conservative, of Kamloops, to sit in the House is asked in a resolution filed with Mr. Speaker Jones last night.

The resolution did not appear in today's issue of the House journals, as Mr. Jones is still considering whether it is in order or not. News of the resolution caused something of a sensation.

The suggestion that the result of the poll of July 18 last in Kaslo-Slocan and Kamloops did not implement the wishes of the electors is made in Mr. Manson's resolution.

Berry Is Chairman of Agricultural Committee

VICTORIA, Jan. 31.—The agricultural committee of the Legislature was organized today with J. W. Berry of Delta as chairman, and Colonel Fred Lister of Creston as secretary. The first important business of the committee tomorrow will be to hear the annual budget of legislative proposals shaped by the farmers' institutes. It is expected Okanagan fruit growers will appear shortly to discuss proposed changes in the Produce Marketing Act, as discussed at their recent convention in Penticton.

Liberals Oppose Wiping Out New County of Comox

VICTORIA, Jan. 31.—Second reading was given on Wednesday to the attorney-general's bill wiping out the measure passed last session creating the new County of Comox. While Nanaimo County was divided a year ago, the measure stipulated that it would come into force when proclaimed by His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council. No such proclamation was issued by His Honor, and now the present government is cancelling the whole legislation.

Objection to the measure was taken by A. M. Manson, member for Omineca and former attorney-general, who told of the reasons why the division was proposed of the county. It was in line with the development of the district, he said.

Hon. Joshua Hinchliffe answered that it was necessary to remove the present

inoperative act to further prepare for possibly even greater development than the Liberal administration had conceived.

The second reading carried, with the Liberals voting against it.

Premier May Not Return Till Monday

VICTORIA, Jan. 31.—Premier Tolmie did not return to his office today as had been hoped, and may not leave his house until Monday, as there is only one more working day in the Legislature this week. He is carrying on his work at his home with his secretaries.

Claims Fruit Industry in Bad Plight

**Irrigationists Must Have
Relief and Lower Freight
Rates, Says Kingston.**

VICTORIA, Jan. 31.—The fruit industry of the British Columbia interior is in a serious plight, due to unsatisfactory markets and prohibitive shipping rates, Dr. C. M. Kingston, Conservative, of Grand Forks-Greenwood, warned the Legislature yesterday, as he urged the government to relieve the irrigationists of his own riding and give attention to fruit growers' problems generally.

HEMMED IN BY HIGH RATES.

The interior, Dr. Kingston said, is not envious of the growth of the large coast cities, for it saw in them potentially valuable markets for its own products. At present, however, his own riding was experiencing serious difficulties as far as agriculture was concerned, because it was bounded on the south by a prohibitive United States tariff and on the east and west by prohibitive freight rates.

Dr. Kingston told in some detail the struggles of the fruit growers of his district.

HOLDING ON BY TEETH.

"The irrigationists of this area," he said, "expect relief from the government, because unless it comes rapidly, they can not hold on any longer. They are holding on now by their teeth. Unless the relief granted is radical and drastic the government is going to have every acre of unit number two in the district back on its hands in the near future."

The government, he said, should take action to relieve the situation now before the settlers were forced to vacate. It was far better, he said, to assist those already on the land than to bring in strangers.

FREIGHT RATE CUT URGENT.

Besides relief in irrigation costs, the fruit growers needed relief from burdensome freight rates on their shipments, he said.

"If the fruit industry is to be saved from ruin, freight rates must receive very serious consideration," he said. "The railways surely don't wish to kill the goose that lays the golden eggs, but that is what is being done now, and the fruit industry is being charged more than it can stand."

Dr. Kingston said there was much doubt in the minds of people in the interior that the Interior Committee of Direction is going to be the success in handling the fruit industry that has been hoped. He believed that the solution of the fruit industry's problems would lie to a large extent in some form of closer co-operation between the B. C. producer and the prairie consumer.

"The government," he said, "ought to get busy, and soon, because if there is anything in a dying state in British Columbia it's the fruit industry. It's up to the government to endeavor to save it."

Interior Responsible For Year's Increase in B.C. Output of Coal

VICTORIA, Jan. 31.—Coal production in British Columbia during the year 1928 aggregated 2,215,100 long tons compared with 2,453,827 long tons in 1927, an increase of 61,373 tons, according to figures just compiled by the department of mines and issued by Hon. W. A. McKenzie, minister of mines. The East Kootenay district, in which are located the collieries of the Crown Nest Pass Coal Company and the Corbin Coal Co. Ltd., were responsible for the increased output, while Vancouver Island collieries showed a falling off of 61,997 tons.

The Log of the House

While Waiting for Dr. Tolmie, the House Moves Slowly and With Discretion—Three New Speakers Are Introduced—Mr. Uphill Looks Very Wise—The Movie Bill Finds No One to Love It—And Mr. Walkem Enunciates a Pious Theory.

By BRUCE HUTCHISON.

VICTORIA, Jan. 31.—As Wellington waited at Waterloo for night or Blucher, the Legislature of British Columbia waits the return of Premier Tolmie. While it waits it marks time and talks, so that by the time the doctor turns up it ought to have relieved its mind sufficiently to be all ready for the real battle of the session. Meanwhile the talk goes on, and not much else.

The House continued as unexciting as it was respectable Wednesday. There were three speeches in the throne debate, which begins to pall, and some odd bits of legislation, but the proceedings only served to emphasize the fact that until Dr. Tolmie arrives the government at least won't move very far. It is said, indeed, that genial Bill Kennedy, the Conservative whip, whispered to the members on the speaking list that they could speak just as long as they liked, but none of them took undue advantage of this extraordinary opportunity.

CORNETT'S MAIDEN SPEECH.

Mr. Cornett of South Vancouver, a good-looking young man with a fine speaking voice and excellent presence, delivered his maiden speech, and appeared to be one of the most promising of the younger members. He was nervous at first, but, warming up to his subject of municipal problems, he spoke fluently and well. He was wise in keeping strictly to subjects which he understood and offered some sound advice on them.

Mr. Mitchell of Kamloops, who speaks with some bashfulness in the confined atmosphere of Parliament, so unlike the great open space of his own riding, contented himself for the most part with a description of Kamloops. He did not fall either to point out that Kamloops in a sense produced the Conservative government, for it was there that Dr. Tolmie's leadership was born in storm and tribulation, and without the desire of Dr. Tolmie.

Dr. Kingston of Grand Forks-Greenwood was the third newcomer to greet Ms. Speaker. Dr. Kingston speaks with the calmness of a perfect bedside manner, choosing his words deliberately and standing with finger tips together as if he were diagnosing a case. He diagnosed the case of the interior of the province with good sense. Dr. Kingston will add nothing to the color and passion of the Legislature, but he will be extremely useful when it comes to doing business.

The House also got acquainted for the first time with Mr. Manson, the

minister of agriculture, whom everyone likes. Mr. Atkinson, who is more at home on the business end of a plow than in the field of oratory, started to read some notes on legislation which he is sponsoring. Mr. Pattullo suggested that reading a speech was out of order and if he wanted to see what the new minister could do he was not disappointed. Throwing aside his notes, Mr. Atkinson plunged into his subject with a fluency and clear-headedness which surprised his friends. Evidently he is going to be able to take care of himself.

The rest of the day was taken up with what the harder-boiled members call legislative chicken feed, for none of the big bills is down yet. These less spectacular measures must be got through, of course, and Attorney-General Pooley is showing them on with great industry. So that, apart from the fact that Mr. Uphill, being in jovial mood, appeared in the front row of the Conservative benches wearing Mr. Kirk's celebrated pince-nez, with their alarming black ribbons, and gazed across the floor with an air of unutterable statesmanship, the House offered little to amuse or instruct.

While all thus seemed at peace, Mr. Manson was laying another of his "mines," which will explode in due course. He wants a committee to investigate the right of Captain Fitzsimmons of Kaslo-Slocan and Mr. Michell of Kamloops to sit in the Assembly at all, on account of the way the election of last July was handled in these ridings. The House won't be so dull when this resolution comes up for consideration.

The new House, as a matter of fact, is just beginning to find its feet. It is moving cautiously in public until it gets better used to the hang of this business, which is new to many of the members. During the process, the real ideas of the seventeenth Parliament are being shaped together for a quiet chat.

WHERE THINGS ARE DONE.

If you want to find out what is really brewing, go over to the Empress Hotel any evening. There you will find little groups, Conservatives and Liberals usually mingled without regard to politics, evolving the policies of the province. Around the fire in the Empress lobby of an evening you will hear the younger members talking earnestly of many things. Mr. Walkem discussing the business of the country with a frankness which is refreshing. Mr. Dick and Mr. Kirk laying down the law to a cabinet minister or two, Colonel Lister saying what he thinks about everything, and if you don't like it you can leave it, and dear old Jim Schofield listening without a word, for he has seen governments and parliaments come and go until he has lost track of them and is not likely to get excited over anything that can happen now.

Where two or more members are gathered together, the unwanted child of the government, the bill to censor movie advertising, is sure to come up sooner or later. There seems to be no one who can work up any enthusiasm for the measure, and among those who were expected to be its friends, there is a brutal coldness. If some good fairy would come along and adopt this foundling which Mr. Pooley left on the doorstep, perhaps in a period of absent-mindedness, the whole family would be relieved.

MORE ROADS WANTED.

The other ideas that have crystallized so far are few but very definite. The average member wants more roads. He wants relief from the cost of education. He wants relief for the fruit industry. He wants something done about the P. G. E., but is not sure what. He wants agricultural marketing put on a better basis. He wants industrial development. He wants parks preserved. And he wants taxes reduced. These ideas are fairly articulate already in the House, and they are uppermost in the minds of everyone.

The latest news broke, as we say, not in the House, but in the public accounts committee. Their Chairman Walkem enunciated the staggering theory that there should be no politics in the committee's work. There hasn't been much else in the last twelve years and it will be hard for the committee to get used to the new and pious programs. Probably it won't have so-

THE CENSORSHIP BILL.

Mr. Pooley, the attorney-general, has been telling some moving picture men from Vancouver who waited upon him that, so far as he is concerned, his bill, extending the censorship of motion pictures to theatrical advertising, will go to the Legislature without amendment. That being the case, it becomes necessary to reason once more with Mr. Pooley upon the iniquities and uselessness of this favorite measure of his. If he can not be convinced that he is making a mistake in endeavoring to put his idea into legislation, possibly the government caucus will be able to do something about the matter.

We have already indicated our objections to this measure. We object to it in principle because it amounts to an unwarranted interference with the traditional liberty of the press, we object to it because it is impracticable and annoying, and because it can serve no purpose that is not being served already amply and more effectively than it will be served under the regulations which Mr. Pooley proposes to make.

* * *

During the war, in Canada and in all other countries that were engaged in the great conflict, there was a censorship. Troops were moving all the time, consignments of munitions were being shipped, tremendous quantities of gold were being moved, plans of the greatest moment were being made. It was a time of national emergency, and it was vital that information of importance should be kept from the enemy. Not even the slightest clue could be given without danger. So every news item had to be scanned with care. The censorship in Canada was placed in the hands of the late Col. Ernest Chambers, for many years Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod at Ottawa. Col. Chambers, an old newspaperman and a trusted official of the government, was clothed with very great powers. But he never found it necessary to use them. Instead of establishing a board of censorship, and placing a member of his staff in each newspaper office, he followed the much simpler, cheaper and far more effective course of making every newspaperman in the country a deputy censor. It was made the business of every newspaper and of every man on every newspaper to see that nothing was published which would give aid or comfort to the enemy. The result was that, in their enthusiasm and eagerness to serve the cause in which they were interested, the Canadian newspapers exercised a far more complete censorship than any corps of officials could possibly have done.

* * *

We commend this bit of experience, not yet a dozen years old, to Mr. Pooley's attention. If in a time of national emergency when military news was at a premium, the newspapers of the country could be trusted to be their own censors, and faithfully discharged that trust, why can they not be trusted to be the censors of their own advertising? They are the censors of their advertising now, as well as of their news and of their comment, in far greater measure than Mr. Pooley realizes. They have the facilities for doing such work, and the experience, and, if Mr. Pooley will believe us, they can do this censoring, as they did it during the war, far more capably than all the official censors he can employ.

In fact, under his bill, Mr. Pooley appears to be giving his censors no facilities at all for accomplishing the work he has in mind. They are not to see the advertising before it goes in the newspapers, but after it appears they are to be empowered to order its withdrawal. Just how an advertisement can be withdrawn from The Province, for instance, when between 80,000 and 90,000 copies will be off the press and distributed to subscribers before the censor knows anything about it is rather a mystery. The net effect will be to give the censor authority to make himself a nuisance without any authority to make his will effective. Another result may well be that whereas there is an effective censorship of movie advertising now, exercised by the newspapers in their own interests and in the interests of their readers, if Mr. Pooley's act goes into force, many newspapers will leave the whole thing to the censor, and the censor, being as we have shown without adequate facilities, there will be no real censorship at all.

The purpose the attorney-general has in pressing his measure is not, on the face of it, very plain. There has, so far as The Province is aware, been no demand from even an insignificant minority of the public for such a censorship as he suggests. During the perfunctory discussion the bill received in caucus it was intimated that Mr. Pooley had some idea of giving encouragement to British films. With that purpose, of course, we have every sympathy. The more British films we can get shown in our movie houses, the better we shall like it. But this fool censorship of advertising is not going to help British films in the least. It is only going to give trouble to the government, irritate the movie people and worry the newspapers, and all without the slightest benefit to anyone.

As for The Province, it feels the time has come to speak very plainly to Mr. Pooley and to the government of which he is a member. This is iniquitous legislation, and we are determined to oppose it. We shall oppose it, while it is still before the Legislature and if it gets to the statute book we shall challenge it as highly subversive of the public interest. We hold with Junius that the subject who is truly loyal to the chief magistrate will neither advise nor submit to arbitrary measures.

BILL TO RECTIFY SESSIONAL PAYMENTS

Legislation to Make Ministerial By-elections Unnecessary Planned.

VICTORIA, Jan. 31.—In addition to the regularly-selected and endorsed ministers of the crown in charge of departments, the only member of the Legislature who is entitled to receive money in addition to his sessional indemnity is the leader of the opposition. This became known when the second reading of the amendments to the Constitution Act were before the House Wednesday afternoon. A special section of the constitution provides for the payment of \$2000 annually to the leader of the opposition.

The Speaker and deputy speaker, Attorney-General Pooley explained, had been in receipt of additional allowances since 1893, but there did not appear to be an authority for such payments contained in the provincial constitution. It was proposed to rectify this by the present bill.

The measure also plans to abolish the necessity of cabinet ministers having to return to their constituents for endorsement upon accepting office.

Mr. Pooley at great length reviewed the history of this parliamentary custom from the days of Queen Anne to recent times when the by-elections of cabinet members were abolished in Great Britain, Australia and a number of the Canadian provinces.

Mr. Pattullo—May I ask if this is an intimation of the intention to make changes at an early date in the cabinet?

Mr. Pooley retorted with some heat, reminding the leader of the opposition of the smallness of his majority in Prince Rupert in the recent election. He added that the government was not afraid to open any seat in the province. He recalled how Vancouver had been deprived of representation in the cabinet for years by reason of the fear on the part of the late government that the by-election could not be won by a Liberal even with ministerial rank.

Mr. Pattullo adjourned the debate.

MUNICIPALITIES ENTITLED TO RELIEF

J. W. Cornett Says Province Should Bear Cost of Education.

SOUTH VANCOUVER SHOWED LOYALTY

M.L.A. Says Raw Material Resources Should Be Used In Local Plants.

(Special to The Province.)

VICTORIA, Jan. 31.—Drawing upon his experience in municipal affairs, J. W. Cornett, member for South Vancouver, on Wednesday in the debate on the reply to the Lieutenant-Governor's speech, went exhaustively into the burden of educational costs on the ratepayers of cities and organized municipalities, and advocated that some more equitable system of financing should be evolved. He also pictured the need for the encouragement of industries as a means of providing opportunities for the boys and girls whose education had cost so much.

Mr. Cornett, who was listened to with respect by both sides of the House, declared that he considered it to be his first duty as a member of the Legislature to plead the cause of municipalities burdened with the ever-increasing cost of education.

LOYALTY OF ELECTORS.

"In the case of the municipality of South Vancouver—now a part of Vancouver," he said, "the struggle was one that I will not forget, for more than one-half of the revenue derived from taxation had to be allocated for the maintenance of the educational system. It is obvious that other municipalities are approaching a condition similar to that which South Vancouver weathered but," he asked, "was it reasonable to expect from the ratepayers in other municipalities the same staunch loyalty that characterized those of South Vancouver, who stood behind their elected representatives and paid their taxes when many of them could ill afford to do so?"

PROVINCE SHOULD BEAR COST.

"Young men and young women are assets to this province, and not necessarily of a municipality in which they are educated. It is, in my opinion, the duty of this province and not of the municipality to bear the cost of their education, and the acceptance of this principle by the Legislature would be but common justice. Moreover, the broadening of the basis of taxation for education under such a principle would be in accord with the advice of experts engaged by the previous administration at a cost of \$60,000—advice which having been paid for, should have been acted upon.

INDUSTRIAL EXPANSION.

Continuing, Mr. Cornett spoke of industrial development which, he said, was a question with which the problem of the P.G.E. was allied. It was only by industrial expansion that the line could be made to pay, he argued, and such industrial development, and land settlement should be encouraged among Canadians as well as among immigrants from the British Isles. Canadians should, he said, be accorded equal privileges and equal opportunities for joining on the land with those provided for immigrants.

NOT USING RESOURCES.

"If we in British Columbia," he added, "are ever to reach the prosperity that our raw material resources entitle us, we must turn our attention to using these resources in local plants, factories and mills. We must evolve a plan to encourage industries in British Columbia, not in Tacoma and other foreign communities.

Kamloops Member Urges Highway Up North Thompson

VICTORIA, Jan. 31.—Construction of a highway up the North Thompson River to the boundary of Alberta was advocated in the Legislature yesterday by J. B. Mitchell, Conservative, of Kamloops.

Mr. Mitchell told of the agricultural and other development possibilities of the North Thompson country, but explained that the people there were hampered by lack of road facilities.

He advocated the construction of a bridge across the North Thompson at some convenient point to replace the present system of ferries, which are inconvenient and at times dangerous.

Mr. Mitchell told the House in some detail of the progress of his city, and remarked incidentally that one of its proudest products was the Premier of British Columbia, chosen Conservative leader at the celebrated Kamloops convention.

The Kamloops member urged the development of mines to assist the development of the very valuable mineral resources of his riding.

NEW ORIENTAL SURVEY ASKED

Expansion of Japanese and Chinese Activities Creating Alarm.

LABOR WEAKENS

VICTORIA, Feb. 1.—The opposition which Labor formerly voiced against the inroads of the Oriental in British Columbia is now voiced by merchants and farmers, with the workingman now letting up on his objections. It was stated by members of the agricultural committee of the Legislature, discussing a resolution of the Farmers' Institutes today.

A resolution recommending that the government prepare at the earliest possible moment a survey of Oriental activities in British Columbia, similar to the survey of 1926, was endorsed on the motion of Dr. Winch, seconded by J. B. Mitchell. The survey proposed to cover every line of activity in which Orientals are engaged in the province.

A. M. Manson remarked that the birth rate of the Japanese was alarming. The Chinese were not increasing at the same rate, as there were not so many Chinese women. He gave a warning for the future. Mr. Manson added that it was a difficult problem. One tackled the job of driving the Oriental out of industries with a blush of enthusiasm, only to find they settled on the land.

Col. Cy Peck thought it could be done by licensing. He was the author of driving them out of fishing by the reduction of licenses each year, he said.

Mr. Whitney-Griffiths said that 66 per cent. of the Oriental licenses held in British Columbia were in Vancouver. Ninety-one per cent. of the green grocers, 82 per cent. of the laundrymen, and even one-third of the barbers were Orientals.

Relaxing of labor's opposition to the Oriental was indicated, the members were told, by the fight in Vancouver for the admission of Japanese workers to the labor unions.