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THE DAILY COLUMBIAN

MONDAY EVENING, MAY 2, 1898.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

In their railway aid bill of last session, the Turner Government locked a million dollars, in round numbers—against the protests of the Opposition—in that wild-cat scheme, the British Pacific. In the last few years, they have squandered over a million in cold cash upon that piece of criminal extravagance, the Parliament buildings. Then they have been forced to admit another deficit, of a round million, in sight. Yet, in the face of having wantonly crippled the finances and credit of the Province, this same Government have the coolness to try to tempt the people to enter upon a reckless gambling proposal which would involve the borrowing and expenditure of \$1,600,000! Is it not, truly, time for a change?

The people of Vancouver held a public meeting on Saturday night, and unanimously condemned the Redistribution Bill, both in its general features, and as to the proposal to divide Vancouver City into four wards with a member each. On account of that proposal, the people of the Terminal City had, perhaps, more cause for giving public expression to their views on the redistribution measure than the people of this city. But, even if we are not immediately affected by the measure (in an important sense we are, for it leaves us the most under-represented city in the Province), we should, at least, formally protest on behalf of those sections of the Province that are particularly scandalously treated by this measure—namely, West Kootenay, East Yale, and the Boundary Creek district. The interest of one portion of the Province is the interest of all, in this as in other matters; and, while there is not the shadow of a doubt as to the sentiment of this city with regard to the Redistribution Bill, it will have an excellent effect to put our opinions formally on record.

CONTEMPORARY COMMENT.

The redistribution measure of the Government is, as might have been expected, a farce. That West Kootenay, with a population which has so largely increased since last election, should be given half a member, instead of three new members, as it is entitled to, is nothing short of public scandal.—*Golden Era*.

The Redistribution Bill is a disgrace to the bungling amateurs who are guiding the legislation of this Province at Victoria. If they would work more for the interest of British Columbia, and less for their own ends, the reward would be greater and the production of profanity decreased, especially in Kootenay.—*New Denver Ledger*.

A RUMOR has been circulated to the effect that the Government of this Province contemplates bonusing the Stickline-Teslin Railway to the extent, it is said, of some \$1,600,000. If there is any truth in the rumor, the *Mail* believes it voices the sentiments of this community in saying that such a scheme will merit general disapproval in West Kootenay. This district, which contributes such a large proportion of the revenue of the Province, will naturally have to pay most of the debt incurred by such ex-

travagant generosity, and the people feel that their taxation would be better and more justly applied in improving and developing Kootenay than in opening Klondike, the revenue of which all goes to the Dominion Government. If these contractors want a railway scheme up north, let them build it; if the country merits it, it will pay them; and, if they cannot do it without bonuses, let them look elsewhere than to British Columbia.—*Revelstoke Mail*.

REFERRING to the proposal to grant a Provincial cash subsidy to the Yukon Railway scheme, the *Nelson Tribune* says: The Provincial credit cannot stand this, and it is an injustice to the people that the many should suffer for the enriching of the few. British Columbia's bonded and floating debt is at present \$6,000,000, to which must be added this year's prospective deficit of \$1,000,000, authorized railway subsidies of \$2,250,000, and the proposed Mackenzie-Mann bonus of \$1,500,000. This will aggregate close to \$11,000,000, or almost doubling the debt of the Province in one year. The people are face to face with an alarming situation, which requires earnest consideration on the eve of general elections. The figures given will condemn those who are rapidly bankrupting the Province. Premier Turner and his colleagues are not fit and proper persons to be entrusted with the finances of British Columbia, and the sooner they are put in opposition the better.

THE Provincial Government, ever ready to run more deeply into debt and rush into wild expenditure of vast sums of money on the slightest provocation, is credited with expressing its readiness to grant a cash subsidy for the building of a railway from Port Simpson or thereabouts to the Yukon headwaters. For the Provincial Government to grant a cash subsidy for the building of the road would mean another large loan. There is no other way of raising the money. What the amount of the loan would be is at present only a matter of conjecture, though \$1,600,000 has been spoken of as the probable figure the Provincial Government would be prepared to give. Another loan, with its attendant annual payment of interest, would add greatly to the grievous burden already imposed upon the over-taxed residents of this loan-ridden Province. There are many who regard the undertaking as a good investment that will be eagerly sought after by private parties wishing to build the road, when once it is clearly known that no assistance will be given.—*Sentinel*.

THE *Colonist* has been trying to soothe the Vernon *News*, with smooth words, into swallowing, without protest, the Redistribution outrage. Says the arch organ, insinuatingly: "We believe experience will show our contemporary that the new arrangement is about as equitable as any that could be suggested. Such matters must be approached in a spirit of compromise." The *News*, though a Government paper, is not to be quieted so easily, and replies thus: "We would be glad, indeed, to be shown wherein consists any equitable spirit of compromise in a measure which sacrifices the electors of the south-eastern portion of the riding, and against their will allows them to be swallowed up in the populous division of Roseland; or where the equity comes in of allowing only one representative to the 1,400 voters left in East Yale after the Boundary Creek district has been cut off, while other sections of the Province with a third or fourth of that number are given two members. Such injustice cannot be explained away with specious arguments; nor will any 'compromise' of this nature serve to smooth the ruffled feelings of an indignant electorate."

WAX, asks the Midway Advance, is an attempt being made to virtually disfranchise the people of this district (the Boundary Creek district)? and adds: By the most iniquitous measure ever offered for the consideration of the representatives of any people, that is what is being attempted by the Turner Government, in what they are pleased to term their new Redistribution Bill, a bill which, instead of offering equitable representation, seeks to carry gerrymandering far beyond the pale of decency, and, as far as Boundary Creek is concerned, to such an extent that, if the bill is not amended, the people of the district will virtually occupy the position of serfs. To merge Boundary Creek into the Roseland riding, instead of subdividing East Yale by drawing a line near Pentiction and giving the district another representative, is perpetrating a crime, the blackness of which, like a pall, will cover all the other misdeeds of the Turner Administration. If the Government, therefore, in its blind strength, should carry this measure through the Legislature, contrary to the wishes of the people, it is to be hoped the Lieutenant Governor will, recognizing his duty, withhold his consent to the bill, and by so doing make this Act, which strikes at the liberty of the people, abortive.

Colonist May 1.

THE RAILWAY TO THE

We learn that, in accordance with an announcement made some days these columns, the government province has perfected its plan for the construction of a rail from Teslin Lake to the British coast, and that the necessary will be brought down to the house this week. We believe the plan will meet with the approval of great majority of the people of Columbia. It is unnecessary to thing to what we have already to the importance of the project. Its construction will mark in the history of the province, gaining of construction will stimulus to business and inaugurate a period of prosperity which has parallel in the history of the region. We hope to see the measure receive support from gentlemen not usually act with the government. There is no division between this question out of the house should not be one within it.

PARTY LINES IN PROVINCIAL POLITICS.

A disposition has been shown quarters to divide provincial party Dominion lines. This has been partly exhibited by certain Liberal probably the Conservatives have been quite free from it. The met with no favor from the administration, and we are glad that the recognized leaders of the tion have discountenanced it. A coalition has also been made avowedly coalition party should ed in the province, but this is less objectionable. A coalition a temporary expedient to meet a emergency. It presupposes that may be properly taken into account the local field, and that where party feels able to take the reins own hands, the other will be drawn. No such emergency exists province, nor can it exist for a good reason, if for no other, there are no local issues upon which the are divided according to Dominion.

There may well be, and we believe there is, a unity of among the majority of the support both the great Dominion parties cure good government for British kin by bringing about the return Mr. Turner to power; but this not a coalition of representatives opposing parties but an alliance men, who, differing on federal issues alike as to what is necessary best interests of the province in duct of its local affairs. The tion is a real one and it is mind the work of the coming will be greatly simplified. We that to talk of a coalition of federal ties in provincial politics is to that federal politics have a place vinctual affairs—a position which no well-wisher of British C ought to assume.

It has been said that in most older provinces party lines are in the local houses. We do not that this proves any thing, and mains to be demonstrated that the inces, where this rule prevails, better off by reason of it than Brunswick and British Columbia is not observed. It might also be out that in the United States it is to carry federal politics down to the government of the smallest ship. So completely is this done the whole political organization country, from the President down huge party machine, or rather three huge party machines, which remorseless in their operation other machinery. Public interests most vital character are crushed life by the Juggernaut of party ex-

THE RAILWAY TO THE NORTH.

We learn that, in accordance with the announcement made some days ago in these columns, the government of the province has perfected its plans to secure the construction of a railway from Teslin Lake to the British Columbia coast, and that the necessary measure will be brought down to the house early this week. We believe the plan adopted will meet with the approval of the very great majority of the people of British Columbia. It is unnecessary to add anything to what we have already said as to the importance of the proposed railway. Its construction will mark an era in the history of the province. The beginning of construction will give a stimulus to business and inaugurate a period of prosperity which has had no parallel in the history of the Coast region. We hope to see the measure receive support from gentlemen who do not usually act with the government. There is no division between parties on this question out of the house and there should not be one within it.

PARTY LINES IN PROVINCIAL POLITICS.

A disposition has been shown in some quarters to divide provincial politics on Dominion lines. This has been principally exhibited by certain Liberals, but probably the Conservatives have not been quite free from it. The idea has met with no favor from the provincial administration, and we are glad to know that the recognized leaders of the opposition have discountenanced it. The suggestion has also been made that an avowedly coalition party should be formed in the province, but this is scarcely less objectionable. A coalition is simply a temporary expedient to meet an emergency. It presupposes that party lines may be properly taken into account in the local field, and that when either party feels able to take the reins in its own hands, the other will be cast out, and thereafter strict party lines be drawn. No such emergency exists in this province, nor can it exist for the very good reason, if for no other, that there are no local issues upon which the people are divided according to Dominion lines.

There may well be, and we are glad to believe there is, a unity of intention among the majority of the supporters of both the great Dominion parties to secure good government for British Columbia by bringing about the return of Hon. Mr. Turner to power; but this union is not a coalition of representatives of two opposing parties but an alliance between men, who, differing on federal issues, see alike as to what is necessary for the best interests of the province in the conduct of its local affairs. The distinction is a real one and if it is kept in mind the work of the coming campaign will be greatly simplified. We repeat that to talk of a coalition of federal parties in provincial politics is to admit that federal politics have a place in provincial affairs—a position which we think no well-wisher of British Columbia ought to assume.

It has been said that in most of the older provinces party lines are followed in the local houses. We do not know that this proves anything, and it remains to be demonstrated that the provinces, where this rule prevails, are any better off by reason of it than New Brunswick and British Columbia where it is not observed. It might also be pointed out that in the United States the rule is to carry federal politics down even to the government of the smallest township. So completely is this done that the whole political organization of the country, from the President down, is a huge party machine, or rather two or three huge party machines, which are as remorseless in their operation as any other machinery. Public interests of the most vital character are crushed out of life by the juggernaut of party exigency.

We do not want that sort of thing in British Columbia, but we could not avoid having it if we deliberately recognized federal party distinctions as entitled to consideration in provincial affairs. The older provinces do not present conditions similar to ours, but in none of them were local politics deliberately divided on federal lines. In Ontario and Quebec we have simply a continuation of what existed prior to confederation, and we are not prepared to concede that its continuance has been beneficial. It certainly has not been so in Quebec, which province has suffered severely in credit and administration because it has been the battle ground of forces contending for supremacy in the Dominion. The result of the recent elections in Ontario, taken in connection with the repeated Conservative majorities in the Commons contemporaneous with Liberal majorities in the provincial legislature, show that party lines did not reach as deeply below the surface in local matters in that province, as was generally supposed. In Nova Scotia, party lines were drawn at the time of confederation and have remained the same ever since. The case of New Brunswick is cited as that of a province where the local government is a coalition. This is a mistake. To apply the word coalition to New Brunswick is a complete misnomer. Two events broke party lines in New Brunswick. The first was the confederation issue; the second was the school question. The lines upon which the politics of that province are conducted were drawn during the premiership of George E. King, now Mr. Justice King, of the Supreme court of Canada. The movement, which culminated in the change of government in 1883, was started by some of the younger men who thought that it was time they had something to say in affairs, and when victory was at last won the new government was formed out of the house without respect to Dominion lines, the selection of the cabinet being governed by two considerations, the fitness of the men and their strength in their respective constituencies. There never was anything resembling a coalition. We have gone a little into particulars on this point, because we know that some people in this province talk about a coalition after what they call the New Brunswick pattern. The fact of the matter is that, if one looks below the surface, he will see that each province has been in these matters a law unto itself, which must necessarily be the case, because the conditions existing in the different provinces are diverse.

Referring particularly to our own province, we desire to point out that there are no lines of cleavage in affairs which will be parallel to those in the Dominion arena, and therefore any scheme which subordinates the former to the latter is indefensible on the ground of public policy. The issues with which parliament deals are very distinct from those that come within the purview of the local house, and to attempt to manage them as one would inevitably lead to the provincial government becoming only an appendage to one or the other of the federal parties. We need hardly say that the interests of British Columbia are great enough, varied enough and call for sufficient ability to properly safeguard them, to make it undesirable, from any point of view, that their treatment should be hampered by the exigencies of Dominion politics. In the other provinces these exigencies have led to the sacrifice of provincial interests on more than one occasion, and we protest that this province cannot afford at such a critical period of its history as is now at hand to have its future jeopardized by confusing matters so distinct in their nature as are the issues in the federal and local arenas.

Moreover from time to time questions will constantly arise between the province and the Dominion. It might be of advantage to have on such occasions a local ministry in sympathy with that at Ottawa, but this is doubtful, for while such friendship might incline the federal authorities to assent to the views of the local government to strengthen their hands, it might also lead the provincial executive to yield to the wishes of the Ottawa ministry. It is certainly not desirable that the government of this province should be avowedly hostile to any federal ministry. British Columbia is a growing province. No matter what party may be in power at Ottawa there will be many things to be adjusted between the Dominion and the province, many concessions to be sought, many things in which concerted action will be necessary. It has been so throughout the quarter of a century, and more during which the province has been in confederation, and as during that long period it was never felt to be desirable to set up a federal line of demarcation, so we do not think it desirable now. Progress and good government are a sufficient platform for any party in British Columbia politics, and the loyalty of no man to his federal leaders will be the least impaired by his taking his stand upon it.

We think the soundness of the above position will be conceded by the very great majority of the people of British Columbia, and that the determination of the government to ignore federal party lines wholly in the forthcoming elections, and to base its appeal to the voters upon its record of administration and general policy will command all but universal approval. Mr. Turner and his associates realize that to do their duty by the province, the management of whose affairs has been committed to their hands, is a work calling for all the energy and administrative skill at their command, and they have no desire or intention to subordinate their trust or to permit it to be subordinated to the welfare of either party at Ottawa. If this determination means political defeat, they will have the satisfaction of knowing they will have done their duty in keeping the province free from political entanglements, resulting from the adoption of a policy that is indefensible in principle and mischievous in practice.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Legislative Assembly of British Columbia.

Monday, 2nd May, 1898.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

On the motion of Mr. Helmcken, seconded by Mr. Braden, it was *Resolved*,—

That an humble Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying him to cause to be sent down to this House copies of all correspondence had between the Dominion Government and the Provincial Government, or between the *Esquimalt & Nanaimo Railway Company*, or anyone on its behalf, and the Provincial Government, or any member thereof, relative to the obtaining of or requesting the assent of the Provincial Government to the disposition by the Dominion Government of nineteen acres of the *Songhees Reserve*, or any part thereof, in favour of the *Esquimalt & Nanaimo Railway Company*.

(b.) Also copies of all Orders in Council (if any) passed by the Provincial Government, and copies of all Orders in Council (if any) passed by the Federal Government and forwarded to the Provincial Government, relating to any such disposition in favour of said Company.

(c.) Also for a copy of the plan referred to in the communication of J. A. J. McKenna, Esquire, to the Honourable the Premier, dated September 2nd, 1897.

(d.) Also for copies of all correspondence between the Dominion Government and the Provincial Government, or between the *Esquimalt & Nanaimo Railway Co.*, or anyone on its behalf, and the Provincial Government, or any member thereof, relative to the obtaining or requesting the assent of the Provincial Government to the grant of the foreshore of the *Songhees Reserve*, or any portion thereof, by the Federal Government in favour of the *Esquimalt & Nanaimo Railway Company*.

(e.) Also copies of all Orders in Council (if any) passed by the Provincial Government, and copies of all Orders in Council (if any) passed by the Federal Government and forwarded to the Provincial Government, relating to the grant of the foreshore of the said Reserve, or any portion thereof, to the said Company.

On the motion of Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Kennedy, it was *Resolved*,—

That an humble Address be presented by this House to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying him to move the Dominion Government to take into consideration the urgent need of a drill-shed in the *City of Vancouver*, where no suitable nor adequate accommodation for our Volunteers is provided, this House believing the Volunteer forces of our country should be encouraged and provided with suitable places in which to drill and acquire proficiency.

The Report on Bill (No. 44) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Mineral Act'" was considered.

The Hon. Colonel Baker moved to insert as section 2:—

"2. Section 2 of the 'Mineral Act' is amended by striking out of lines 15 and 16 all the words after 'stone,' down to and including the word 'purposes.'"

Carried.

Report, as amended, adopted.

To be read a third time to-morrow.

Bill (No. 57) intituled "An Act to define the Boundaries of the Corporation of the District of North Cowichan" was committed, with Mr. Seward in the Chair.

Reported complete without amendment.

Report adopted.

Bill read a third time and passed.

Bill (No. 59) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Small Debts Act'" was committed, with Mr. Kennedy in the Chair.

Reported complete with amendments.

Report adopted.

To be read a third time to-morrow.

Bill (No. 58) intituled "An Act to amend the 'British Columbia Railway Act'" was committed, with Mr. Huff in the Chair.

Reported complete without amendment.

Report adopted.

Bill read a third time and passed.

Bill (No. 62) intituled "An Act to further amend the 'Quesnelle Lake Dam Company Act'" was committed, with Mr. Hume in the Chair.

Reported complete without amendment.

Report adopted.

Bill read a third time and passed.

Mr. Helmcken asked the Hon. the Premier the following questions:—

(1.) Has the Provincial Government been requested by the *Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway Company*, or by anyone on its behalf (if so, by whom and when?), to give its assent to a disposition by the Federal Government of about 19 acres, or thereabouts, of the *Songhees Reserve* to the said Railway Company, or of any portion thereof?

(2.) Has the Provincial Government given or agreed to give its assent thereto?

(3.) Has the Federal Government at any time requested the Provincial Government to give its assent to such disposition? If yea, the date or dates of any such application?

(4.) Has the Provincial Government given or agreed to give its assent thereto?

(5.) Has the Provincial Government been requested by the *Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway Company*, or by anyone on its behalf (and if so, by whom and when?), to give its assent to a grant or disposition by the Federal Government of a portion of the foreshore of the *Songhees Reserve* in favour of the said Railway Company?

Times May 3rd PROVINCIAL HOUSE.

Helmcken Asks For More Information on the Songhees Reserve Matter.

Hunter Says There Is Nothing in E. & N. Railway Nineteen Acres.

Victoria, May 2, 1898.

The speaker took the chair at 2 o'clock. Mr. Helmcken moved the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Braden:

That an humble address be presented to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, praying him to cause to be sent down to this house copies of all correspondence had between the Dominion government and the provincial government, or between the *Esquimalt & Nanaimo Railway Company*, or anyone on its behalf, and the provincial government, or any member thereof, relative to the obtaining of or requesting the assent of the provincial government to the disposition by the Dominion government of nineteen acres of the *Songhees reserve*, or any part thereof, in favor of the *Esquimalt & Nanaimo Railway Company*. (b.) Also copies of all orders in council (if any) passed by the provincial government, and copies of all orders in council (if any) passed by the Federal government and forwarded to the provincial government, relating to any such disposition in favor of said company. (c.) Also for a copy of the plan referred to in the communication of J. A. J. McKenna, Esquire, to the honorable the premier, dated September 2nd, 1897. (d.) Also for copies of all correspondence between the Dominion government and the provincial government, or between the *Esquimalt & Nanaimo Railway Company*, or anyone on its behalf, and the provincial government, or any member thereof, relative to the obtaining or requesting the assent of the provincial government to the grant of the foreshore of the *Songhees reserve*, or any portion thereof, by the Federal government in favor of the *Esquimalt & Nanaimo Railway Company*. (e.) Also copies of all orders in council (if any) passed by the provincial government, and copies of all orders in council (if any) passed by the Federal government and forwarded to the provincial government, relating to the grant of the foreshore of the said reserve, or any portion thereof, to the said company. Mr. Hunter asked for some information as to what the resolution meant.

Mr. Helmcken replied that in view of the questions which had come up with respect to the removal of the *Songhees* from their reserve, that it was important that the house should have all information upon the question. There were two questions to be considered, the removal of the Indians and the question with respect to title to the land embraced in the reserve. He wished particularly to know whether the provincial government by any act of its own had affected its title to the land.

Hon. Mr. Turner agreed that it was desirable that all papers relating to the question should be before the house. He said he was not aware of any recent correspondence except that already submitted to the house. He doubted if there was any late correspondence of late years. So far as he knew the first that he had heard of the 19 acres was in the recent interview between Mr. McKenna and himself. There might be some previous correspondence, and if so it would be brought down.

Mr. Seward asked if the premier had not heard of the 19 acres before the recent interview with Mr. McKenna.

Hon. Mr. Turner replied that such was the first time he had been personally informed of it. He did not say that some years ago he had not heard some rumors of an arrangement made between the late Mr. Dunsmuir and the Federal government, but he had received no official notice of the same.

Mr. Hunter—I think this whole matter will turn out like the showing of a pig. There will be a great deal of cry and very little wool. I am fully acquainted with this matter, and there is nothing in it.

Mr. Semlin—Is there 19 acres in it? Mr. Hunter—If there is it will be found of credit to the E. & N. Railway Company, because I personally conducted the matter and there was no portion of that reserve sold. I do not think that the present government has any correspondence in the matter and the information will therefore have to come from Ottawa, where the negotiations were carried on. This 19 acre business is not of much importance. I made the plans, showing how the land could be laid out as a railway terminus, but there was no result, so far as I know.

(6.) Has the Federal Government give its assent to such disposition?
(7.) If yea, the date or dates of any such application?
(8.) Has the Provincial Government given or agreed to give its assent thereto?
The Hon. Mr. Turner:—
"1, 2, 3, 4, 5. No.
"6. Yes.
"7. September 2nd, 1897.
March 15th, 1898.
"8. No."

Bill (No. 64) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Progress Report' Committee to sit again."

Bill (No. 21) intituled "An Act to amend the 'The Report on Bill (No. 21)'" was read a third time and passed.
Mr. Kellie moved—To words "or place." Carried.

Report, as amended, adopted.
Third reading to-morrow.

Bill (No. 55) intituled "An Act to amend the 'The Report on Bill (No. 55)'" was read a second time and passed.
Reported complete with amendments.
Report to be considered to-morrow.

Bill (No. 56) intituled "An Act to amend the 'The Report on Bill (No. 56)'" was read a second time and passed.
To be committed to-morrow.

The Hon. Mr. Eberts presented a bill for the land grant to the *Nelson*.

Resolved, That the Hon.

The Hon. Mr. Eberts presented a bill for the names of all companies which have been incorporated in the Act, and a statement of the names of the companies.

And then the House adjourned.

NOT

By Mr. Kidd—On Wednesday next, the 3rd inst., at 10 o'clock, a meeting of the House of Commons will be held in the Chamber of the House of Commons, to consider the report of the Committee on the subject of the proposed amendment of the *Wages Act*.

By Mr. Higgins—On Wednesday next, the 3rd inst., at 10 o'clock, a meeting of the House of Commons will be held in the Chamber of the House of Commons, to consider the report of the Committee on the subject of the proposed amendment of the *Wages Act*.

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By Mr. Williams—On Wednesday next, the 3rd inst., at 10 o'clock, a meeting of the House of Commons will be held in the Chamber of the House of Commons, to consider the report of the Committee on the subject of the proposed amendment of the *Wages Act*.

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On Wednesday next—
Mr. Helmcken to ask the House to pass the *Act 44 Victoria, Chap. 19*.

(6.) Has the Federal Government at any time requested the Provincial Government to give its assent to such disposition?

(7.) If yea, the date or dates of any such application?

(8.) Has the Provincial Government given or agreed to give its assent thereto?

The Hon. Mr. Turner replied as follows:—

"1, 2, 3, 4, 5. No.

"6. Yes.

"7. September 2nd, 18th, 22nd, 25th, and October 15th, 1897, as laid before the House March 15th, 1898.

"8. No."

Bill (No. 64) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Speedy Incorporation of Towns Act'" was read a second time and committed, with Mr. Adams in the Chair.

Progress reported.

Committee to sit again to-morrow.

Bill (No. 21) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the Downie Creek Railway Company" was read a third time and passed.

The Report on Bill (No. 46) intituled "The Truck Act" was considered.

Mr. Kellie moved To insert after the word "municipality," in line 4, section 19, the words "or place."

Carried.

Report, as amended, adopted.

Third reading to-morrow.

Bill (No. 55) intituled "An Act to Incorporate Industrial Communities" was committed, with Mr. Stoddart in the Chair.

Reported complete with amendments.

Report to be considered on Wednesday next.

Bill (No. 56) intituled "An Act to amend the Law respecting the Marking of Cattle" was read a second time.

To be committed to-morrow.

The Hon. Mr. Eberts presented a Supplementary Return of correspondence relating to the land grant to the Nelson and Fort Sheppard Railway Company.

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

The Hon. Mr. Eberts presented a Return to an Order of the House for a Return of the names of all companies which have complied with the "Companies Act, 1897." Also a Return of the names of any companies which have rendered themselves liable to the penalties provided in the Act, and a statement of the steps taken against such companies.

And then the House adjourned at 5:05 o'clock, p. m.

J. P. BOOTH, Speaker.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

By Mr. Kidd—On Wednesday next—

That an Order of the House be granted for a statement of the authority by which royalty is collected on cordwood cut on land acquired previous to the year 1896.

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

What were the amounts due the Bank of British Columbia on the following dates, viz.:—28th February, 31st March, and 30th April, 1898? Also, the cash on hand at the Treasury and in hands of agents on the same dates?

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

How have the following sums received by the Province, and for which it is liable (see balance sheet 30th June, 1897, page 7, Public Accounts), been invested, and what interest is derived therefrom:—

Deposits (Intestate Estates, etc.)	\$ 81,714 25
" (Suitsors' Fund Act, 1890)	49,436 48
Nakusp & Slocan Railway Co. (balance of Dominion Government subsidy and earnings of the road)	46,987 02

Total.....\$178,137 75

By Mr. Williams—On Wednesday next—Questions of the Hon. the Attorney-General—

1. Who has charge of the lepers on Darcy Island?

2. What precautions (if any) are taken to prevent intercourse between the lepers and other residents of the Province, and to prevent the exportation of vegetables or other produce from the island?

The Hon. Mr. Eberts to move, in Committee of the Whole on Bill (No. 64) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Speedy Incorporation of Towns Act,'" to add the following as a new section:—

"Wherever in the 'Municipal Clauses Act' it is provided that reference is to be had to the last revised Municipal Assessment Roll for any purpose relating to the borrowing of money, the words 'last revised Assessment Roll' or 'last revised Assessment Roll of the Municipality,' or any words to such effect, shall be deemed to refer to so much of the last revised Provincial Assessment Roll as relates to land within the limits of any of the cities incorporated under the 'Speedy Incorporation of Towns Act, 1897.'"

On Wednesday next—

Mr. Helmcken to ask leave to introduce a Bill intituled "An Act to further amend the Act 44 Victoria Chap. 19"

Mr. Cotton—Was this land for use as the railway or merely for terminal facilities?

Mr. Hunter—The negotiations were carried on for the purpose of obtaining 19 acres south of the railway line for terminal purposes, and nothing else.

The resolution was agreed to.

Mr. Williams moved the following resolution:

That an humble address be presented by this house to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, praying him to move the Dominion government to take into consideration the urgent need of a drill shed in the city of Vancouver, where no suitable nor adequate accommodation for our volunteers is provided, this house believing the volunteer forces of our country should be encouraged and provided with suitable places in which to drill and acquire proficiency. Mr. Williams said that he understood that the provincial government intended to place an amount in the supplementary estimates for a suitable site, and it was expected that the Dominion government would provide the means for the building. It had, since then, been announced, however, that the Dominion was not going to place anything in the estimates for the drill shed, and the object of the resolution was to impress upon them the necessity for carrying out the wishes of the people and to strengthen the hands of the representatives in urging the same.

Hon. Mr. Turner agreed with the resolution, and said that it was such as should pass unanimously. With respect to the site, it was the intention of the government to bring down a sum in the

supplementary estimates to secure the necessary land. The government in this respect would assume the same responsibility as it had done with respect to the Victoria and New Westminster drill sheds.

Mr. Semlin moved the adjournment of the house for the purpose of considering the report of Dr. Walkem, while in the chair upon the redistribution bill as to the points upon which appeal had been taken from his ruling, and what had been reported to the speaker.

The speaker said that such a motion would require the customary notice, so that none could be taken by surprise.

The ruling of the speaker that a motion to adjourn the house should require two days' notice was disputed by Messrs. Semlin, Sword, and Cotton, and the ruling was upheld by Dr. Walkem. In the course of his remarks Dr. Walkem called certain members of the opposition cowards and impertinent people.

The language was resented by Mr. Semlin, who reminded the speaker that if he did not keep members in order and prevent the use of such language that there would be a great deal of disorder in the house.

The speaker said he regretted to say that the unparliamentary language came from both sides of the house.

The bill amending the Mineral Act was adopted on report. Col. Baker added a new clause to the bill including from the provisions of the Mineral Act lime stone and building stone when mined for building purposes.

The North Cowichan Corporation Boundaries bill was considered in committee and put through its final stage.

The Small Debts amending bill was considered in committee and progress reported.

The B. C. Railway Act Amending bill was considered in committee and put through its final stages. The Quesnelle Lake Dam Company's bill was treated in a like manner.

The Speedy Incorporation of Towns bill received its second reading and was considered in committee. Progress was reported.

The Downie Creek Railway Company's bill received its third reading.

The Truck Act received a slight amendment and was adopted on report.

Mr. Semlin's bill to amend the law with respect to branding of cattle and horses received its second reading. The object of the bill is to simplify the law and make it clear that a certain brand upon the hip, for example, would not prevent the recording of a similar brand on the shoulder or some other part of the animal.

The Industrial Communities bill was considered in committee and reported complete.

Mr. Helmcken raised a point of order against the action of the government in advancing the Quesnelle Lake Dam Company bill three stages at one sitting. He said that Mr. Charles Wilson had desired to have an amendment made to the bill.

Mr. Hunter said that it was an attempt on the part of the Cariboo Hydraulic Company to insert an amendment into the bill which would be objectionable.

The speaker replied that as no objection had been taken to the bill at the different stages it was regular to advance it in the way in which it had been advanced.

Mr. Helmcken's resolution with respect to the Songhees reserve went over again in the hope of bringing necessary correspondence before the house. It will be taken up to-morrow if reached on the orders.

Mr. Williams' resolution respecting the N. & F. S. railway land grant went over again on account of Mr. Kellie's absence and the fact that the return asked for by the house had not been completed with. Attorney-General Eberts then presented the N. & F. S. return, as well as a return with respect to the Companies Act.

World May 322 LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Fourth Session of the Seventh Parliament.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Victoria, May 3.—The proceedings in the Legislature yesterday were brief, adjournment being reached by 5 o'clock. Several Government bills were put through the finishing stages, but a good many of the bills in the hands of private members were postponed and consequently the order paper was exhausted quickly. The proceedings opened without the usual prayers.

Songhees Reserve.

Mr. HELMCKEN moved for the correspondence between the Dominion and Provincial Governments or between the E. & N. Ry. Co. and the Provincial Government relative to the obtaining of or requesting the assent of the Provincial Government to the disposition of the Songhees reserve or any part thereof in favor of the E. & N. Ry. Co.; also orders-in-council relative to this matter, also for a copy of the plan referred to in the communication of J. A. J. McKenna to the Premier dated September 2, 1897; also for correspondence between the Provincial and Dominion Governments or the Provincial Government and E. & N. Ry. Co. relative to the obtaining or requesting the assent of the Provincial Government to the grant of the foreshore of the Songhees reserve or any part thereof by the Federal Government in favor of the E. & N. Ry. Co.; also copies of any orders-in-council passed by the Provincial Government or by the Federal Government and forwarded to the Provincial Government relating to the grant of the foreshore of the reserve or any portion thereof to the company.

In support of his motion Mr. HELMCKEN said that it was essential to the proper discussion of his resolution on the Songhees reserve question to have all the papers brought down. There were two questions to be taken into consideration, one the removal of the Indians, the other as to the ownership of the land after the removal of the Indians.

Hon. Mr. TURNER was quite of the opinion that all the papers relating to the subject should be brought down. He did not think, however, that there was any correspondence of late years and so far as he knew personally about the 19 acres was in his interview with Mr. McKenna. He had heard rumors years ago about some arrangement between the late Mr. Dunsmuir and the Dominion Government. If there was any correspondence it would be brought down.

Mr. HUNTER remarked that the whole thing would turn out like the shaving of a pig, a great deal of cry and little wool. He was fully conversant with the matter and there was nothing in it. If there was anything on the subject it would be found infinitely to the credit of the E. & N. railway, for he had personally conducted all the negotiations. He did not think that the Provincial Government had any correspondence as the negotiations were all carried on at Ottawa.

Mr. SEMLIN: "If there was no correspondence, the sooner it is known the better."

Mr. HUNTER explained that the negotiations had come to nothing. The negotiations were for the purpose of obtaining 19 acres south of the railway for a railway terminus and nothing else and he had made a plan showing the tracts. He would say, however, that had the plan been carried out it would have been infinitely for the benefit of the city.

Mr. HELMCKEN in closing the discussion said it was not desired to cast reflection on any one. The city of Victoria was much interested in the subject of the reserve and it was important to have all the information possible on the subject.

The resolution was carried.

Vancouver Drill Shed.

Mr. WILLIAMS moved that the Lieutenant-Governor move the Dominion Government to take into consideration the urgent need of a drill shed in the city of Vancouver, where no suitable or adequate accommodation for our volunteers is provided, this House believing the volunteers, forces of our country should be encouraged and provided with suitable places in which to drill and acquire proficiency. In doing so he said that there was some doubt as to the Dominion Government putting in the estimates a sum for the drill shed. It certainly would be a great shame if Vancouver was not given a proper drill shed in place of the miserable shed the militia were now obliged to use.

Hon. Mr. TURNER thought that the resolution was one that should pass un-animously. Such a fine body of men as Vancouver had should certainly have a proper place in which to drill. As far as the Provincial Government was concerned it was fully intended to bring down in the supplementary estimates provisions for a site for a drill shed, the same as had been done in the case of Victoria and Westminster drill sheds. It was only right that the Province should take an interest in the encouragement of the volunteers, for he looked upon the force as a good thing for training young men morally and physically and was greatly in favor of every young man joining. He had great pleasure in voting for the resolution.

Mr. MACPHERSON said he had a letter from Ottawa stating that the Dominion Government intended placing \$20,000 on the estimates for the drill shed. It would be no harm, however, to pass the resolution.

The resolution was carried.

Must Give Notice.

Mr. SEMLIN moved the adjournment of the House to discuss the report of the chairman of the committee of the whole on the Redistribution bill.

Mr. SPEAKER said he had already stated that the question should come up on notice. The report could not go on the journals of the House until the House had come to some conclusion upon it.

Mineral Bill.

On the report of the Mineral bill Hon. Col. Baker moved an amendment to make plain that limestone, marble and clay are not minerals under the act.

This was carried and the report was adopted.

Bills Passed.

The North Cowichan Corporation Boundaries bill; the British Columbia Railway Act Amendment bill; the Quesnelle Lake Dam Company bill; and the Downie Creek Railway bill were put through their final stages and passed.

The Small Act Amendment bill was put through committee of the whole and reported complete with amendments.

The Truck bill report was adopted.

Speedy Incorporation.

Hon. Mr. EBERTS, in moving the second reading of the Speedy Incorporation of Towns bill, explained that it was for the purpose of allowing the towns incorporated last year to use the Provincial assessment list instead of the municipal list for borrowing money this year in anticipation of their revenue. The Municipal Clauses act provides that the "last revised assessment roll of a town should be used," but as the towns in question had no such municipal rolls in existence last year it was impossible for them to comply with the law in this respect until next year.

The second reading was carried and the bill partly put through committee of the whole, the committee rising and obtaining leave to sit again.

Industrial Communities.

The Industrial Communities bill was put through committee and reported with amendments.

Mr. HELMCKEN asked Mr. Speaker if it were possible to reconsider the Quesnelle Lake Dam bill which had passed earlier in the afternoon as it appeared that it had been desired to move an amendment, but that through some accident the bill had gone through beforehand.

Mr. Speaker remarked that when the bill had come up nothing was said of amendments and no objection had been made to its passing. The only way would be to bring in a bill by message.

Mr. HUNTER said that he did not believe in another company being allowed to put in any restrictions in the bill which were not there before and he objected to any further amendment.

Cattle Branding.

Mr. SEMLIN moved the second reading of the Cattle marking bill which was, he said, to simplify the present system. Now it was the mark of the letter that had to be registered. He wished to make the registered brand not the mark or letter, but the position in which it was placed on the animal.

Mr. MARTIN agreed that the object Mr. Semlin had was a good one.

The bill was read a second time.

Returns.

Hon. Mr. EBERTS presented further returns in reference to the Nelson & Fort Sheppard railway, also returns on the Companies act.

The bill passed its second reading.

The orders being finished, Hon. Mr. TURNER moved that the House adjourn, whereupon

Mr. WILLIAMS wanted to know whether there was not some further business that could be gone on with.

Hon. Col. BAKER pointed out that out of 25 notices on the order paper, 15 had to be passed over. If members were not ready to go on with their bills they should not be surprised if the House had to adjourn.

In reply to Mr. Helmcken's resolution passed earlier in the day the Attorney-General brought in a return showing that the Provincial Government had had no request from the E. & N. Railway Company for a portion of the Songhees reserve. The Dominion Government had asked the Provincial to give their consent, but the Provincial Government had not consented.

Notices of Questions.

By Mr. Higgins—What were the amounts due the Bank of British Columbia on February 28, March 31 and April 30, 1898; also amounts in hands of agents and in the treasury?

By Mr. KIDD—By what authority was the royalty collected on cordwood prior to 1886?

By Mr. Williams—To ask who has charge of the Darcey Island lazaretto and what precautions are taken to keep the lepers from having intercourse with other portions of the Province?

UNFAIR TACTICS.

While many believe in the theory that everything is fair in love and war, in order to gain the coveted prize, there is a certain degree of honesty prevailing our public men in their utterances and their treatment of each other. We regret to notice that a certain portion of the Opposition in this Province, and especially so in North Yale, in order to prejudice the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works in the estimation of the electors whom he has served so faithfully as so well for a period of 16 years, in reference to his views upon the Chinese question are resorting to tactics which a not only unfair but very disreputable. A lengthened experience in journalism has long since convinced us of the fact that unless a verbatim report is made of the speeches of our public men in the legislative halls, either at Ottawa, or throughout the Provinces, by either sworn or thoroughly reliable experts, that it is a matter of extreme difficulty for anyone to state either upon oath, or otherwise, the exact words which were made use of. To such an extent does this prevail that in Ottawa the Hansard reporters, before publishing what is deemed to be authoritative reports of the speeches delivered by any member in the House of Commons, forwards what is termed proof copies for revision. Those who have had experience in such matters are well aware of the fact that when placed in the witness box, no two men will be found to agree as to the exact language made use of by any person concerning whose utterances they may be giving evidences. The remarks made use of by Mr. Martin we have every reason to believe have been twisted to suit what is said to be affirmations as to the correctness thereof. We have to accept these for what they are worth, and in placing them in just a position with the practice and the actions of the Chief Commissioner in respect to the employment of Chinese, the testimony is overwhelmingly in favor of Hon. Mr. Martin. Those who know that gentleman best, in his own neighborhood, attest the correctness of his statements. The Opposition candidate in North Yale, who partakes largely of the character of a demagogue, is depending now solely and entirely for his success at the polls upon misrepresentations concerning Mr. Martin, but the electors of North Yale are not to be hoodwinked in that way. They know Mr. Martin to be, and to have been, their staunch friend. He is not a mere adventurer, but a man who has resided in their midst for over a quarter of a century, and has done his utmost to promote the best interests of the section of the country in which he took up his abode, and in which he still resides. Several of the electors of the district having written to Mr. Martin concerning his utterances upon the subject, which the Opposition have so grossly distorted, and are handling with a zeal worthy a better cause, Mr. Martin has replied to many of these in a letter, of which the following is a copy:

VICTORIA, April 28, 1898.

My Dear Sir: I am in receipt of your letter with reference to the affidavits, one made by Mr. Rawick, of the Victoria Times, to the effect that I stated in the House that Chinamen were better than Canadians. I am not going to say that these gentlemen are deliberately stating under oath what they know to be untrue. They are simply grossly mistaken.

There has been a great deal said about the acoustic properties of the Legislative Chamber, and there could be no better proof of its defectiveness in this respect, than that they should imagine they heard what they have sworn to in the affidavit read by Mr. Deane. I say, absolutely, that I never stated in the House, or elsewhere, anything

by way of comparison between and white men, which by any attraction could be taken to an affidavit alleged. I UTTERLY REPUDIATE IT.

You suggest that I should publish affidavits. I shall do nothing of the kind. If my word is not sufficient to the electors of North Yale elected me for 16 successive years, then I must ask them to confer in me. A man who will usually swear to it, and who are only a sort of admission won't believe your word with will back my reputation for verity of any of my opponents will up the fight against me in the

The fact that in a district body, more or less, employ their farms, and that I never Chinaman in my life, should show my convictions on that Chinaman I referred to in the remarks was employed during from home, and I at once did upon my return. I stated at that a man should practice what in referring to the matter in did say that the only Chinaman place was better than any Canadian, either, for that matter, in my employ for the work in engaged, namely, gardening and simply stated that fact to show on the Chinese question generally that I had discharged a Chinaman standing that he was one of laborers who had worked on BECAUSE HE WAS A RATHER THAN PREACH AND PRACTICE ANOTHER.

The use that my opponents make of this perversion of my language what straits they are in, and will go to injure me politically, to imagine my saying published a Chinaman to a Canadian Chinaman was better than a for that reason I think it is weary to take the trouble you would not insult the intelligent friends by supposing they are capable of seriously uttering of such sentiments. I am pleased from you that the Convention was such a great success, friends most cordially and since renewed expression of goodwill towards myself.

Believe me to
Very sincerely
GEO. B.

(Sg'd)

by way of comparison between Chinamen and white men, which by any possible construction could be taken to mean what the affidavits allege. I UTTERLY DENY AND REPUDIATE IT.

You suggest that I should procure counter affidavits. I shall do nothing of the kind. If my word is not sufficient in the estimation of the electors of North Yale, who have elected me for 16 successive years to serve them, then I must ask them to vote want of confidence in me. A man who will tell a lie will usually swear to it; and affidavits anyway are only a sort of admission that people won't believe your word without them. I will back my reputation for veracity against that of any of my opponents who are putting up the fight against me in this contest.

The fact that in a district where everybody, more or less, employ Chinamen on their farms, and that I never employed a Chinaman in my life, should be sufficient to show my convictions on that subject. The Chinaman I referred to in the course of my remarks was employed during my absence from home, and I at once discharged him upon my return. I stated at the same time that a man should practice what he preaches. In referring to the matter in the House, I did say that the only Chinaman I had on my place was better than any Canadian, or Englishman, either, for that matter, I ever had in my employ for the work in which he was engaged, namely, gardening and irrigation. I simply stated that fact to show my position on the Chinese question generally, namely, that I had discharged a Chinaman—notwithstanding that he was one of the best farm laborers who had worked on my farm—BECAUSE HE WAS A CHINAMAN, RATHER THAN PITCH ONE THING AND PRACTICE ANOTHER.

The use that my opponents are making of this perversion of my language only shows what straits they are in, and how far they will go to injure me politically. It is absurd to imagine my saying publicly that I preferred a Chinaman to a Canadian, or that a Chinaman was better than a Canadian, and for that reason I think it is wholly unnecessary to take the trouble you suggest. I would not insult the intelligence of my friends by supposing they could think me capable of seriously uttering or entertaining such sentiments. I am pleased to know from you that the Convention on Saturday was such a great success. I thank my friends most cordially and sincerely for their renewed expression of goodwill and confidence towards myself.

Believe me to be,

Very sincerely yours,

GEO. B. MARTIN.

(Sg'd)

THE NEWS-ADVERTISER.

WEDNESDAY, May 4, 1898

PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT

Dominion Government Urged to Aid in Building Vancouver's Drill Shed.

—Songhees Reserve Question.—Private Bills.

FIFTY-FIRST DAY.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Victoria, May 2.—The Speaker took the chair at 2 p. m.

Mr. Helmcken moved the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Braden: That an humble address be presented to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, praying him to cause to be sent down to this House copies of all correspondence had between the Dominion Government and the Provincial Government, or between the Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway Company, or anyone on its behalf, and the Provincial Government, or any member thereof, relative to the obtaining of, or requesting the assent of the Provincial Government to the disposition by the Dominion Government of 19 acres of the Songhees Reserve, or any part thereof, in favor of the Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway Company. (b.) Also copies of all Orders-in-Council (if any) passed by the Provincial Government, and copies of all Orders-in-Council (if any) passed by the Federal Government and forwarded to the Provincial Government, relating to any such disposition in favor of said Company. (c.) Also for a copy of the plan referred to in the communication of J. A. J. McKenna, Esquire, to the Honorable the Premier, dated September 2nd, 1897. (d.) Also for copies of all correspondence between the Dominion Government and the Provincial Government, or between the Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway Company, or anyone on its behalf, and the Provincial Government, or any member thereof, relative to the obtaining or requesting the assent of the Provincial Government to the grant of the foreshore of the Songhees Reserve, or any portion thereof, by the Federal Government in favor of the Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway Company. (e.) Also copies of all Orders-in-Council (if any) passed by the Provincial Government, and copies of all Orders-in-Council (if any) passed by the Federal Government and forwarded to the Provincial Government, relating to the grant of the foreshore of the said Reserve, or any portion thereof, to the said Company.

Mr. Hunter asked for some information as to what the resolution meant.

Mr. Helmcken replied that in view of the questions which had come up with respect to the removal of the Songhees from their Reserve, it was important that the House should have all information upon the question. There were two questions to be considered—the removal of the Indians and the question with respect to title of the land embraced in the Reserve. He wished particularly to know whether the Provincial Government by any act of its own had affected its title to the land.

Hon. Mr. Turner agreed that it was desirable that all papers relating to the question should be before the House. He was not aware of any recent correspondence except that already submitted. He doubted if there was any late correspondence of late years. So far as he knew the first that he had heard of the 19 acres was in the recent interview between Mr. McKenna and himself. There might be some previous correspondence, and if so it would be brought down.

NINETEEN ACRES AND A RAILWAY.

Mr. Sword asked if the Premier had not heard of the 19 acres before the recent interview with Mr. McKenna.

Hon. Mr. Turner replied that that was the first time he had been personally informed of it. He did not say that some years ago he had not heard some rumors of an arrangement made between the late Mr. Dunsmuir and the Federal Government, but he had received no official notice of the same.

Mr. Hunter: "I think this whole matter will turn out like the shaving of a pig; there will be a great deal of cry and very little wool. I am fully acquainted with the matter and there is nothing in it."

Mr. Semlin: "Are there 19 acres in it?"

Mr. Hunter: "If there are, it will be found a credit to the Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway Company, because I personally conducted the matter and there was no portion of that Reserve sold. I do not think that the present Government has any correspondence in the matter, and the information will therefore have to come from Ottawa where the negotiations were carried on. This 19 acre business is not of much importance. I made the plans showing how the land could be laid out as a railway terminus, but there was no result as far as I know."

Mr. Cotton: "Was this land for aid to the railway or merely for terminal facilities?"

Mr. Hunter: "The negotiations were carried on for the purpose of obtaining 19 acres south of the railway line for terminal purposes and nothing else."

The resolution was agreed to.

VANCOUVER'S DRILL SHED.

Mr. Williams moved the following resolution: "That an humble address be presented by this House to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, praying him to move the Dominion Government to take into consideration the urgent need of a drill-shed in the City of Vancouver, where no suitable nor adequate accommodation for our Volunteers is provided, this House believing the Volunteer forces of our country should be encouraged and provided with suitable places in which to drill and acquire proficiency."

Mr. Williams said that he understood that the Provincial Government intended to place an amount in the Supplementary Estimates for a suitable site, and it was expected that the Dominion Government would provide the means for the building. It had since been announced, however, that the Dominion Government was not going to place anything in the Estimates for the drill shed, and the object of the resolution was to impress upon it the necessity for carrying out the wishes of the people and to strengthen the hands of the representatives in urging the same.

Hon. Mr. Turner agreed with the resolution and said that it was one that should pass unanimately. With respect to the site it was the intention of the Government to bring down a sum in the Supplementary Estimates to secure the necessary land. The Government in this respect would assume the same responsibility as it had done with respect to the Victoria and New Westminster drill sheds.

The resolution was agreed to.

UNPARLIAMENTARY LANGUAGE.

Mr. Semlin moved the adjournment of the House for the purpose of considering the report of Dr. Walkem while in the chair upon the Redistribution Bill as to the points upon which appeal had been taken from his ruling and what he had reported to the Speaker.

The Speaker said that such a motion would require the customary notice so that none could be taken by surprise.

The ruling of the Speaker that a motion to adjourn the House should require two days' notice was disputed by Messrs. Semlin, Sword and Cotton, and was upheld by Dr. Walkem. In the course of his remarks Dr. Walkem called certain members of the Opposition cowards and impertinent people.

This language was resented by Mr. Semlin, who reminded the Speaker that if he did not keep members in order and prevent the use of such language there would be a great deal of disorder in the House.

The Speaker said he regretted to say that the unparliamentary language came from both sides of the House.

BILLS ADVANCED.

The Bill amending the Mineral Act was adopted on report. Hon. Colonel Baker added a new clause to the Bill excluding from the provisions of the Mineral Act lime-stone and building stone when mined for building purposes.

The North Cowichan Corporation Boundaries Bill was considered in Committee and put through its final stages. The Small Debts Amending Bill was considered in Committee and progress reported.

The British Columbia Railway Act Amending Bill was considered in Committee and put through the final stages. The Quesnelle Lake Dam Company's Bill was treated in a like manner.

The Speedy Incorporation of Towns Bill received its second reading and was considered in Committee. Progress was reported.

The Downie Creek Railway Company's Bill received its third reading.

The Truck Act received a slight amendment and was adopted on report. Mr. Semlin's Bill to amend the law with respect to branding of cattle and horses received its second reading. The object of the Bill is to simplify the law and make it clear that a certain brand, upon the hip for example, would not prevent the recording of a similar brand on the shoulder or some other part of the animal.

The Industrial Communities Bill was considered in Committee and reported complete.

Mr. Helmcken raised a point of order against the action of the Government in advancing the Quesnelle Lake Dam Company's Bill three stages at one sitting. He said that Mr. Charles Wilson had desired to have an amendment made to the Bill.

Mr. Hunter said that it was an attempt on the part of the Cariboo Hydraulic Company to insert an amendment into the Bill which would be objectionable.

The Speaker replied that as no objection had been taken to the Bill at the different stages it was regular to advance it in the way in which it had been advanced.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Mr. Helmcken's resolution with respect to the Songhees Reserve went over again in the hope of having necessary correspondence before the House. It will be taken up to-morrow if reached on the orders.

Mr. Williams' resolution respecting the Nakusp and Fort Sheppard Railway land grant went over again on account of Mr. Kellie's absence and the fact that the return asked for by the House had not been complied with.

Attorney-General Eberts then presented the Nakusp and Fort Sheppard returns, as well as a return with respect to the Companies' Act.

THE DAILY COLUMBIAN

TUESDAY EVENING, MAY 2, 1898.

OUR PROMOTING MINISTERS.

The "unique connection" of Premier Turner and his President of the Council, Hon. Mr. Pooley, with that speculative Klondike mining company, the Dawson City and Dominion Trading Corporation, etc., etc., has got those devoted (to their private affairs) administrators into trouble again. The enterprising concern in question, of which they are directors, has, it appears, gone into the outfitting business, on the side, as it were; and, in booming that branch of its multifarious activities, has not scrupled to libel the Klondike outfitters of the B. C. coast cities, and their business methods, and warn the intending British Klondiker against them—pretty work, indeed, to be countenanced and sanctioned by the Premier and President of the Council of the Province. So thought the Opposition in the Local House, and, on Friday last, Mr. Williams moved the following resolution on the subject:

Whereas, the attention of the members of this House has been called to an advertisement in the London Times issued on April 5th instant, by the Klondike and Columbian Gold Fields, Limited, the Dawson City and Dominion Trading Corporation, with the Klondike and Columbian Passenger Agency, in which the following clauses appear:

"On arrival of passengers at Pacific coast, the voyager is ignorant of the best steamer on which to take his passage. In a strange country, he is at the mercy of the first canvasser. In a strange town, he is in the hands of the storekeeper, who undertakes to provide him with a miner's outfit for an exorbitant sum, omitting many of the most important and more expensive necessities. He is pressed into buying provisions utterly inadequate and unsuitable for a year's sojourn in a gold mining country. He is plagued by customs officials, and, without experience and knowledge, is generally at the mercy of hacks all found. At Vancouver, passengers will be met by the officials of the Klondike and Columbian Passenger Agency, who will take them in charge to Victoria. At Victoria, passengers will receive their outfit and provisions, properly packed by experienced packers. From Victoria to Dyea by Washington and Alaska Steamship Company. Dyea to Lake Linderman by Chisnot Railroad Transport Company."

And whereas the Hon. J. H. Turner, Premier and Finance Minister, and Hon. G. E. Pooley, President of the Council, are local directors of the Klondike and Columbian Gold Fields, Limited, and the Dawson City and Dominion Trading Corporation, Limited, and as such their names appear in said advertisement;

And whereas many of the said allegations in said advertisement are untrue and the charges false, and are a reflection against the honesty and business integrity of the people and merchants of our Province not warranted by facts;

Therefore, be it resolved, that this House regrets the allegations and statements contained in said advertisement, and the methods thereby adopted, should be endorsed and countenanced by the Premier and President of the Council, and that they should allow their names to appear in such advertisements.

To those unfamiliar with the record and character of the Government, it might be supposed that this resolution brought forth some explanation from the Ministers concerned. But it did nothing of the kind. Instead, they put up certain of their obedient and useful supporters to quibble and shuffle, and raise all sorts of little objections, until at the proper time, the Speaker did his work by ruling the resolution out of order—on the ground that the Ministers' connection with the damaging advertisements of the speculative syndicate of which they are directors could not be discussed, on account of that convenient libel suit against the Province and the Times, which has been kept hanging in the courts ever since the session opened, for this very purpose—to shield the cowardly ministers from a discussion of their conduct in this "unique connection," which they, evidently, feel they cannot defend.

It is worth noting that, in the vote on the question as to whether the Speaker's ruling should be sustained—which was carried by a party division of 16 to 11, several members being absent on both sides—both the Premier and the President of the Council took part, though the question was one in which they were directly interested.

Though the members of the Government may temporarily escape criticism and censure by such mean and cowardly shifts as these, they cannot, by such or any means escape the criticism and condemnation of the people, for their many sins of omission and commission; and their judgment day is just at hand.

VERNON, which gave the Government a majority at the last general election, has put itself on record in condemnation of the latest redistribution abortion. At a special meeting of the City Council of that town, on Thursday last, a resolution was unanimously passed, setting forth "the indignation of the people in regard to the proposed redistribution measure," and asking that East Yale either be allowed to remain as it is, and be given an additional member, or divided into two ridings, north and south, with a member each. This is not asking anything more than bare justice.

VOTE

Legislative

The following Bill (No. 44) introduced
Bill (No. 59) introduced

Bill (No. 64) introduced
was again committed.
Reported complete
Report to be considered

Bill (No. 54) introduced
was committed, with amendments
Reported complete
Report to be considered

Bill (No. 61) introduced
of Her Province of British Columbia
Incorporate the Cariboo
To be committed

The Hon. Mr. M.
"Burnaby Small Holdings"
Also a Return of
papers relating in any way
1897."

Also a Return showing
(a.) The number of
(b.) Particulars of
(c.) Amount of

On the motion of
"Jurors Act" was introduced
To be read a second time

On the motion of
Incorporation of the
To be read a second time

The Report on the
Railway Company was
The Hon. Mr. T.
Lieutenant-Governor, a

The Lieutenant-Governor
amendment be made in
Columbia into Electoral
section 2 be amended to
"2. Section 20 of
substituted therefor:—
"20. The Legislature
to be elected in manner
Electoral Districts con-

Government House,
3rd May, 1898.

Ordered, That the
48.

Bill (No. 10) introduced
amendments thereto,
Progress reported.
Committee to sit

On the motion of
Profession of Medicine
To be read a second time

Bill (No. 19) introduced
Dredge Mining Corporation
To be committed

Bill (No. 46) introduced

Mr. Speaker left

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Legislative Assembly of British Columbia.

Tuesday, 3rd May, 1898.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

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

Bill (No. 44) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Mineral Act.'"

Bill (No. 59) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Small Debts Act.'"

Bill (No. 64) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Speedy Incorporation of Towns Act'" was again committed.

Reported complete with amendments.

Report to be considered to-morrow.

Bill (No. 54) intituled "An Act respecting the construction of certain Dyking Works" was committed, with Mr. *Graham* in the Chair.

Reported complete with amendments.

Report to be considered to-morrow.

Bill (No. 61) intituled "An Act to confirm an Agreement between Her Majesty, in Right of Her Province of British Columbia, and Frank Owen and William John Stokes, and to Incorporate the Cariboo-Omineca Chartered Company," was read a second time.

To be committed to-morrow.

The Hon. Mr. *Martin* presented a Return showing all official reports in respect to the "Burnaby Small Holdings," made since the one dated 2nd February, 1897.

Also a Return of copies of all Orders in Council, and all correspondence, agreements and papers relating in any way to the land grant under the "Cassiar Central Railway Aid Act, 1897."

Also a Return showing:—

(a.) The number of Chinamen who are tenants of the Crown.

(b.) Particulars of property occupied, together with the area thereof, and nature of tenure.

(c.) Amount of rent and when paid.

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. *Eberts*, Bill (No. 67) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Jurors Act'" was introduced and read a first time.

To be read a second time to-morrow.

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. *Eberts*, Bill (No. 66) intituled "An Act to accelerate the Incorporation of the Town of Revelstoke" was introduced and read a first time.

To be read a second time to-morrow.

The Report on Bill (No. 8) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the South-East Kootenay Railway Company" was adopted.

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

THOS. R. MCINNES,
Lieutenant-Governor.

The Lieutenant-Governor recommends to the Legislative Assembly that the following amendment be made in Bill (No. 48) intituled "An Act for the Redistribution of British Columbia into Electoral Districts, and to amend the 'Provincial Elections Act'": That section 2 be amended to read as follows:—

"2. Section 20 of the 'Constitution Act' is hereby repealed, and the following section is substituted therefor:—

"20. The Legislative Assembly of British Columbia shall consist of thirty-eight members, to be elected in manner provided by the 'Provincial Elections Act,' and to represent the Electoral Districts constituted and defined by and in the said Act."

Government House,
3rd May, 1898.

Ordered, That the said Message be referred to the Committee of the Whole on Bill No. 48.

Bill (No. 10) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Vancouver Incorporation Act, 1886,' and amendments thereto," was again committed.

Progress reported.

Committee to sit again to-morrow.

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. *Eberts*, Bill (No. 65) intituled "An Act respecting the Profession of Medicine and Surgery" was introduced and read a first time.

To be read a second time to-morrow.

Bill (No. 19) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the British Columbia Great Gold Gravels Dredge Mining Corporation" was read a second time.

To be committed to-morrow.

Bill (No. 46) intituled "The Truck Act" was read a third time and passed.

Mr. Speaker left the Chair at 6 o'clock.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Songhees Reserve Negotiations the Subject of a Want of Confidence Resolution.

Proposal for Steamer Facilities in Cariboo and Cassiar Explained and Discussed.

An Amendment to the Redistribution Bill to Increase the Members to Thirty-Eight.

TUESDAY, May 3.

One of the most important things in the house was the second reading of the Cariboo-Omineca bill, which went through with but little criticism. The government brought in an amendment to the Redistribution bill making the number of representatives 38. The Mineral bill was among those passed and several measures were moved along a stage or two.

The house opened without prayers.

The Mineral Act Amendment bill and the Small Debts Amendment bill were read a third time and passed and so was the Truck act.

The Speedy Incorporation of Towns act and the Dyking Works Construction bill were put through the committee stage and reported complete with amendments.

CARIBOO-OMINECA COMPANY.

Hon. Mr. *Turner* in moving the second reading of the bill to confirm the agreement between the Province and F. Owen and W. J. Stokes and to incorporate the Cariboo-Omineca Chartered company explained shortly the object of the bill and said that as every member of the house must know the opening up and improvement of navigation between Quesnelmouth and North Tlacla lake was of great importance to both the Omineca and Cariboo districts. It would bring into easy communication the northern portion of the province and assist in opening up a country that had not only resources of mineral but large districts suitable for agriculture and stock raising. It was proposed by the company not only to put on steamers but to improve the navigation of the streams and to put in lines of tramway. The company were asking very little indeed while the advantage to the province was great. All the company asked was to be allowed to purchase six tracts of land of not more than 640 acres each for \$1 an acre. The company would not get a land grant unless they complied with the terms of their agreement, while the blocks of land were no larger than might already be purchased under the land act.

Mr. *Semlin* agreed that the company were asking very little, but there had been a steamer on those northern waters twenty-five years ago. He thought that the company might get an advantage in townsites unless the Land act applied.

Hon. Mr. *Turner* replied that the Land act did apply.

Mr. *Sword* had no doubt that the agreement in the bill was a bona fide one, but apparently the company could get their Crown grant at once on making their survey. There should be security given that the company would carry out their agreement.

Hon. Mr. *Eberts* said that the land could not be got by the company unless their agreement was carried out. The scheme was a good one and properly carried out would open up a large extent of country and be a great boon to people going to the northern part of the province. It was true that a small steamer had made a single trip once to Tlacla lake but to make the waterway navigable a great many improvements were necessary and these the company agreed to make. This would give continuous navigation from Quesnelmouth to close to the Omineca country.

Mr. *Kidd* apparently seemed to fear that the company would be privileged to sell liquor without a license. His remarks, however, were almost inaudible and indeed the whole discussion was carried on in such a conversational tone that the reporters had great difficulty in hearing what was said and then only in fragments.

Hon. Mr. *Eberts* explained that the company certainly would not be allowed to sell liquor without a license.

The Hon. Mr. Martin presented a Return showing all official reports in respect to the "Burnaby Small Holdings," made since the one dated 2nd February, 1897.

Also a Return of copies of all Orders in Council, and all correspondence, agreements and papers relating in any way to the land grant under the "Cassiar Central Railway Aid Act, 1897."

Also a Return showing:—

- (a.) The number of Chinamen who are tenants of the Crown.
- (b.) Particulars of property occupied, together with the area thereof, and nature of tenure
- (c.) Amount of rent and when paid.

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. Eberts, Bill (No. 67) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Jurors Act'" was introduced and read a first time.

To be read a second time to-morrow.

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. Eberts, Bill (No. 66) intituled "An Act to accelerate the Incorporation of the Town of Revelstoke" was introduced and read a first time.

To be read a second time to-morrow.

The Report on Bill (No. 8) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the South-East Kootenay Railway Company" was adopted.

Third reading to-morrow.

"And whereas negotiations have been carried on between the Provincial and Dominion Governments, resulting in J. A. J. McKenna, Esq., duly accredited by the Dominion Government, visiting Victoria with a view to arranging with the Provincial Government equitable terms for the removal of the *Songhees Indians* and their Reserve:

"And whereas, as shown by his letter of 25th September, 1897, J. A. J. McKenna, Esq., was prepared to advise the Indians to accept their rehabilitation in another Reserve, and the funding for their benefit of the amount to be derived from the sale of the nineteen acres occupied within the Reserve by the *Esquimalt & Nanaimo Railway Company* as a full and satisfactory settlement of their claims to compensation:

"And whereas the cost of such rehabilitation could not have been excessive;

"And whereas this proposed arrangement failed, through the refusal of the Provincial Government to give their assent:

"And whereas J. A. J. McKenna, Esq., on behalf of the Dominion Government, afterwards made the following proposal to the Provincial Government for the removal of the *Songhees Indians* and Reserve:—

"On the Provincial Government passing an Order in Council concurring, without prejudice to the claims of either Government to Indian Reserves in the Province, in the disposal by the Dominion of the *Songhees Reserve*, the Dominion Government would agree to secure, within two years (afterwards expressing his willingness to reduce this time to one year) from the date of the said order, the removal of the Indians, and to fund for their benefit, subject to the laws of the Dominion in respect to Indian trust funds, the proceeds derived from the sale of the lands comprised in the *Songhees Reserve*, less such amount as may be expended in procuring a new location and effecting the removal and rehabilitation of the Indians, and in disposing of the land in the present Reserve, the Provincial Government to be relieved of any expenditure or responsibility in the matter:

"And whereas, in the acceptance of either of these proposals, the Provincial Government could have secured the removal of the *Songhees Indians* and Reserve without relinquishing any reversionary right the Province may have to the said Reserve or the proceeds of its sale:

"Resolved, That this House regrets that the Government, in administering the affairs of the Province, failed to accept the reasonable terms offered for the removal of the *Songhees Indians* and Reserve by the Dominion, thereby injuring the best interests of the *City of Victoria* and the *Songhees Indians*, and neglected to carry out the expressed wishes and desires of this House."

The amendment was negatived on the following division:—

YEAS:			
Messieurs			
Sword,	Forster,	Vedder,	Cotton,
Kennedy,	Macpherson,	Williams,	Graham—11.
Hume,	Kidd,	Semlin,	
NAYS:			
Messieurs			
Huff,	Turner,	Walkem,	Hunter,
Smith,	Martin,	Pooley,	Irving,
Mutter,	Adams,	Eberts,	Braden,
Helmcken,	Higgins,	Bryden,	McGregor—19.
Baker,	Stoddart,	Rogers,	

Original motion resolved in the affirmative.

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

And then the House adjourned at 11:20 o'clock, P. M.

J. P. BOOTH, *Speaker*.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

On Thursday next—

Mr. Hunter to ask leave to introduce a Bill intituled "An Act to amend the 'Cariboo Hydraulic Mining Company Amendment Act, 1895.'"

By Mr. Forster—On Thursday next—

That an humble Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying him to cause to be laid before this House a Return showing the quantity of land granted or applied for by the *Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway Company*, under the provisions of the *Island Railway Act* (47 Vic., chap. 14), in lieu of land alienated in the *Island Railway Belt*. Such Return to show in detail:—

(a.) The several districts, settlements, reserves, towns and townsites situate in the belt; what lands are claimed, or alleged by the Company for the purposes of their application; to have been alienated by Crown grant:

- (b.) What by pre-emption:
- (c.) What by agreement for sale:
- (d.) What by lease:
- (e.) What as highways or road allowances:
- (f.) What in any other way alienated.

Mr. Williams was of opinion that there was no security in the bill that the company would carry out their agreement. He agreed that the company were asking very little and could not understand how the company were willing to do what they said for such small concession. Perhaps it was that they hoped to get hold of some timber land. He was afraid there was something hidden behind the bill.

Hon. Col. Baker agreed with Mr. Williams that the company were asking very little. There was practically nothing in it. However, the company asked for the bill and there was no reason why they should not have it.

Mr. Adams was sure the bill was a very modest one and in reply to Mr. Semlin he said that while there was a small steamer got up to the lake one year the navigation was never tested as the steamer was not brought back again. He had much pleasure in supporting the bill which he believed would be of great good.

Mr. Kennedy was afraid the bill gave the company rather wide powers as transportation companies.

Mr. Rogers said it mentioned very definitely where these powers were given. The bill was a very desirable one and would enable the settlement of districts not at present easy of access.

Mr. Hunter in supporting the bill felt sure it would be a most popular one in the northern portion of Cariboo and Omineca. He had last year seen quite a number of people bound up to the northern districts and he was sure that such communication as the bill proposed to give would be exceedingly useful. Besides the province was giving very little indeed for it.

Mr. Williams: "That is the most suspicious thing about it."

Mr. Hunter could not agree with this. The company were apparently well satisfied with the bill and expected to make something out of trading and no doubt hoped to do well in the transportation business.

Mr. Higgins, like Mr. Semlin, thought that there ought to be more safeguards in the bill. He took some exception to the sections relating to the selection of the lands.

Hon. Mr. Turner: "You do not understand the Land act if you do not think that anyone to-day could select equally large blocks of land."

Mr. Cotton, while thinking the act somewhat ambiguous in places, did not consider that there was anything hidden or suspicious about the bill. Probably the company thought they would be able to float their scheme better if they had a charter from the house.

Mr. Huff would have opposed the bill had there been any disposition in it to give away lands or tie up resources. He objected to giving away lands to railways or for any other purpose. However, this bill really gave no further privileges than were possessed under the Land act and therefore he would support it.

The second reading was carried.

RETURNS.

A return presented by Hon. G. B. Martin of correspondence relating to the land grant to the *Cassiar Central Railway* contained a request from the company dated June 14 that the company be allowed to designate the four mile square blocks by a large cairn of stones erected in the centre or a large post on a mound of earth with a notice. This request was granted by order-in-council on June 26, 1897. The draft lease of the company from the government was also enclosed in the return and also a notification by the company dated June 27, 1898, stating that the terminus of the railway was fixed at near Glenora and enclosed a plan of the lands selected for the terminal site and also of the first five miles of the road. The approval of the Lieutenant-Governor-in-council to this is enclosed and is dated April 18, 1898.

Hon. Mr. Martin presented returns of the official reports in respect to *Burnaby small holdings*.

Hon. Mr. Martin presented a return of the number of Chinese tenants of the Crown and particular of the property occupied.

NEW BILLS.

Hon. Mr. Eberts introduced a bill to amend the *Jurors Act*; also a bill to accelerate the incorporation of *Revelstoke*. This latter bill he would have brought down sooner had it been possible to have prepared a map more quickly.

Hon. Mr. Eberts also introduced a bill relating to medicine and surgery. These bills were all read a first time.

REDISTRIBUTION.

Hon. Mr. Turner brought down by message from the Lieutenant-Governor an amendment to the *Redistribution* bill increasing the number of representatives to 38. It was referred to the committee of the whole on the *Redistribution* bill.

PROGRESS ON BILLS.

The report on the *South East Kootenay Railway* bill was adopted and the *Vancouver City Amendment* bill was further considered in committee, the committee reporting progress and asking leave to sit again.

By Mr. Kellie—

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By Mr. Kellie—

1. What has bee
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By Mr. Forster—

What amount i
Dam Company, since

By Mr. Graham

Lands and Works—

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The Hon. Mr. E

Act for the Redistrib
Provincial Elections
descriptions of Revel

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Mr. Macpherson t

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Bill No. 11—An

Bill No. 19—An

Mining Corporation.

By Mr. Kellie—On Thursday next—Question of the Hon. the Minister of Mines—
Why were the applications of *Manuel Dainard* and *G. S. McArthur* refused for an extension of time to do work on four mineral claims in *East Kootenay District*?

By Mr. Kellie—On Thursday next—Questions of the Hon. the Minister of Finance—

1. What has been the cost of protecting the river bank at *Revelstoke*?
2. Were contracts for supplying materials called for?
3. What firms furnished the supplies, and amount each firm received?
4. The cost of shovels, and by whom furnished?
5. Amount of salary paid engineers on the work?

By Mr. Forster—On Thursday next—Question of the Hon. the Minister of Finance—

What amount has been paid to the Government, as rent and fees, by the *Quesnelle Lake Dam Company*, since the incorporation of the said company in 1881?

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

1. Has the Government taken any steps looking towards the immediate construction of a wagon road to *Teslin Lake* or vicinity?
2. If so, what steps have been taken?

The Hon. Mr. Eberts to move, in Committee of the Whole on Bill (No. 48) intitled "An Act for the Redistribution of British Columbia into Electoral Districts, and to amend the 'Provincial Elections Act,'" to reconsider section 5, and to strike out of the said section the descriptions of *Revelstoke Riding* and *Nelson Riding* and to insert the following:—

"Revelstoke Riding of West Kootenay"

"Shall comprise all that portion of the said District of West Kootenay which lies to the north of a line commencing at the point where the westerly boundary of the said district intersects the height of land lying to the south of *Inonoaken Creek* and its tributaries; thence along the said height of land, following down the said Creek, to *Lower Arrow Lake* and the centre line thereof; thence northerly along the centre line of *Lower Arrow Lake* to a point opposite the height of land south of *Cariboo Creek*; thence along the height of land to the south of *Cariboo Creek* and its tributaries, and following the said creek to its head; thence following the height of land between the waters flowing into *Slocan Lake* and those flowing into *Upper Arrow Lake*, and the height of land between *Poplar Creek* and *Cascade Creek*, to the *Lardo River*, at a point half-way between *Trout Lake* and *Kootenay Lake*; thence north-easterly to the height of land between *Duncan River* and *Trout Lake*; thence north-westerly to the headwaters of *Hall or Cameron Creek*; thence down the said *Hall or Cameron Creek* to the *Duncan River*; thence to the mouth of *East Creek*; thence up the said *East Creek* to its head waters; and thence due east to the eastern boundary of *West Kootenay District*.

"Slocan Riding of West Kootenay"

"Shall comprise all that portion of the said District of West Kootenay which is bounded on the north by the *Revelstoke Riding*; on the west by *Lower Arrow Lake* and the *Columbia River*; on the south by the *Kootenay River* and the west arm of *Kootenay Lake* and a line running from the mouth of the said west arm to the mouth of *Crawford Bay*, and thence to the mouth of *Gray's Creek*, and thence due east to the eastern boundary of *West Kootenay District*; and on the east by the said eastern boundary of *West Kootenay District*.

"Nelson Riding of West Kootenay"

"Shall comprise all that portion of the said District of West Kootenay lying to the south of the *Slocan Riding of West Kootenay* and east of the *Columbia River*."

Mr. Macpherson to move, in Committee of the Whole on the under-mentioned Bills, the following as a new section:—

"No Chinese or Japanese person shall be employed in the construction or operation of the undertaking hereby authorised, under a penalty of five dollars per day for each and every Chinese or Japanese person employed in contravention of this section, to be recovered on complaint of any person under the provisions of the "Summary Convictions Act."

Bill No. 11—An Act to incorporate the B. C. Metalliferous Mines Bill.

Bill No. 19—An Act to Incorporate the British Columbia Great Gold Gravels Dredge Mining Corporation.

Mr. Hunter in moving the second reading of the British Columbia Great Gold Gravels Dredge Mining Company bill, said that Mr. Cobledick, whose name appeared in the bill, had for some time past, travelled over a large portion of the country and had come to the conclusion that a great deal of the gold gravels not now utilized might be treated profitably by the new and improved method he intended to use. That was the object of the bill and all the company asked was incorporation.

The second reading was carried.
The house then rose for recess.

SONGHEES RESERVE.

After recess Mr. Helmcken resumed the debate on his motion that whereas negotiations were lately depending between the Dominion government through a special representative, J. A. J. McKenna, and the provincial government, touching the removal of the Indians from the *Songhees* Indians and reserve without relinquishing any reversionary right the province may have to the said reserve or the proceeds of its sale; resolved, that this house regrets that the government, in administering the affairs of the province, failed to accept the reasonable terms offered for the removal of the *Songhees* Indians and reserve by the Dominion, thereby injuring the best interests of the city of *Victoria* and the *Songhees* Indians, and neglected to carry out the expressed wishes and desires of this house.

Hon. Col. Baker said there was no doubt the amendment was intended as a censure on the government. If Mr. Semlin had no other cause of censure than that the province had reason to be very well satisfied with the government. The first duty of the government was to consider the interest of the Indians and then the interest of the province. It was not to the interest of the Indians to be on a reserve in the centre of the city. The government had every reason to believe that the Indians would consent to move, but they occupied the land by right of a treaty that treaty had to be examined. The government felt that if the Indians would occupy another portion of land and if a commissioner appointed by the Dominion and one by the province could come to terms the province was ready to rehabilitate the Indians and to sell the present reserve for the benefit of the province. The last Dominion government appointed a commissioner and so the province, a change of government left the thing in abeyance when he was in *Ottawa* he had seen the members of the government on the subject. Had there been the commission in operation they would soon have known definitely if the Indians would move voluntarily. Now that was not definitely known. Hon. Mr. Sifton, when he was here had interviewed the government and the results had been the correspondence before the house. Yet the leader of the opposition tries to move a vote of censure because the province had not surrendered its rights. The matter was still in abeyance and if a commission were appointed the matter might still be settled, but certainly it would have been a mistake for the province to hastily surrender their rights. He thought Mr. Helmcken's proposal that there should be a commission was a good one. The province should not act hastily and sacrifice their rights either at the dictation of the Dominion government or the leader of the opposition.

Mr. Sword believed that the province had suffered loss in not having the settlement of the matter before this. The government had given no good reason why they had failed to come to an understanding with Mr. McKenna. He did not see where the provincial rights were affected in it. He thought the Dominion government could administer the land just as well as the province. Unless some better reason was given than that by the provincial secretary the proper course would be to support the amendment of Mr. Semlin.

Hon. Mr. Turner was sorry to see an effort made to turn the question into a political one. That was very plain by the way certain of the opposition press took it up. They had showed gross ignorance on the subject by the opposition press of this city which had claimed that had it been accepted a large amount would have been made by the taxation of the land. As the land would have been government land such a result would not have immediately followed. The amendment also showed great ignorance. Mr. Semlin should have gone into the subject and not allowed himself to be made a cat's paw of. No such statement appeared in the correspondence as this section in the amendment.

"And whereas, as shown by his letter of 25th September, 1897, J. A. J. McKenna, Esq., was prepared to advise the Indians to accept their rehabilitation in another reserve, and the funding for their benefit of the amount to be derived from the sale of the nineteen acres occupied with the reserve by the *Esquimalt & Nanaimo Railway* company as a full and satisfactory settlement of their claims to compensation."

The fact of the case was that the nineteen acres and the whole of the reserve had to be sold and the whole proceeds funded—not only of the nineteen acres. It appeared that Mr. Sword had fallen into the same mistake as well. Through all Mr. McKenna's letter a doubt was thrown on the matter as to whether the province had a reversionary right to the land. There is a fund now of \$11,000 from that reserve ostensibly kept in trust for the Indians. Where was it? It had gone into the consolidated revenue. What benefit was it to the Indians to have \$11,000 in one's pocket and keep it there? If it is a fact, and he believed it was, that not a cent of the money had come to the Indians, what better custodian was the Dominion than the province? If that money was used for the benefit of the Indians there would be something reasonable in that. The opposition should have moved a vote of congratulation that the government had been careful of the rights not only of the province but of the Indians. There was a question that that reserve was in a different position to other Indian reserves and it was proper for the province to see that its rights were preserved. A settlement was almost come to two years ago when the Province and Dominion had each appointed a commissioner and good way was being made in treating with the Indians by the provincial commissioner before the commission met and he was satisfied that if that commission had met the matter would have been settled ere now. He trusted that Mr. Helmcken's resolution might be carried without amendment as that would give a very proper method of settling the matter.

Mr. Forster argued that the great obstacle in the way of a settlement had been the desire of the province to get a portion of the proceeds of the land. He failed to see what other interest the province had than the reversionary interest. That could not come into effect until the death of the last Indian. In quoting from yellow book as to the conditions under which the reserve was made over to the Indians he read that the proceeds of the sale of lands should be used for the benefit of the Indians.

Hon. Mr. Turner: "Were they?" Mr. Forster admitted that the \$11,000 might not have been spent by the Dominion government but he held that the Dominion government were holding it in trust for the Indians. It was not before 1890 that the province had made a claim to the reversionary interest in the land. Mr. McKenna had made his offer without prejudice to the reversionary rights of the province. The province had tried to make the Dominion go back on the principles on which the Indians had always been treated.

Hon. Mr. Eberts did not think that the opposition had understood the subject. They had tried to get up a political question on it. They had been repulsed at a public meeting and now were trying to get a vote of censure passed on the government by the house. Years ago the Hudson's Bay Company had entered into an agreement with the Songhees and giving them a possessory right to the reserve—that was all the right that the Indians acquired as the highest authority showed. He read the treaty which had been referred to by Mr. Helmcken at the beginning of the debate. It was the Songhees reserve, which were without result; and whereas it is highly desirable that negotiations should be resumed without delay in order that the question may be definitely settled: he it therefore resolved, that the Lieutenant-Governor be requested to communicate with the Dominion government, requesting that government to instruct its commissioner to proceed in accordance with the terms of the resolution of this house dated 28th January, 1890. The reserve, he said, was made in 1850, on the condition that the village sites and enclosed fields were to be for the use of the Indians, their children and those who followed after them and a right to hunt and fish over the rest of the reserve. In early days the Imperial authorities took a great deal of interest in the matter as shown by letters that passed between Sir James Douglas and the Imperial authorities. The Dominion government had also been exceedingly jealous of the rights of the Indians under their charge. The position of the province he took was a very strong one and so far as British Columbia was concerned the treaty with the Indians secured the lands to the Indians as long as they lived on them. By the terms of union the trusteeship of the Indians was assumed by the Dominion as liberal terms as had hitherto been carried on by British Columbia. The province held a very strong position as to the ownership of the reserve. The upshot of the negotiations to try and remove the Indians resulted in Mr. McKenna being sent out as a commissioner to try and settle this very vexed question. In 1885 when the Dominion government wished to erect immigration sheds on the reserves and the Indians took up action against the contractor to stop them. The contractor not having obtained the consent of the Indians, Sir Matthew Begbie issued an injunction restraining the contractor from erecting

the sheds. The province were not a party to the action but their position was that they had the right to the interest in the reversion of the property. It came down to the question what was the best way to get the Indians removed? He believed the best way was to meet the Indians and get the terms upon which they are ready to leave. As the Dominion government were the trustees they would see the Indians' rights safeguarded. Between the Province and the Dominion government he hoped that some arrangement could be come to for removing the Indians without any hardship to the Indians. That was the position he took in 1890. In going into the matter there are other interests to consider. He understood that the Dominion had given the E. & N. railway the rights to part of the foreshore from the railway bridge to the point. The whole question was one which required a great deal of tact to settle. The province undoubtedly had the fee of the land and that was the reason the Dominion government had asked the province to assent to the giving of nineteen acres to the E. & N. railway. The province had not consented to this. As far as the right of way was concerned the assent of the Indians had been obtained. He quoted at some length from the correspondence presented to the house some time ago on the subject of the negotiations. The position was that the Dominion and Provincial governments could not come to terms. For himself he was not sure that the Indians justly treated and yet it seemed that the settlement was as far off as ever. He wanted to see the province retain its rights and not surrender them. In order to deal with the Indians the province should be prepared to deal on a broad and liberal basis. He was disappointed that the question was no nearer a settlement than it was before the negotiations began. He wished, too, to see the rights of Victoria safeguarded in any dealings. He could see no other way of settling the matter than to leave it to the settlement of a tribunal composed of one commissioner appointed by the Dominion and another by the province and in case of disagreement a judge of the Supreme court. He thought such a commission could settle it at a very early day.

Mr. Semlin said the resolution was practically a copy of the resolution passed two years ago. He could not see what information Mr. Helmcken had for believing that the matter could be any more readily settled than hitherto. For this subject had come up very frequently for the last twenty-five years in the house. If it was in the interest of the province to settle the question, the province ought to be ready to make some sacrifice. It was for the people of the province to say how far they would go in this. He believed that the province would have done well to accept the conditions proposed by Mr. McKenna. He moved in amendment:

"Whereas, various resolutions have been passed by this legislature, urging upon the Dominion government the desirability of securing the removal of the Songhees Indians from their present reserve within the city of Victoria; and whereas the existence of the said reserve in its present locality is a detriment to the said city; and whereas it is desirable in the interests of the Indians, that they should be removed from the contaminating influence of city life; and whereas negotiations have been carried on between the Provincial and Dominion governments, resulting in J. A. J. McKenna, duly accredited by the Dominion government, visiting Victoria with a view of arranging with the provincial government equitable terms for the removal of the Songhees Indians and their reserve; and whereas, as shown by his letter of 25th September, 1897, J. A. J. McKenna, Esq., was prepared to advise the Indians to accept their rehabilitation in another reserve, and the funding for their benefit of the amount to be derived from the sale of the nineteen acres occupied within the reserve by the Esquimalt & Nanaimo Railway company as a full and satisfactory settlement of their claims to compensation; and whereas the cost of such rehabilitation could not have been excessive; and whereas this proposed arrangement failed, through the refusal of the provincial government to give their assent; and whereas J. A. J. McKenna, Esq., on behalf of the Dominion government, afterwards made the following proposal to the provincial government for the removal of the Songhees Indians and reserve: 'On the provincial government passing an order-in-council concurring, without prejudice to the claims of either government to Indian reserves in the province, in the disposal by the Dominion of the Songhees reserve, the Dominion government would agree to secure within two years (afterwards expressing his willingness to reduce this time to one year) from the date of the said order, the removal of the said Indians, and to fund for their benefit, subject to the laws of the Dominion in respect to Indian trust funds, the proceeds derived from the sale of the lands comprised in the Songhees reserves, less such amount as may be expended in procuring a new location and effecting the removal and rehabilita-

tion of the Indians, and in disposing of the land in the present reserve, the provincial government to be relieved of any expenditure or responsibility in the matter; and whereas, in the acceptance of either of these proposals, the provincial duty of the government to keep up the rights that had been granted the Indians. Under the terms of union the British Columbia government agreed to convey from time to time to the Dominion reserves necessary for the Indians. Did the Dominion government claim that the arrangement between Sir James Douglas and the Indians had to be kept? If they did then the Indians had nothing but a possessory right to the land. The province had a reversionary right in the property as the judgment in the case of St. Catherine Milling Company laid down. It had always been the desire of the province to get the Indians removed from the Songhees reserve, not only for the benefit of the city, but for the Indians. The Dominion government eventually agreed to go into the question and the province acceded to allowing that the land to be given in lieu of the reserve should be given in fee to the Dominion. The change of government at Ottawa interrupted the negotiations and finally Mr. McKenna was sent out to confer with the local government. The introducer of the amendment had not understood the question as shown by the words quoted from it by Hon. Mr. Turner. Mr. McKenna had wanted the province to agree to surrender the nineteen acres and then the Dominion would see what could be done with the Indians. Mr. McKenna had offered also that if the province gave up all the rights of the province in the reserve and the Dominion would agree to remove the Indians. This the local government refused. No arrangement could be come to and though the province were most anxious to have the Indians removed the province could not agree to give up the provincial rights. The province was quite willing to submit the matter to two commissioners with a referee in case of disagreement, and this he felt was the only way in which the matter could be settled.

Mr. Williams said that if the provincial government had any right a reversionary right in the reserve the question should before now have been brought before a court of law and settled. The Dominion government were the owners of the land in trust for the Indians with perhaps a reversionary right to the province, but with that the legislature had nothing to do. The question with them was the removal of the Indians and the offer of Mr. McKenna he thought was a fair one.

The amendment was lost on the following division:

For—Messrs. Sword, Kennedy, Hume, Forster, Kidd, Vedder, Williams, Semlin, Cotton, Graham and Macpherson—11.

Against—Messrs. Huff, Smith, Mutter, Helmcken, Baker, Turner, Martin, Adams, Higgins, Stoddart, Walkem, Pooley, Eberts, Bryden, Rogers, Helmcken, Irvine, Braden and McGregor—10.

The main resolution was then put and carried, and the house adjourned.

NOTICE OF QUESTION.

By Mr. Forster—What amount has been paid to the government in rent and fees by the Quesnelle Dam Co., since its incorporation.

World M LEGISLATIVE

Fourth Session of Ileam

From Our Own Correspondent

Victoria, May 4.—Of the most important things in the second reading of the Omnibus bill, which, but little criticism, brought in an amendment making representatives 38. The amendments passed were moved along a steady stream. The House opened. The Mineral Act, A. the Small Debts Amendment, and the Truck act. The Speedy Incorporation and the Dying Work were put through the reported complete with

Cariboo-Omineca

Hon. Mr. TURNER read the bill of agreement between the Owen and W. J. Stokate the Cariboo-Omineca company, explained shortly and said that as every House must know the improvement of navigation in the Cariboo and North great importance to both Cariboo districts. It is easy communication of the Province and as a country that had not mineral but large districts and stock raised by the company's steamers but to improve the streams and to put way. The company were indeed while the Province was great. He asked was to be allowed to be of land not more than \$1 an acre. It not get a land grant until the terms of their blocks of land were right already be put land act.

Mr. SEMLIN agreed were asking very little been a steamer on the for 25 years. He thought might get an advance the land act applied.

Hon. Mr. TURNER: Land act did apply.

Mr. SWORD had no agreement in the bill was but apparently the company's Crown grant at once survey. The company would agree to make

Hon. Mr. EBERTS could not be got by their agreement was a scheme was a good one tried out, would open up country and be a great thing to the northern part was true that a small steamer trip once to Tacta the waterways navigable in such a conversational company agree to make continuous navigation mouth to close to the On Mr. KIDD apparently that the company would sell liquor without license however, were almost it deed the whole discussion in such a conversational porters had great difficulty what was said and then o

Hon. Mr. EBERTS company certainly would to sell liquor without a li

Mr. WILLIAMS was there was no security in company would carry out. He agreed that the company very little and could not the company were willing they said for such small haps it was that they be of some timber land. He was something hidden be Hon. Col. BAKER a Williams that the company very little. There was ing in it. However, the for the bill and there was they should not have it.

Mr. ADAMS was sure very modest one and in re in. He said that while a up to the lake one year the never tested as the a brought back again. He believed would be of great g

Mr. KENNEDY was a gave the company rather transportation companies.

Mr. ROGERS said it definitely where these pow The bill was a very des would enable the settlement for settlement, but not at

World News 4

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Fourth Session of the Seventh Parliament.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Victoria, May 4.—One of the most important things in the House yesterday was the second reading of the Cariboo-Omineca bill, which went through with but little criticism. The Government brought in an amendment to the Redistribution bill making the number of representatives 38. The Mineral bill was among those passed and several measures were moved along a stage or two.

The House opened without prayers. The Mineral Act Amendment bill and the Small Delta Amendment bill were read a third time and passed and so was the Truck act.

The Speedy Incorporation of Towns act and the Drying Works Construction bill were put through the committee stage and reported complete with amendments.

Cariboo-Omineca Company.

Hon. Mr. TURNER in moving the second reading of the bill to confirm the agreement between the Province and F. Owen and W. J. Stokes and to incorporate the Cariboo-Omineca Chartered company, explained shortly the object of the bill and said that as every member of the House must know the opening up and improvement of navigation between Queen's Mouth and North Tsch lake was of great importance to both the Omineca and Cariboo districts. It would bring into easy communication the northern portion of the Province and assist in opening up a country that had not only resources of mineral but large districts suitable for agriculture and stock raising. It was proposed by the company not only to put on steamers but to improve the navigation of the streams and to put in lines of tramway. The company were asking very little indeed while the advantage to the Province was great. All the company asked was to be allowed to purchase six tracts of land of not more than 640 acres each for \$1 an acre. The company would not get a land grant unless they complied with the terms of their agreement, while the blocks of land were no larger than might already be purchased under the land act.

Mr. SEMLIN agreed that the company were asking very little, but there had been a steamer on these northern waters for 25 years. He thought that the company might get an advantage in townships across the land act applied.

Hon. Mr. TURNER replied that the Land act did apply.

Mr. SWORD had no doubt that the agreement in the bill was a bona fide one, but apparently the company could get their Crown grant at once on making their survey. There should be security given that the company would carry out their agreement.

Hon. Mr. EBERTS said that the land could not be got by the company unless their agreement was carried out. The scheme was a good one and, properly carried out, would open up a large extent of country and be a great boon to people going to the northern part of the country. It was true that a small steamer had made a single trip once to Tsch lake but to make the waterways navigable a great many improvements were necessary and these the company agreed to make. This would give continuous navigation from Queen's Mouth to close to the Omineca country.

Mr. KIDD apparently seemed to fear that the company would be privileged to sell liquor without license. His remarks, however, were almost inaudible, and indeed the whole discussion was carried out in such a conversational tone that the reporters had great difficulty in hearing what was said and then only in fragments.

Hon. Mr. EBERTS explained that the company certainly would not be allowed to sell liquor without a license.

Mr. WILLIAMS was of opinion that there was no security in the bill that the company would carry out their agreement. He agreed that the company were asking very little and could not understand how the company were willing to do what they said for such small concessions. Perhaps it was that they hoped to get hold of some timber land. He was afraid there was something hidden behind the bill.

Hon. Col. BAKER agreed with Mr. Williams that the company were asking very little. There was practically nothing in it. However, the company asked for the bill and there was no reason why they should not have it.

Mr. ADAMS was sure the bill was a very modest one and in reply to Mr. Semlin he said that while a small steamer got up to the lake one year the navigation was never tested as the steamer was not brought back again. He had much pleasure in supporting the bill which he believed would be of great good.

Mr. KENNEDY was afraid the bill gave the company rather wide powers as transportation companies.

Mr. ROGERS said it mentioned very definitely where these powers were given. The bill was a very desirable one and would enable the settlement of districts for settlement, but not at present easy of access.

Mr. HUNTER in supporting the bill felt sure it would be a most popular one in the northern portion of Cariboo and Omineca. He had last year seen quite a number of people bound up to the northern districts and he was sure that such communication as the bill proposed to give would be exceedingly useful. Besides the Province was giving very little indeed for it.

Mr. WILLIAMS: That is the most suspicious thing about it.

Mr. HUNTER could not agree with this.

The company were apparently well satisfied with the bill and expected to make something out of trading and no doubt hoped to do well in the transportation business.

Mr. HIGGINS like Mr. Semlin, thought that there ought to be more safeguards in the bill. He took some exception to the sections relating to the selection of the lands.

Hon. Mr. TURNER: You do not understand the Land act if you do not think that anyone to-day would select equally large blocks of land.

Mr. COTTON, while thinking the act somewhat ambiguous in places, did not consider that there was anything hidden or suspicious about the bill. Probably the company thought they would be able to float their scheme better if they had a charter from the House.

Mr. HUFF would have opposed the bill had there been any disposition in it to give away lands to tie up resources. He objected to giving away lands to railways or for any other purpose. However, this bill really gave no further privileges than we possessed under the Land act and therefore he would support it.

The second reading was carried.

Redistribution.

Hon. Mr. TURNER brought down by message from the Lieutenant-Governor an amendment to the Redistribution bill increasing the number of representatives of Songhees Reserve.

After recess Mr. Helmecken resumed the debate on his motion that whereas negotiations were lately depending between the Dominion Government through its special representative, J. A. J. McKenna, and the Provincial Government, touching the removal of the Indians from the Songhees reserve, which were without result; and whereas it is highly desirable that negotiations should be resumed without delay in order that the question may be definitely settled; Be it therefore resolved: that the Lieut.-Governor be requested to communicate with the Dominion Government, requesting that Government to instruct its commissioner to proceed in accordance with the terms of the resolution of this House dated 28th January, 1896. The reserve, he said, was made in 1850, on the condition that the village sites and enclosed fields were to be for the use of the Indians, their children and those who followed them and a right to hunt and fish over the rest of the reserve. In early days the Imperial authorities took a great deal of interest in the matter, as shown by letters that passed between Sir James Douglas and the Imperial authorities. The Dominion Government had also been exceedingly jealous of the rights of the Indians under their charge. The position of the Province he took it was a very strong one and so far as British Columbia was concerned the treaty with the Indians secured the lands to the Indians as long as they lived on them. By the terms of union the trusteeship of the Indians was assumed by the Dominion on as liberal terms as had hitherto been carried on by British Columbia. The Province held a very strong position as to the ownership of the reserve. The upshot of the negotiations to try and remove the Indians resulted in Mr. McKenna being sent out as a commissioner to try and settle this very vexed question. In 1888, when the Dominion Government wished to erect immigration sheds on the reserves the Indians took action against the contractor to stop them. The contractor not having obtained the consent of the Indians, Sir Matthew Begbie issued an injunction restraining the contractor from erecting the sheds. The Province was not a party to the action but its position was that it had the right to the interest in the reversion of the property. It came down to the question what was the best way to get the Indians removed? He believed the best way was to meet the Indians and get the terms upon which they are ready to leave. As the Dominion Government were the trustees they would see the Indians' rights safeguarded. Between the Province and the Dominion Government he hoped that some arrangement could be come to for removing the Indians without any hardship to them. That was the matter took in 1896. In going into the matter there are other interests to consider. He understood that the Dominion had given the E. & N. Railway the rights to part of the foreshore from the railway bridge to the point. The whole question was one which required a great deal of tact to settle. The Province undoubtedly had the fee of the land and that was the reason the Dominion Government had asked the Province to assent to the giving of 19 acres to the E. & N. railway. As far as the right-of-way was concerned the assent of the Indians had been obtained. He quoted at some length from the correspondence presented to the House some time ago on the subject of the negotiations. The position was that the Dominion and Provincial Governments could not come to terms. For himself he wanted to see the Indians justly treated and yet it seemed that the settlement was as far

off as ever. He wanted to see the Province retain its rights and not surrender them. In order to deal with the Indians the Province should be prepared to deal on a broad and liberal basis. He was disappointed that the question was no nearer a settlement than it was before the negotiations began. He wished, too, to see the rights of Victoria safeguarded in any dealings. He could see no other way of settling the matter than to leave it to the settlement of a tribunal composed of one commissioner appointed by the Dominion and another by the Province, and in case of disagreement a judge of the Supreme court. He thought such a commission could settle it at a very early day.

Mr. SEMLIN moved an amendment:

Whereas various resolutions have been passed by this Legislature, tending upon the Dominion Government the desirability of securing the removal of the Songhees Indians from their present reserve within the city of Victoria; and whereas the existence of the said reserve in its present locality is a detriment to the said city; and whereas it is desirable, in the interests of the Indians, that they should be removed from the contaminating influence of city life; and whereas negotiations have been carried on between the Provincial and Dominion Governments, resulting in J. A. J. McKenna, duly accredited by the Dominion Government, visiting Victoria, with a view of arranging with the Provincial Government equitable terms for the removal of the Songhees Indians and their reserve; and whereas, as shown by his letter of September 25, 1897, J. A. J. McKenna was prepared to advise the Indians to accept their rehabilitation in another reserve, and the funding, for their benefit, of the amount to be derived from the sale of the 19 acres occupied within the reserve by the Esquimalt & Nanaimo Railway Company, as a full and satisfactory settlement of their claims to compensation; and whereas the cost of such rehabilitation could not have been excessive; and whereas this proposed arrangement was failed, through the refusal of the Provincial Government to give their assent; and whereas J. A. J. McKenna, on behalf of the Dominion Government, afterwards made the following proposal to the Provincial Government for the removal of the Songhees Indians and reserve: "On the Provincial Government

passing an order-in-council, concurring, without prejudice to the claims or either Government to Indian reserves in the Province, in the disposal by the Dominion of the Songhees reserve, the Dominion Government would agree to secure within two years (afterwards expressing his willingness to reduce this time to one year) from the date of the said order, the removal of the said Indians, and to fund for their benefit, subject to the laws of the Dominion in respect to Indian trust funds, the proceeds derived from the sale of the lands comprised in the Songhees reserve, less such amount as may be expended in procuring a new location, and effecting the removal and rehabilitation of the Indians, and in disposing of the land in the present reserve, the Provincial Government to be relieved of any expenditure and responsibility in the matter; and whereas, in the acceptance of either of these proposals, the Provincial Government could have secured the removal of the Songhees Indians and their reserve without relinquishing any reversionary right the Province may have to the said reserve, or the proceeds of its sale. Resolved that this House regrets that the Government in administering the affairs of the Province failed to accept the reasonable terms offered for the removal of the Songhees Indians and reserve by the Dominion, thereby injuring the Songhees Indians, and neglected to carry out the expressed wishes and desires of this House.

Hon. Col. BAKER said that there was no doubt the amendment was intended as a censure on the Government. If Mr. Semlin had no other cause of censure than that the Province had reason to be very well satisfied with the Government. The first duty of the Government was to consider the interest of the Indians and then the interest of the Province. It was not to the interest of the Indians to be on a reserve in the centre of the city. The Government had every reason to believe that the Indians would consent to be moved, but as they occupied it by right of treaty that right had to be examined. The Government felt that if the Indians would occupy another portion of land and if a commissioner appointed by the Dominion and one by the Province could come to terms the Province was ready to rehabilitate the Indians and to sell the present reserve for the benefit of the Province. The last Dominion Government appointed a commissioner and so did the Province, but a change of Government left the thing in abeyance and when he was in Ottawa he had seen the members of the Government on the subject. Had the commission been in operation they would soon have known definitely if the Indians would move voluntarily. Now that was not definitely known. Hon. Mr. Sifton, when he was here, had interviewed the Government and the results had been the correspondence before the House. Yet the leader of the Opposition tries to move a vote of censure because the Province had not surrendered its rights. The matter was still in abeyance and if a commission were appointed the matter might still be settled, but certainly it would have been a mistake for the Province to hastily surrender its rights. He thought Mr. Helmecken's proposal that there should be a commission was a good one. The Province should not act hastily and sacrifice its rights either at the dictation of the Dominion Government or the leader of the Opposition.

Discussion was continued until after 11 o'clock when the amendment was put and lost. The resolution was then carried.

THURSDAY.....May 5, 1898

PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT

Government Bills Rushed Down at Last

Moment as Usual.—B. C. College of Physicians and Surgeons.—Dissection.

FIFTY-SECOND DAY.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Victoria, May 3.—The Speaker took the chair at 2 p. m.

The Bill amending the Mineral Act and the Bill amending the Small Debts Act received their third readings and were finally passed.

KOOTENAY TOWNS WILL SORROW

The House went into Committee again on the Bill amending the Speedy Incorporation of Towns Act. The object of the Bill is to make it possible for the newly incorporated towns of Kootenay to borrow under the Municipal Act. As the law stands the incorporated cities were obliged to take into consideration the last revised municipal assessment roll. In the cases of the newly incorporated cities there is at present no such revised roll of assessment in existence, and the object of the amendment is to substitute for the same such portion of the Provincial assessment roll as applied. The Bill was reported complete with amendments.

DYKING WORKS BILL.

The dyking works construction Bill was considered in Committee with Mr. Graham in the chair. There was considerable discussion over the details of the Bill, and several amendments were suggested which will be placed before the members when the Bill comes up on report.

CARIBOO-OMINECA COMPANY.

Hon. Mr. Turner moved the second reading of the Cariboo-Omineca Chartered Company's Bill. He said it was of great importance to the district of Cariboo and the surrounding country as it would result in the opening up of communication for from 400 to 500 miles of country. The Company proposed to run steamers upon the Fraser River and other water-ways and where portages are necessary will construct the same. The only return which the Company received for the same was the right, upon the completion of its contract, to purchase at \$1 per acre six tracts of land, each containing not less than 320 acres nor more than 640 acres.

Mr. Williams: "The Bill does not say that it shall be upon the completion of the Company's contract, but upon the ratification of the agreement."

Hon. Mr. Turner, in reply to Mr. Williams, said that the Company would have no right to purchase the land, and would not be entitled to a Crown grant until its contract was completed. It was not the intention that such should be the case.

Mr. Semlin agreed that the Company was not securing much, but it was not contracting to do very much. It proposed to explore a river and ascertain whether a stream was navigable which was navigated by steamers some 25 years ago. He also raised the question whether, in the event of the land acquired by the Company being used for townsite purposes, the Government would be entitled to one-fourth of the number of town lots in the same.

Hon. Mr. Turner replied that it would be the provisions of the Land Act would apply.

Mr. Sward called the attention of the Government to the fact that while he did not wish to call in question the bona fides of the Company, the Bill was so drawn that the Company could secure the land immediately upon making the survey and would be entitled to a Crown grant for the same upon paying \$1 per acre. The security for the carrying out of the Company's portion of the contract was not in the Bill.

Hon. Mr. Eberts said that the Company would not get the land until its agreement was carried out.

Mr. Cotton asked whether the Government considered it possible to amend the agreement with the Company upon which the Bill was based so that the Bill would be more easily understood. He expressed the opinion that the essence of the whole thing was not so much what the Company got so long as it got a Bill giving it a charter which the members of the Company could go to England and raise money upon.

After some further debate the Bill was given its second reading without a division.

THREE RETURNS.

Hon. Mr. Martin presented three returns. The first was with respect to the number of Chinamen who were tenants of the Crown, the area of the lands and the nature of the tenure, the amount of rent paid and when paid.

The second return covered the reports respecting the Burnaby Small Holdings received since February 2nd.

The third return comprised the correspondence respecting the land grant under the Cassiar Central Railway Act.

GOVERNMENT BILLS.

Hon. Mr. Eberts asked leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Jurors Act. Mr. Semlin entered a protest against the action of the Government in delaying matters so long and bringing in a lot of bills at the close of the session. He asked when the Government intended to prorogue the House. There was nothing to prevent the Government from having all its measures ready several weeks ago.

Hon. Mr. Eberts replied that his attention had first been called to the necessity for the amendment by Mr. Justice Irving. The Bill was read a first time.

SONGHEES RESERVE.

Mr. Helmcken resumed the debate upon the following motion moved by himself: "Whereas negotiations were lately depending between the Dominion Government through its special representative, Mr. J. A. J. McKenna, and the Provincial Government, touching the removal of the Indians from the Songhees Reserve, which were without result;

And whereas, it is highly desirable that negotiations should be resumed without delay, in order that the question may be definitely settled;

Be it therefore resolved, that an humble address be presented to the Lieutenant-Governor, requesting him to communicate with the Dominion Government, requesting that Government to instruct its Commissioner to proceed in accordance with the terms of the resolution of this House, dated 28th January, 1896."

MOTION OF CENSURE.

Mr. Semlin moved an amendment to strike out all the words after "whereas" and to insert the following:

"Various resolutions have been passed by this Legislature, urging upon the Dominion Government the desirability of securing the removal of the Songhees Indians from their present Reserve within the City of Victoria.

And whereas, the existence of the said Reserve in its present locality is a detriment to the said City;

And whereas, it is desirable, in the interests of the Indians, that they should be removed from the contaminating influences of City life;

And whereas, negotiations have been carried on between the Provincial and Dominion Governments, resulting in J. A. J. McKenna, Esq., duly accredited by the Dominion Government, visiting Victoria with a view to arranging with the Provincial Government equitable terms for the removal of the Songhees Indians and their Reserve;

And whereas, as shown by this letter of 25th of September, 1897, J. A. J. McKenna, Esq., was prepared to advise the Indians to accept their rehabilitation in another Reserve, and the funding for their benefit of the amount to be derived from the sale of the 19 acres occupied within the Reserve by the Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway Company as a full and satisfactory settlement of their claims to compensation;

And whereas, the cost of such rehabilitation could not have been excessive;

And whereas, this proposed arrangement failed, through the refusal of the Provincial Government to give its assent;

And whereas, J. A. J. McKenna, Esq., on behalf of the Dominion Government, afterwards made the following proposal to the Provincial Government for the removal of the Songhees Indians and Reserve:—

"On the Provincial Government passing an Order-in-Council concurring without prejudice to the claims of either Government to Indian reserves in the Province, in the disposal by the Dominion of the Songhees Reserve, the Dominion Government would agree to secure, within two years (afterwards expressing its willingness to reduce this time to one year) from the date of the said order, the removal of the Indians, and to fund for their benefit, subject to the laws of the Dominion in respect to Indian trust funds, the proceeds derived from the sale of the lands comprised in the Songhees Reserve, less such amount as may be expended in procuring a new location and effecting the removal and rehabilitation of the Indians, and in disposing of the land in the present Reserve, the Provincial Government to be relieved of any expenditure or responsibility in the matter."

And whereas, in the acceptance of either of these proposals, the Provincial Government could have secured the removal of the Songhees Indians and Reserve without relinquishing any revisionary right the Province may have to the said Reserve or the proceeds of its sale;

Resolved, That this House regrets that the Government, in administering the affairs of the Province, failed to accept the reasonable terms offered for the removal of the Songhees Indians and Reserve by the Dominion, thereby injuring the best interests of the City of Victoria and the Songhees Indians, and neglected to carry out the expressed wishes and desires of this House."

After three hours' debate, Mr. Semlin's amendment was voted down on a party division of 11 to 19. The only absentees were Messrs. Kettie and Rithet. Mr. Higgins voted with the Government against the amendment. The resolution was then carried upon the same division.

VOTES

Legislative

Prayers by the Rev.

Mr. Higgins asked t

What were the amount of the 28th February, 31st March and in hands of agents of

The Hon. Mr. Turner

Amount due Bank

"

"

Cash on hand at T

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Mr. Higgins asked t

How have the following balance sheet 30th June, derived therefrom:—

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The Hon. Mr. Turner

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Mr. Williams asked

1. Who has charge

2. What precautions other residents of the Province from the island?

The Hon. Mr. Eberts

"1. Darcy Island purposes on the 13th March and the lepers on the island."

2. Enquiries are

Bill (No. 10) intituled "amendments thereto," was

Bill reported comp

Report to be consid

Bill (No. 19) intituled

Dredge Mining Corporation Progress reported.

Committee to sit ag

Bill (No. 48) intituled

Districts, and to amend the same. Reported complete. Report to be consid

Report to be consid

Bill (No. 61) intituled "Right of Her Province to Incorporate the Cariboo Chair."

Progress reported.

Committee to sit ag

The Hon. Mr. Turner

Lieutenant-Governor, w

The Lieutenant-Governor of British Columbia Public Library Assembly.

Government House, 4th May, 1898.

Ordered, That the Committee of the Whole

Resolved, That the Committee of the Whole do pass the Bill (No. 68) in Act, 1897."

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Legislative Assembly of British Columbia.

Wednesday, 4th May, 1898.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

Prayers by the Rev. J. F. Swinerton.

Mr. Higgins asked the Hon. the Minister of Finance the following questions:

What were the amounts due the Bank of British Columbia on the following dates, viz.: 28th February, 31st March, and 30th April, 1898? Also, the cash on hand at the Treasury and in hands of agents on the same dates?

The Hon. Mr. Turner replied as follows:

"Amount due Bank of British Columbia on 28th February last	\$225,240 69
" " " " 31st March last	269,570 06
" " " " 30th April last	287,485 00
"Cash on hand at Treasury and in hands of Agents 28th February	38,231 10
" " " " 31st March	41,256 81
" " " " (Agents' returns not in), 30th April	5,088 00

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

How have the following sums received by the Province, and for which it is liable (see balance sheet 30th June, 1897, page 7, Public Accounts), been invested, and what interest is derived therefrom:—

Deposits (Intestate Estates, etc.)	\$ 81,714 25
" (Suitsors' Fund Act, 1890)	49,436 48
Nakusp & Slocan Railway Co. (balance of Dominion Government subsidy and earnings of the road)	46,987 02
Total	\$178,137 75

The Hon. Mr. Turner replied as follows:—

"None of these is specially invested; no interest is derived therefrom."

Mr. Williams asked the Hon. the Attorney-General the following questions:—

1. Who has charge of the lepers on Darcy Island?
2. What precautions (if any) are taken to prevent intercourse between the lepers and other residents of the Province, and to prevent the exportation of vegetables or other produce from the island?

The Hon. Mr. Eberts replied as follows:—

"1. Darcy Island was reserved from sale or pre-emption and set apart for sanitary purposes on the 13th May, 1891, at the request of the Corporation of the City of Victoria, and the lepers on the island are under the care of the said Corporation.

"2. Enquiries are being made in order to reply to this question."

Bill (No. 10) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Vancouver Incorporation Act, 1886,' and amendments thereto," was again committed.

Bill reported complete with amendments.

Report to be considered to-morrow.

Bill (No. 19) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the British Columbia Great Gold Gravels Dredge Mining Corporation" was committed, with Mr. Kennedy in the Chair.

Progress reported.

Committee to sit again to-morrow.

Bill (No. 48) intituled "An Act for the Redistribution of British Columbia into Electoral Districts, and to amend the 'Provincial Elections Act,'" was again committed.

Reported complete with amendments.

Report to be considered to-morrow.

Bill (No. 61) intituled "An Act to confirm an Agreement between Her Majesty, in Right of Her Province of British Columbia, and Frank Owen and William John Stokes, and to Incorporate the Cariboo-Omineca Chartered Company," was committed, with Mr. Huff in the Chair.

Progress reported.

Committee to sit again to-morrow.

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

THOS. R. McINNES,
Lieutenant-Governor.

The Lieutenant-Governor transmits herewith a Bill intituled "An Act to amend the 'British Columbia Public Works Loan Act, 1897,'" and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

Government House,
4th May, 1898.

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

(IN THE COMMITTEE.)

Resolved, That the Committee rise and report to the House, recommending the introduction of Bill (No. 68) intituled "An Act to amend the 'British Columbia Public Works Loan Act, 1897.'"

Colonist May 5 47
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Redistribution Bill Goes Through
the Committee of the Whole
and Is Reported.

Bill to Aid Railways Read a First
Time—Prorogation Next
Week.

WEDNESDAY, May 4.

The Redistribution bill passed through the committee stage after the amendments of the Attorney-General had been carried, giving West Kootenay four members instead of three. The Railway Aid bill was introduced during the afternoon and was read a first time.

The house was opened with prayers by Rev. Mr. Swinerton.

Mr. Kidd moved for an order of the house giving a statement of the authority by which royalty is collected on cordwood cut on land acquired previous to the year 1896.

Mr. Speaker pointed out that this was apparently a mixture of a resolution and a question and that if Mr. Kidd wished to get the information it would appear better to ask a question. In this present form the resolution might be out of order though he would give a decision without further considering the matter.

Mr. Kidd withdrew the resolution and said he would give notice of a question instead.

QUESTIONS ANSWERED.

In answer to Mr. Higgins Hon. Mr. Turner stated that the amount due the Bank of British Columbia on February 28 last was \$225,240.69; on March 31, \$269,570.06; on April 30, \$287,485.00. Cash on hand at the treasury and in the hands of agents on February 28, was \$38,231.10; on March 31, \$41,256.81; and on April 30, there was in the treasury (agents' returns not in) \$5,088.

Mr. Higgins asked how the sums appearing in the public accounts on deposits intestate estates depositors' suitsors' fund and Nakusp & Slocan earnings of road) had been invested and what was the interest therefrom?

Hon. Mr. Turner replied that none of these had been specially invested.

Mr. Williams asked the Attorney-General: Who has charge of the lepers on Darcy island and what precautions are taken to prevent intercourse between the lepers and other residents of the province and to prevent the exportation of vegetables or other produce from the island?

Hon. Mr. Eberts replied that Darcy island was reserved from sale or pre-emption and set apart for sanitary purposes on May 13, 1891, at the request of the corporation of the city of Victoria and the lepers on the island are under the care of the said corporation. Enquiries are being made in order to reply to the second part of the question.

VANCOUVER CITY BILL.

The Vancouver City bill was considered in committee of the whole, Mr. Kellie in the chair. The amendment proposed the other day by Mr. Macpherson to prevent the city police magistrate from practising in the civil courts was lost and the bill was reported complete with amendments.

B. C. GOLD GRAVELS CO.

The British Columbia Gold Gravels Co. bill was considered in committee and a clause prohibiting the employment of Chinese and Japanese workers was put in. The committee reported progress and asked leave to sit again.

REDISTRIBUTION BILL.

The house went into committee of the whole on the Redistribution bill, Mr. McGregor in the chair.

Dr. Walkem said in reference to the amendments of which he had given notice, said that he had put them on the order paper at the request of the Vancouver people. However, since he found that a large number of people in that city were averse to having the city divided into ridings he had decided to withdraw his amendments, as he did not wish to try and force anything on a city repugnant to the people. Some of the speakers at a public meeting at Vancouver had taken occasion to take a fling at the government on account of these amendments and saying he was acting as a catspaw. He denied this entirely. The amendments were withdrawn.

In moving that the bill should be amended to make the number of representatives 38 instead of 37, Hon. Mr. Eberts explained that this was because of the decision to give West Kootenay a fourth member. The government were

Mr. Hunter, Chairman of the Committee, reported the Resolution and the Bill.
Report adopted.
Bill introduced and read a first time.
To be read a second time to-morrow.

Mr. Walkem presented a Report from the Select Committee appointed to enquire into matters relating to log-scaling, as follows:—

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ROOM,
4th May, 1898.

MR. SPEAKER:

Your Select Committee appointed to enquire into the matter of log-scaling and matters in connection with logging beg leave to report as follows:—

Your Committee have held two meetings, at which the question of log-scaling was discussed with a delegation of loggers and Mr. R. H. Alexander, of the Hastings Saw-Mill Company.

We find that the B. C. scale is in use in this Province, but not in the manner contemplated in the adoption of the scale.

We would respectfully recommend that the Act of 1894 be enforced—that the scaling of all logs by a Government scale be made compulsory.

That some means be devised by which logs may be classified by the scaler, as well as numbered, so as to keep track of the quantity contained in each log.

We think, also, that some more efficient check should be put on the distinction between dutiable and non-dutiable logs, and with that object in view we would recommend that the Government should supply the masters of all tugs engaged in towing logs with blank forms, to be filled in in duplicate on every tow, with the following information: The amount, or approximate amount, in the boom; the licence, lease or other description of property on which the logs were cut; the name of the logger; the name of the tug and the master thereof; the day and date.

A copy (in the form specified) of this information to be given to the Timber Inspector, and another copy to the mill authorities where the boom is delivered.

We are confidently of the opinion that if a fair trial is given to the foregoing suggestions, that it will result in an increased revenue to the Government and a more satisfactory business understanding between the logger and mill-men.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

W. WYMOND WALKEM,
Chairman.

The Report was received.

Mr. Speaker left the Chair at 6 o'clock.

HALF-PAST EIGHT O'CLOCK, P. M.

Bill (No. 66) intituled "An Act to accelerate the Incorporation of the Town of Revelstoke" was read a second time.
To be committed to-morrow.

Bill (No. 65) intituled "An Act respecting the Profession of Medicine and Surgery" was read a second time.
To be committed to-morrow.

Bill (No. 3) intituled "An Act relating to the employment of Chinese or Japanese persons on Works carried on under Franchises granted by Private Acts" was again committed.
Reported complete with amendments.
Report to be considered to-morrow.

The Order for the second reading of Bill (No. 40) intituled "An Act respecting Liens of Mechanics, Wage-earners, and others," was discharged.

The Order for the second reading of Bill (No. 60) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Medical Act'" was discharged.

Bill (No. 56) intituled "An Act to amend the Law respecting the Marking of Cattle" was again committed.
Reported complete with amendments.
Report to be considered to-morrow.

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

And then the House adjourned at 10:40 o'clock, P. M.

J. P. BOOTH, Speaker.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

Mr. Kellie to move, on consideration of the Report on Bill (No. 48) intituled "An Act for the Redistribution of British Columbia into Electoral Districts, and to amend the 'Provincial Elections Act,'" to amend section 5 by striking out all the section after the word "lake," in line 11, and inserting in lieu thereof the words: "thence northerly along the summit to the head-waters of the Duncan River."

desirous to do the right thing to all parts of the province and after taking into consideration the representation of boards of trade and of delegations on the subject the government had decided to make the change proposed in his amendments.

Mr. Semlin claimed that the government were compelled by public opinion to change the bill.

Hon. Mr. Eberts: "No, not compelled." Hon. Col. Baker said that Mr. Semlin was so saturated with partyism that he could not see that the government were acting for the good of the country and were not compelled by anything but a sense of justice.

Mr. Kennedy wanted to see one of the Cassiar members taken away and instead of increasing the number of members to 38 to give the extra Cassiar member to Kootenay.

Hon. Mr. Eberts then moved that section 2 be amended so as to make the number of members 38 instead of 37.

The amendment was carried.

Mr. Graham wanted section 4 reconsidered so as to introduce an amendment to leave the three divisions of Yale as at present and give East Yale two members instead of one.

Mr. Cotton spoke in favor of the amendment and objected to the Boundary Creek country being joined to the Rossland district.

Hon. Mr. Eberts said that Mr. Cotton knew very well that the Rossland and Grand Forks districts had interests in common, being both copper districts. Taking the situation of these districts into consideration it could be seen that Rossland and Grand Forks were more in touch than Grand Forks and Vernon. It would be found too that when the railway connecting Boundary and Rossland was built—and there was every reason to believe that in another eighteen months the road would be built—the district would be still further united.

Mr. Cotton claimed that an injustice was being done in the proposed division. East Yale would be swamped.

Hon. Mr. Turner did not think Mr. Cotton knew much about the district of which he spoke or he would know that Boundary was naturally connected to Rossland. It was quite evident Mr. Cotton was going into heroics over a country that he knew nothing about.

Mr. Semlin objected to the joining of the Boundary and Rossland districts.

Mr. Graham followed in the same strain and thought that the bill ought to be reconsidered in more ways than one.

Hon. Col. Baker pointed out that the government had had strong representations to join the mining part of East Yale with the Rossland country. Their interests were identical and it was in consideration of this and in the best interests of the country that the Rossland riding was formed.

The motion to reconsider section 4 was lost.

In section 5 Hon. Mr. Eberts moved the amendment to give to Kootenay four ridings instead of three. The text of the amendment was published in the Colonist yesterday.

This amendment was carried and the bill was reported complete with amendments.

CARIBOO-OMINECA BILL.

The house went into committee of the whole on the Cariboo-Omineca Chartered Company bill, Mr. Huff in the chair. The usual Chinese clause was inserted in the bill.

The committee rose, reported progress and asked leave to sit again.

THE RAILWAY BILL.

Hon. Mr. Turner presented a message from the Lieutenant-Governor transmitting to the house a bill to amend the Public Works Loan Act, 1897.

The message was considered in committee, Mr. Hunter in the chair.

Mr. Semlin objected that the bill was brought in too late in the session.

Hon. Mr. Turner replied that it was impossible to have brought the bill in sooner as the matter had been in progress for the past two months and was only now completed. It would have been absurd for the house to have adjourned without the bill being brought in when the whole country was looking out for it.

The committee rose and reported and the bill was read a first time.

LOG SCALING.

The committee on log scaling reported as follows:

"Your committee have held two meetings, at which the question of log-scaling was discussed with a delegation of loggers and Mr. R. H. Alexander, of the Hastings Saw Mill company. We find that the British Columbia scale is in use in this province, but not in the manner contemplated in the adoption of the scale. We would respectfully recommend that the act of 1894 be enforced—that the scaling of all logs by a government scale be made compulsory. That some means be devised by which logs may be classified by the scaler, as well as numbered, so as to keep track of the quantity contained in each log. We think, also, that some more efficient check should be put on the distinction between dutiable and non-dutiable logs, and with that object in view we would recommend that the government should supply the masters of all tugs engaged in towing

By Mr. Kidd—On Friday.
1. Is there a royalty on
1896?

By Mr. Helmcken—On Friday.
Is it the intention of the
of the late Martha McNeill,
of the Supreme Court? If

By Mr. Semlin—On Friday.
That a respectful Address
His Honour to cause to be
correspondence between the
or any person whatever, in
coast to Teslin Lake, Cassia

Mr. Semlin to move, or
to amend the Law respect
lieu thereof the following:—

"3. No two persons shall
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Hon. Mr. Eberts in u
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have appeared at the to

By Mr. Kidd—On Friday next—Questions of the Hon. the Attorney-General—

1. Is there a royalty collected on cordwood cut on lands acquired previous to the year 1896?
2. If so, by what authority is the same collected?

By Mr. Helmcken—On Friday next—Questions of the Hon. the Attorney-General

Is it the intention of the Government to pay the claim of the beneficiaries under the will of the late *Martha McNeill*, arising out of the acts of *James Charles Prevost*, the late Registrar of the Supreme Court? If not, why not?

By Mr. Semlin—On Friday next—

That a respectful Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, asking His Honour to cause to be sent down to this House copies of all Orders in Council and all correspondence between the Government, or any member thereof, and any other Government, or any person whatever, in reference to the construction of any railroad or railroads from the coast to *Teslin Lake, Cassiar or Omineca District*.

Mr. Semlin to move, on consideration of the Report on Bill (No. 56) intituled "An Act to amend the Law respecting the Marking of Cattle," to strike out section 3 and insert in lieu thereof the following:—

"3. No two persons shall use, and no two records shall be made of, the same brand on the same part of the same kind of animal in the same district; and in case any person shall have recorded a brand as aforesaid, and some other person shall have used within the same district a similar brand on the same part of the same kind of animal, it shall be lawful for any Justice of the Peace having territorial jurisdiction to order such other person to discontinue using such brand on such part of the animal, and to change the brand or to select a different part of the animal upon which to apply the brand or mark; and any person having any animal or animals of the same kind already branded by such brand on the same part of the animal must re-brand any animals already so branded, and in case of such other person neglecting or refusing to obey the order of such Justice of the Peace, the Justice shall have power to impose a penalty not exceeding fifty dollars for such offence."

logs with blank forms, to be filed in in duplicate on every tow, with the following information:—The amount, or approximate amount, in the boom; the license, lease or other description of property on which the logs were cut; the name of the logger; the name of the tug and the master thereof; the day and date. A copy (in the form specified) of this information to be given to the timber inspector, and another copy to the mill authorities where the boom is delivered. We are confidently of the opinion that if a fair trial is given to the foregoing suggestions, that it will result in an increased revenue to the government and a more satisfactory business understanding between the loggers and millmen."

The house then took recess.

AFTER RECESS.

Hon. Mr. Eberts moved the second reading of the bill to accelerate the incorporation of the town of Revelstoke. The town could not become incorporated till next January if they had to follow the provisions of the Municipal Act. Therefore to allow incorporation to be more speedy the present bill was brought in. In answer to Mr. Kellie he said that if the town wished to borrow money to carry out any necessary works, there was no reason why some provision dealing with the matter should not be put in the bill. The wishes of the people in this respect might be ascertained by telegraph.

The second reading was carried.

MEDICAL ACT.

Hon. Mr. Eberts in moving the second reading of the Medical Act Amendment bill said that the Medical Council of the province were in favor of the bill. The medical men of the province were a credit to the country, and he had great pleasure in seconding their efforts to elevate their profession. The bill created a college of physicians and surgeons, gave them certain powers to prevent disreputable people from practising and gave better powers to deal with matters relating to the profession than the present act.

Dr. Walken in answer to Mr. Kennedy's objection that it was desirable to hear from the medical men their views on the bill, said that this bill had been under consideration for a long time back at men. It was for the purpose of raising the standard necessary for a medical practitioner that it might equal the standard of other parts of the country. The bill was almost up to the standard of Ontario and Ontario had a standard that was second to none and was higher than in some parts of the Old Country. The time for attending the college had been raised from two and a half to four years and while the bill did not contemplate harshness it would bring about a standard that would leave no doubt as to the qualifications of any medical practitioner in the province. The bill among other things gave power to remove from the register any practitioner who acted improperly, such removal to be subject to an appeal to a judge of the Supreme Court.

Mr. Higgins was of the opinion that at this late period of the session the bill might very well be laid over till next session. Unless there was some emergency shown he did not see why the bill should be considered.

Hon. Mr. Turner was inclined to agree with Mr. Higgins that it was a pity that the bill had not come in sooner. He desired the members to know that this was not a government measure. The bill was not quite correctly printed for the Attorney-General's name should not have appeared at the top of it.

Mr. Semlin raised the point that the bill should really be considered as a private bill.

Mr. Speaker ruled that the bill was a public one in the hands of a private member.

Mr. Cotton questioned the right of a member of the government to bring in a bill as a private member.

Hon. Col. Baker said that a member of the government had the same privileges as a private member.

Mr. Helmcken supported the second reading of the bill. Every man in the province ought to be proud of the high standing of the medical profession in British Columbia, and any bill tending to keep up the high standard of that profession should be supported by the house.

Mr. Cotton would support the second reading, and as far as he had studied the bill it appeared to be in the right direction.

The second reading was carried.

ALIEN LABOR BILL.

The house went into committee of the whole on the Alien Labor bill, Major Mutt in the chair. Mr. Helmcken moved an amendment to change the name of the bill to the "Labor Regulations Act."

This was carried and the committee rising reported the bill complete with amendments.

UNNECESSARY RETURNS.

When the adjourned debate on Mr. Williams' motion on the Nelson & Fort Sheppard was reached, Mr. Kellie said he did not wish to go on with the debate until the returns he had asked for had come down. It was not his fault if the debate was adjourned. He refused to go on with the debate until he saw the returns.

Hon. Mr. Turner replied that it was decidedly Mr. Kellie's fault if the debate was put off again. It was distinctly understood when the last returns came down that it was not necessary to have them printed, and members had an opportunity of seeing them if they wished. The government were not bound to defer the debate, but as a privilege to Mr. Kellie they would do so.

Mr. Kellie did not ask for any privilege, but only his rights.

Hon. Mr. Turner replied it was not a right of Mr. Kellie's to have the debate adjourned. The government if they chose could go on with it now. However, since he had just that moment been informed that the returns were by mistake printed, he would allow the debate to go over for the meantime. For his part he would not have had the returns printed, for as the Attorney-General had said the other day they had nothing to do with the matter under discussion. Thousands upon thousands of dollars had been wasted this year in printing the numerous returns asked for and which were absolutely unnecessary.

BILLS WITHDRAWN.

As it was so late in the session Mr. Kellie by permission withdrew his Mechanic's Lien bill, and Mr. Graham's Medical Act amendment was also withdrawn.

CATTLE MARKING BILL.

The house went into committee on the Cattle Marking bill, Mr. Forster in the chair.

The bill was reported complete with amendments.

Before adjournment Hon. Mr. Turner wished to know when the municipal committee would be ready to report as he said he expected to ask the Lieutenant-Governor to come down and prorogue the house on Thursday, the 12th instant.

Mr. Kidd said the committee hoped to report Friday.
11 House adjourned shortly before 49
NOTICES OF MOTION.
To move Hunter—To introduce a bill the Cariboo Hydraulic act.

Times May 5 PROVINCIAL HOUSE.

Introduction of the Promised Measure To Aid Railways Throughout the Province.

The Thing Called The Redistribution Bill is Passed Through Committee of the Whole.

It Is Extremely Likely That Prorogation Will Occur Latter Part of Next Week.

Victoria, May 4.

Mr. Speaker took the chair at 2 o'clock. Mr. Kidd moved that an order of the house be granted for a return showing the authority by which royalty is collected on cordwood cut on land acquired previous to the year 1896.

The premier objected on the ground that Mr. Kidd's motion should have been made a question.

The speaker said he was not certain whether the motion was in order or not. It was so peculiar that he did not know what to do with it.

Mr. Kidd finally withdrew the motion and put in a question to the same effect for Friday.

Mr. Higgins asked the hon. the minister of finance the following questions: What were the amounts due the Bank of British Columbia on the following dates, viz.: 28th February, 31st March, and 30th April, 1898? Also, the cash on hand at the treasury and in the hands of agents on the same dates.

The hon. minister of finance replied as follows: Amount due the Bank of British Columbia on February 28th last, \$225,240.60; March, \$269, 570.06; April 30, \$287,485.00; cash on hand at treasury and in the hands of agents on February 28th, \$38,231.10; March 31, \$41,256.81; April 30 (agent's return not in) \$5,088.

Mr. Higgins asked the hon. the minister of finance the following questions: How have the following sums been received by the province, and for which it is liable (see balance sheet 30th June, 1897, page 7, public accounts), been invested, and what interest is derived therefrom: Deposits (Intestate Estates, etc.) \$81,714.25; deposits (Suitsors' Fund Act, 1890), \$49,436.48; Nakusp & Slocan Railway Co. (balance of Dominion government subsidy and earnings of the road), \$46,987.02. Total, \$178,137.75.

The minister of finance replied that none of these sums had been specially invested and that no interest had been received therefrom.

Mr. Williams asked the hon. the attorney-general the following questions: 1. Who has charge of the lepers on Darcy Island? 2. What precautions (if any) are taken to prevent intercourse between the lepers and other residents of the province, and to prevent the exportation of vegetables or other produce from the island?

The attorney-general replied: 1. Darcy island was reserved from sale or pre-emption and set apart for sanitary purposes on May 13, 1891 at the request of the corporation of the city of Victoria, and the lepers on the island are under the care of said corporation. 2. Enquiries are being made in order to reply.

The house resumed committee on the Vancouver city act amendment bill. Mr. Kellie in the chair. Mr. Macpherson moved an amendment which would prohibit police magistrates from practicing in civil as well as criminal courts. The amendment was lost. The bill was reported complete with amendments.

The house went into committee on the British Columbia Gold Gravel, Gold Mining bill. Mr. Macpherson moved to insert as clause 14 an anti-Chinese regulation, which was accepted. The committee then rose, reported progress and were granted leave to sit again.

Committee on the Redistribution bill was resumed with Mr. McGregor in the chair.

MR. WALKER had an amendment on the orders of the day which he asked leave to withdraw. It was to the effect that Vancouver be divided into four ridings. Since he had drawn up the amendment there had been a pretty general expression of opinion against it. A public meeting at Vancouver had decided adversely to the proposed amendments. It had been said at that meeting that the government had simply used him as a cat's paw to get the amendments in question on the orders of the day. This was not true. He had proposed the amendments himself because a number of gentlemen in Vancouver had suggested them to him.

Mr. Kellie wanted to know why Dr. Walkem had not proposed to divide Victoria also.

The hon. member for South Nanaimo replied that he had heard no suggestions of this being wanted. If he had he would have done so, as he believed that Victoria ought to be divided.

On motion of the hon. attorney-general it was decided to reconsider section two, which stipulates the number of representatives for the province. He proposed to make the number 38 instead of 37. The object of the increase was to give another member to Kootenay. He said that on reconsidering the bill the government had come to the conclusion that this was expedient.

Mr. Semlin said he was glad to see that the members of the government were at last inclined to do the country some justice. Their sense of right as well as the remonstrances of the people had compelled them to make a change. They had insisted when the bill was first brought down that it was a fair and a just measure, but they had since been convinced otherwise.

Hon. Mr. Eberts—We were not compelled.

Mr. Sword—You wouldn't have been compelled if you had no conscience.

Mr. Semlin continued that he liked the change but he did not approve of the government's way of doing it. They should not merely make a change here or there on the ground of expediency, but they should now be able to see the necessity of readjusting the whole bill on an equitable basis.

Hon. Col. Baker stated that the government had not been compelled to make changes, as they could have carried the bill if they wanted to. The object of the change was to do justice to the entire country.

Mr. Kennedy hoped they would go right ahead in the same direction as they were going. He did not think it necessary, however, to add to the number of representatives in order to give Kootenay another member. The extra member for Cassiar might be taken off and that would be a better way.

Mr. Graham remarked that he was glad to see the government members' sense of justice had at last led them to see that they were doing the country a very grave injustice indeed.

Mr. Sword urged the government to keep right on exercising their sense of justice. He was sure there was lots of field for it. For instance, his hon. friend from East Yale could point out where some of it was required in dealing with his constituency.

Mr. Graham moved to have clause 4 reconsidered. He wanted to bring in an amendment which would be just to the electors of East Yale. He said he did not think that there could be found one man in the whole constituency who would say that they had been treated fairly by the government.

The amendment was about to be put to vote without an expression of approval from the government side of the house when Mr. Cotton rose and said that surely the government did not intend to ignore the motion. Surely their sense of justice had not become exhausted so soon. The government had said that they had seen the justice of the situation and had the house to believe that they were going to act on that. There could then be no reason why they should not respond heartily to the request of the hon. member for East Yale. What justice was there in joining a part of East Yale to Rossland. It was an unnatural union. The two districts were separated by boundaries which gave them nothing in common with each other. It had been an argument of the government members in support of the bill that constituencies were divided because natural obstacles stood in the way of justice being done to them by one representative. He would like to hear what justification the government could offer for this. It meant nothing better than strangling the voices of the people of East Yale.

The attorney-general replied that Rossland and Grand Forks were similar to each other inasmuch as they both produced copper, and he would submit that the people of Grand Forks were much nearer Rossland than Vernon. The hon. gentleman who had just sat down had claimed that the government was strangling the voices of the people of East Yale, but it was a matter of expediency that the Grand Forks country should be taken into Rossland, and he could imagine that the people there, where they came to look seriously and properly into the division, they would find it a very happy one indeed.

Mr. Cotton said that the hon. attorney-general must be very hard up for arguments when he would give as his reason for the joining of Grand Forks and Rossland that both districts produced copper. Did anyone ever hear of such an argument in the house before. Let the government come down and announce that they would abandon that city of refuge which they were building up for themselves in Cassiar and give an extra representative to East Yale.

Premier Turner said he did not think the hon. gentleman knew the part of the country he was talking about. He had received information to the effect that the people there were very well satisfied.

Mr. Semlin said he had received information from there of a very different nature—to the effect that the people were determined to oppose being severed from East Yale and joined to Rossland.

Hon. Col. Baker maintained that the government was just throwing the mining portion of East Yale into the mining portion of Rossland. A number of people of Boundary Creek, who had been to the city of Victoria, had expressed themselves as satisfied.

Mr. Graham—That was because the Boundary Creek people understood at that time that they would be divided as they wanted to be, and they were sent away with that impression.

Mr. Forster said that when the men spoken of were in the city they had been given the impression that Boundary Creek would be given a member, but now that they had seen that they were not to get what they wanted they were joining the demonstrations against the government.

The chairman called for a vote on the reconsideration of the clause. A number of opposition hands went up. The premier glanced around the room and quickly ordered one of the pages to ring the bell.

Mr. Cotton objected. He said that the vote had already been called.

Mr. Williams submitted to the chair that the premier nor anyone else in the house save the chairman had the right to tell the boy to ring the bell.

Mr. Cotton pointed out that all the divisions had been taken without ringing the bell, and he hoped the chairman's sense of justice would not permit such bulldozing. Four members had come in since the bell was rung, and he objected to those being allowed to vote.

Mr. Higgins, who was one of the members who had come in on the ringing of the bell, said he hoped he would not be debarred from voting, as he wished to vote for the reconsideration of the clause.

Mr. Cotton said it made no difference which way the hon. gentleman wanted to vote, it was a point of order that should be sustained.

Mr. Williams challenged the government to say whether the objection was right or wrong, and if right to give it their support, as they surely could not make it a party question.

Mr. Hunter advised the chairman that he was wrong, but said that there were enough members in to defeat the motion before the bell was rung.

Mr. Forster informed the premier that he was a little hasty, or he would not have been so much scared.

Hon. Mr. Pooley said he had just looked up the rules, and was convinced that the chairman was in the wrong. The bell had no right to be rung after the vote was called for.

It was decided to allow only those who were in before the ringing of the bell to vote. The motion to reconsider was lost.

The attorney-general moved to reconsider section 5. This was agreed to.

He then moved an amendment giving two members to West Kootenay, dividing the district.

Mr. Cotton would not oppose the amendment, but he wished to congratulate the government on its facility for turning round. It once used a range of mountains to separate districts, and at other times to join them, as this division would show.

The committee rose, reporting the bill complete with amendments.

The house then went into committee on an act to confirm an agreement between Her Majesty in right of her province of British Columbia and Frank Owen and William John Stokes, and to incorporate the Cariboo-Omineca Chartered Company.

Mr. Macpherson moved to insert an anti-Chinese clause, which was accepted. The committee rose, reported progress, and were granted leave to sit again.

The premier presented by message an act to amend the B. C. Public Works loan act, as follows:

Her Majesty, by and with the consent of the legislative assembly of the province of British Columbia, enacts as follows:

1. This act may be cited as the "British Columbia Public Works Loan Act (1897) Amendment Act, 1898."

2. Section 2 of the "British Columbia Public Works Loan Act, 1897," is hereby repealed and the following is substituted therefor:

"2. The lieutenant-governor in council may in addition to all other moneys authorized to be raised or borrowed by any other act of the province borrow or raise from time to time, in such amounts, in such manner, and at such times as may be deemed expedient, any sum of money not exceeding five million dollars by the sale of debentures, or by the issue and sale of 'British Columbia Stock' under the provisions of the 'Inscribed Stock Act, 1861,' or partly in one way and partly in another, or otherwise. Provided, however, that no moneys shall be borrowed under this act before the first day of July, 1898."

3. Section 3 of the said act is hereby repealed and the following is substituted therefor:

"3. There is hereby granted for and in aid of the construction of the following railways, subject to the conditions hereinafter contained, and to be paid out of the moneys raised under this act, a sum not exceeding four thousand dollars for each mile of railway, viz.:

(a.) For a standard gauge railway from Pentteton to the Boundary Creek district, approximately one hundred miles in length;

(b.) For a standard gauge railway from Robson to the Boundary Creek district, to connect with the railway mentioned in sub-section (a) hereof, approximately eighty miles;

(c.) For a standard gauge railway from the coast, in the neighborhood of English Bluff, near Point Roberts, via Chilliwack to Pentteton, approximately two hundred and thirty miles;

(d.) For a standard gauge railway from Butte Inlet to the Boundary Creek district, approximately two hundred and thirty miles;

(e.) For not more than four hundred miles of a narrow gauge railway from Teslin lake to a seaport in British Columbia, divided by the Skeena river into the northern and southern sections."

4. Section 9 of the said act is hereby repealed and the following is substituted therefor:

"9. The lieutenant-governor in council may enter into all agreements with any person or company undertaking the construction of any railway to which a subsidy is hereby attached, which may be necessary or convenient for the due consideration and operation of such railway, which agreements shall, in every instance, in addition to other matters therein provided for, contain the following provisions, viz.:

(1.) That unless work is commenced on the railway mentioned in sub-sections (a) and (b) of section 3 hereof within fifteen months from the 1st day of May, 1897, and on those mentioned in sub-sections (c) and (d) of said section 3 within two years from the 1st day of May, 1897, and on each section of the railway mentioned in sub-section (e) of said section 3 by the last day of June, 1898, and is duly and diligently prosecuted to the satisfaction of the lieutenant-governor in council, all right and claim to the aforesaid subsidy granted by this act shall be forfeited and forfeited."

(2.) That construction of the railway mentioned in sub-section (a) of said section 3 be begun and carried on from Pentteton."

(3.) That the aforesaid subsidy shall not be payable until the section of railway for which the subsidy is granted is completed and in running order, to the satisfaction of the lieutenant-governor in council, nor until security or guarantees, satisfactory to the lieutenant-governor in council, is or are given for the continuous maintenance and operation of the railway; and no subsidy shall be payable or paid until after such completion and the giving of such security or guarantees."

5. Section 10 of the said act is hereby amended by adding thereto the following sub-section:

"(c.) In the case of the line from Robson to the Boundary Creek district being built by a company entitled to a land grant for the construction of such line, the subsidy herein authorized shall only be paid to such company on its giving up its claim to the land grant for such portions of its line."

6. The title to said act is hereby amended by striking out the said words "two million five hundred thousand" and substituting therefor the words "five million."

7. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 4 of the "Railway Assessment Act," the land occupied and claimed as the right of way for the railroad mentioned in sub-section (e) of section 3, hereinafter enacted, and other lands occupied by station or engine houses, or other buildings connected together with such operation of the railway, in connection with such operation, including the rolling stock, shall be assessed as a whole, and at the sum of two thousand dollars per mile of track, including sidings, of the railway situated within the province and without the limits of any incorporated municipality."

8. The title to said act is hereby amended by striking out the said words "two million five hundred thousand" and substituting therefor the words "five million."

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Dr. Walkem said t der the consideration fession for some ti would have been bi but for the fact th the medical professi er it carefully.

Mr. Cotton suppor ing of the bill, as h move in the right calculated to advan the profession.

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The mechanics' and the medical ac Graham) were wit in committee and i amendments.

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Mr. Kidd replie would be ready o Mr. Cotton inqu lect committee on doing. He said that some am brought in before

Hon. Mr. Eberts would be brought days. The house then being to 10.45.

THURSDAY EVENING, MAY 5, 1898.

A COMIC JOURNAL.

YESTERDAY'S issue of the *Colonia* was a distinctly humorous publication. It is rare, indeed, to find so many laughter-provoking things in three and a half columns of professedly serious editorial matter. First, we have an article about a new transcontinental railway. "Great region," "enormous domain," rich in "land," "timber," "mineral"—these are the high sounding terms upon which the article runs along as easily as if hung on C springs. But we must journey through three other articles, and nearly three columns of matter, before we come to the real point—which is to do a little quiet booming for the British Pacific, which is to have, says the *Colonist*, "probably the last large land grant that will be given in North America"—a hint to those who hear to bid up sharply or miss their chance.

Then there is an article about rail to the Yukon. The old exploded arguments, about this being a case of "now or never," about the securing of the trade to British Columbia cities by an all Canadian route, and so forth, are trotted out. Did we say "arguments"—we beg pardon, the proper word is "assertions." There is no rival which the all-Canadian route need dread; and the trade is to be secured by the advance which the tariff gives us, and by good business methods. All this, of course the *Colonist* knows, and one can not help seeing behind the printed page (and smiling as he sees) the cynical grin on the face of the writer elaborating "arguments" to back the boom which is intended simply and only to save the influential people who have invested heavily on the expectation of the Stickine Teelin line being built this year.

Still more riant is the grave, sober-faced lecture delivered in the same article to the Kootenay people on "sectionalism." They are told that they oppress this line simply because it is a "coast" enterprise. So, all Mainland people were told that they opposed the Parliament buildings business because it was a Victoria enterprise. It does not seem to strike our contemporary that these "coast" and "Victoria" enterprises seem to hold the boards in monotonous iteration, to the exclusion of everything else. True, the *Colonist* does speak of what has been done for Kootenay. But what figure is cut by the expenditure of a few hundreds of thousands for admittedly necessary public works, alongside of that million odd for the marble palace at the Bay, and this million and three-quarters or thereabouts for a speculative railway, only one third of which (even if we admit the *Colonist's* "arguments") can be shown to be necessary?

Having done the booming trick for the British Pacific and the Yukon line, and given Kootenay its little lesson in the proprieties, the *Colonist* blandly expresses its pleasure at the addition of yet another member to the House, and after a few *obiter dicta*, takes THE COLUMBIAN in hand. It appears that we have been guilty of "coarseness"—that we have committed a "very great error," because we used a somewhat vigorous figure of speech in describing the way in which the Government had been compelled to drop some of the pet enormities of its Redistribution Bill. We compared the Government to a burglar stampered by the watchful guardians of the commonwealth, and dropping a portion of his "swag" at every jump. But such an expression from THE COLUMBIAN, "the leading Opposition paper of the Province," as the *Colonist* calls it, shocks our contemporary's sensibilities. Had one of the other

papers been guilty of such a thing, we are left to infer, it might have been borne in silence; but, from "the leading Opposition paper"—ah! Since it is obvious that the *Colonist* is by no means anxious to waste compliments on THE COLUMBIAN, the little paragraph from which we quote is intended to serve the double purpose of fixing upon us a charge of "coarseness," and dealing a cut at our co laborers in the field of Opposition journalism.

As we have said, the roundabout booming of the British Pacific; the farcical attempts to conceal the real motive for the Yukon Railway cheat; the sober-faced lecturing of the Kootenay people (coming as it does just after the Keltie River episode); and the double-barrelled paragraph with which this apologist for all the enormities of Turnerism goes gunning for the Opposition press, are laughable enough; but the last little paragraph of the editorial columns caps the climax. Here it is: "No political party should ask more than an 'absolutely fair franchise law.' This is the opinion of the Toronto *Telegram*," and it is sound. We do not want politics played with loaded dice in this country."!!! This from the supporter of the gerrymander! This from the chief organ of Turnerism!!

Our Victoria correspondent was not, apparently, informed, yesterday, as to the exact terms of the new Loan Bill, which the Government has since introduced. As will be seen by the House report elsewhere, this brilliant financial measure is in the form of an amendment to last year's Railway Loan Bill of \$2,500,000, to which it proposes to add as much more—\$1,500,000 for the Yukon Railway deal and \$1,000,000, as we have anticipated, to cover the deficit in sight—making \$5,000,000. This huge sum is dealt with as a whole to the new bill, as will be seen, and re-divided among the various railway schemes of last session, (including the British Pacific section) and the new Yukon scheme. If this measure is passed by the House, British Columbia will be able to boast of a debt of \$11,500,000, in round numbers—more than \$100 a head of the white population, or over \$500 for each head of a family!

Though sensitiveness for its delicate reputation compelled the Government to withdraw the proposed special registration outrage for the benefit of Cassiar, in the Redistribution Bill, and fear of the just indignation threatening caused it to hastily retract the feeler put forward by its catspaw, Dr. Walkem, to divide Vancouver City into wards, no consideration of reputation or wrath to come has proved sufficiently strong to counter-balance the Government's yearning to outrage and defraud every other constituency in the Province by creating another pocket borough in Cassiar. Therefore, the second member for that already over represented constituency is to be retained; and the concession, reluctantly wrung from the authors of the Gerry-mander Bill of another member to West Kootenay, is to be made by adding still another member to a much too large House—bringing the total up to thirty-eight. The projected outrage upon East Yale and the Boundary Creek country, the Government is, apparently, going to insist on, in spite of all protests.

logs may be classed by the scaler, as well as lumbered, so as to keep track of the quantity contained in each log. We think also that some more efficient check should be put on the distinction between dutiable and non-dutiable logs, and with that object in view we would recommend that the government should supply the masters of all tugs engaged in towing logs with blank forms, to be filled in duplicate on every tow, with the following information: The amount, approximate amount, in the boom; license, lease, or other description of cargo, on which the logs were cut; name of the logger; the name of the tug and the master thereof; the day and

A copy (in the form specified) of this information to be given to the timber inspector and another copy to the mill authorities where the boom is delivered.

We are confidently of the opinion that if a fair trial is given to the foregoing suggestions that it will result in an increased revenue to the government and a more satisfactory business understanding between the loggers and the mill men.

All of which is respectfully submitted.
W. WYMOND WALKEM,
Chairman.

The report was received.

Mr. Helmcken gave notice that on Friday he would ask the hon. the attorney-general the following questions: Is it the intention of the government to pay the claims of the beneficiaries under the will of the late Martha McNeill, arising out of the acts of James Charles Provost, the late registrar of the Supreme Court? If not, why not?

Recess was then taken.

AFTER RECESS.

The Revelstoke incorporation bill passed its second reading.

The second reading of the medical act amendment bill was moved by the hon. the attorney-general, who explained that it was the purpose of the act to protect the public.

Mr. Kennedy said he had no objection to the bill, but he did object to the late time of bringing it down. It should have been brought down some weeks ago, so as to give the members a chance to hear from all the medical men in the province as to their views on it.

Dr. Walkem said the bill had been under the consideration of the medical profession for some time past. The bill would have been brought down sooner but for the fact that the members of the medical profession wanted to consider it carefully.

Mr. Cotton supported the second reading of the bill, as he believed it to be a move in the right direction. It was calculated to advance the standard of the profession.

The motion carried.

On the resumption of committee on the alien labor bill Mr. Helmcken moved an amendment to clause one so as to make the title read "Labor Regulation Act." This was carried. The bill was reported complete with amendments.

Mr. Kellie refused to go on with the debate on Mr. Williams's motion "that the government in granting the lands to the Nelson & Fort Sheppard railway company exceeded the powers conferred on them by the Nelson & Fort Sheppard railway subsidy act, 1892." He said returns in connection with this matter had been asked for two weeks ago and had not yet been brought down. It was no fault of his if the resolution had to be again postponed.

The premier said that when the returns were asked for it was specifically stated that the papers need not be printed. Later it was asked that they be printed. They were now in the hands of the printer and would be ready to-morrow. The government, under the circumstances just stated, were not obliged to postpone the debate, but they would confer a favor on Mr. Kellie by so doing.

Mr. Kellie replied that he wanted no privileges conferred on him by the government. What he wanted was his rights. The returns had been asked for two weeks ago and should have been brought down long ago.

The mechanics lien bill (Mr. Kellie), and the medical act amendment bill (Mr. Graham) were withdrawn.

The cattle marking bill was considered in committee and reported complete with amendments.

The premier asked the municipal committee what progress they were making, as it was his intention to ask the Lieutenant-Governor to close the house on the evening of Thursday, the 12th inst., and he would like to have any amendments sent in as soon as possible.

Mr. Kidd replied that the amendments would be ready on Friday.

Mr. Cotton inquired as to what the select committee on the companies act were doing. He said it was very desirable that some amendments should be brought in before the house closed.

Hon. Mr. Eberts replied that something would be brought down in a couple of days.

The house then adjourned, the hour being 10.45.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Fourth Session of the Seventh Parliament.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Victoria, May 5.—The Redistribution bill passed through the committee stage in the Legislature yesterday after the amendments of the Attorney-General had been carried, giving West Kootenay four members instead of three. The Railway Aid bill was introduced during the afternoon and was read a first time.

The House was opened with prayers by Rev. Mr. Swinnerton.

Mr. KIDD moved for an order of the House giving a statement of the authority by which royalty is collected on cordwood cut on land acquired previous to the year 1886.

Mr. SPEAKER pointed out that this was apparently a mixture of a resolution and a question and that if Mr. Kidd wished to get the information it would appear better to ask a question. In its present form the resolution might be out of order though he would not give a decision without further considering the matter.

Mr. KIDD withdrew the resolution and said he would give notice of a question instead.

Redistribution Bill.

The House went into committee of the whole on the Redistribution bill Mr. McGregor in the chair.

Dr. WALKER said in reference to the amendments of which he had given notice, that he had put them on the order paper at the request of Vancouver people. However, since he found that a large number of people in that city were averse to having the city divided into ridings he had decided to withdraw his amendments, as he did not wish to try and force anything on a city that would be repugnant to the people. Some of the speakers at a public meeting at Vancouver had taken occasion to take a fling at the Government on account of these amendments and saying he was acting as a catpaw. He denied this entirely.

The amendments were withdrawn.

In moving that the bill should be amended to make the number of representatives 38 instead of 37, Hon. Mr. EBERTS explained that this was because of the decision to give West Kootenay a fourth member. The Government were desirous of doing the right thing to all parts of the Province and after taking into consideration the representation of Boards of Trade and of delegations on the subject the Government had decided to make the change proposed in his amendments.

Mr. SEMLIN claimed that the Government were compelled by public opinion to change the bill.

Hon. Mr. EBERTS—No, not compelled.

Hon. Mr. TURNER did not think Mr. Cotton knew much about the district of which he spoke or he would know that Boundary was naturally connected with Rossland. It was quite evident Mr. Cotton was going into heroics over a country that he knew nothing about.

Mr. SEMLIN objected to the joining of the Boundary and Rossland districts.

Mr. GRAHAM followed in the same strain and thought that the bill ought to be reconsidered in more ways than one.

Hon. Col. BAKER pointed out that the Government had had strong representations to join the mining part of East Yale with the Rossland country. Their interests were identical and it was in consideration of this and in the best interests of the country that the Rossland riding was formed.

The motion to reconsider section 4 was lost.

In section 5 Hon. Mr. EBERTS moved the amendment to give West Kootenay four ridings instead of three. The text of the amendment has already appeared in The World.

Cariboo-Omineca Bill.

The House went into committee of the whole on the Cariboo-Omineca Chartered Company bill. Mr. Huff in the chair.

The usual Chinese clause was inserted in the bill.

The committee rose, reported progress and asked leave to sit again.

The Railway Bill.

Hon. Mr. TURNER presented a message from the Lieutenant-Governor transmitting to the House a bill to amend the Public Works Loan act, 1897.

The message was considered in committee, Mr. Hunter in the chair.

Mr. SEMLIN objected that the bill was brought in too late in the session.

Hon. Mr. TURNER replied that it was possible to have brought the bill in sooner as the matter had been in progress for the past two months and was only now completed. It would have been absurd for the House to have adjourned without the bill being brought in when the whole country was looking out for it.

The committee rose and reported and the bill was read a first time.

Hon. Col. BAKER said that Mr. Semlin was so saturated with partyism that he could not see that the Government were acting for the good of the country and were not compelled by anything but a sense of justice.

Mr. KENNEDY wanted to see one of the Cassiar members taken away, and instead of increasing the number of members to 38, this member being given to Kootenay.

Hon. Mr. EBERTS then moved that section 2 be amended so as to make the number of members 38 instead of 37.

The amendment was carried.

Mr. GRAHAM wanted section 4 reconsidered so as to introduce an amendment to leave the three divisions of Yale as at present and give East Yale two members instead of one.

Mr. COTTON spoke in favor of the amendment and objected to the Boundary Creek country being joined to the Rossland district.

Hon. Mr. EBERTS said that Mr. Cotton knew very well that the Rossland and Grand Forks districts had interests in common, both being copper districts. Taking the situation of these districts into consideration it could be seen that Rossland and Grand Forks were more in touch than Grand Forks and Vernon. It would be found too that when the railway connecting Boundary and Rossland was built—and there was every reason to believe that in another 18 months the road would be built—the district would be still further united.

Mr. COTTON claimed that an injustice was being done in the proposed division. East Yale would be swamped.

Log Sealing.

The committee on Log Sealing reported as follows: "Your committee have held two meetings, at which the question of log-sealing was discussed with a delegation of log-sealers and Mr. R. H. Alexander, of the Hastings Saw Mill Company. We find that the British Columbia scale is in use in this Province, but not in the manner contemplated in the adoption of the scale. We would respectfully recommend that the act of 1894 be enforced—that the scaling of all logs by a Government scale be made compulsory. That some means be devised by which logs may be classified by the scale, as well as numbered, so as to keep track of the quantity contained in each log. We think also, that some more efficient check should be put on the distinction between dutiable and non-dutiable logs, and with that object in view we would recommend that the Government should supply the masters of all tug boats engaged in towing logs with blank forms, to be filled in in duplicate on every tow, with the following information: The amount, or approximate amount, in the boom; the license, lease or other description of property on which the logs were cut; the name of the logger; the name of the tug and the master thereof; the day and date. A copy (in the form specified) of this information to be given to the timber inspector, and another copy to the mill authorities where the boom is delivered. We are confidently of the opinion that if a fair trial is given to the foregoing suggestions, that it will result in an increased revenue to the Government and a more satisfactory business understanding between the loggers and millmen."

The House then took recess.

After recess the Revelstoke Incorporation bill passed its second reading, as did also the Medical Act Amendment bill.

On the resumption of committee on the Alien Labor bill, a motion by Mr. Helmerken amended the title to Labor Regulation Act, with which alteration the bill was reported complete to the House.

Mr. KELLIE refused to continue the debate on Mr. Williams' motion that the Government in granting the lands to the Nelson & Fort Sheppard Railway Co. exceeded the powers conferred by the Nelson & Fort Sheppard Railway Subsidy Act of 1892. He complained that returns and papers dealing with the matter, asked for two weeks ago, had not yet been brought down.

The Mechanics' Lien bill (Mr. Kellie), and the Medical Act Amendment bill (Mr. Graham), were withdrawn.

The Cattle Marking bill was considered in committee and reported complete with amendments.

Premier Turner inquired what progress the Municipal Committee was making. He said it was his intention to ask the Lieutenant-Governor to close the House on the evening of Thursday, the 12th inst., and he would in consequence like to have any amendments in as early as possible.

Mr. Kidd replied that the amendments would be in by Friday.

The House adjourned at 10.25.

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PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT

Rejection of City Council's Amendment
Regarding Police Magistrates. —
Dr. Walkem's Redistribution
Amendment Withdrawn.

FIFTY-THIRD DAY.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Victoria, May 4.—The Speaker took the chair at 2 o'clock p. m.

Mr. Kidd moved for a return showing the authority under which royalty is collected on cordwood cut on land acquired previous to the year 1894.

Hon. Mr. Turner objected on the ground that Mr. Kidd's motion should have been made a question.

The Speaker said he was not certain whether the motion was in order or not. It was so peculiar that he did not know what to do with it.

Mr. Kidd finally withdrew the motion and gave notice of a question to the same effect for Friday.

THE VANCOUVER BILL.

The House resumed Committee on the Vancouver City Act Amendment Bill. Mr. Kellie in the chair. Mr. Macpherson moved an amendment to prohibit the police magistrates from practicing in civil as well as criminal courts. The amendment was lost. The Bill was reported complete with amendments.

B. C. GOLD GRAVELS COMPANY.

The House went into Committee on the British Columbia Gold Gravels Gold Mining Company Bill. Mr. Macpherson moved to insert as Clause 14 the anti-Chinese regulation, which was accepted. The Committee then rose, reported progress and asked leave to sit again.

THE REDISTRIBUTION INEQUITY.

Committee on the Redistribution Bill was resumed with Mr. McGregor in the chair.

Dr. Walkem had an amendment on the orders of the day which he asked leave to withdraw. It was to the effect that Vancouver be divided into four ridings. Since he had drawn up the amendment there had been a pretty general expression of opinion against it. A public meeting at Vancouver had decided adversely to the proposed amendments. It had been said at that meeting that the Government had simply used him as a cat's paw to get the amendments in question on the orders of the day. This was not true. He had proposed the amendments himself because a number of gentlemen in Vancouver had suggested them to him. Mr. Kellie wanted to know why Dr. Walkem had not proposed to divide Victoria also.

Dr. Walkem had heard no suggestions of this being wanted. If he had he would have done so, as he believed that Victoria ought to be divided.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Eberts, it was decided to reconsider Section 2 which stipulates the number of representatives for the Province. He proposed to make the number 35 instead of 37. The object of the increase was to give another member to Kootenay. He said that on reconsidering the Bill the Government had come to the conclusion that this was expedient.

Mr. Semlin said he was glad to see that the members of the Government were inclined at last to do the country some justice. Their sense of right as well as the remonstrances of the people had compelled them to make a change.

Hon. Mr. Eberts: "We were not compelled."

Mr. Sword: "You wouldn't have been compelled if you had no conscience."

Mr. Semlin said that the Government had insisted, when the Bill was first brought down, that it was a fair and a just measure, but it had since been convinced otherwise. He liked the change, but he did not approve of the Government's way of doing it. It should not merely make a change here or there on the ground of expediency but should now be able to see the necessity of readjusting the whole Bill on an equitable basis.

Hon. Colonel Baker stated that the Government had not been compelled to make changes as it would have carried the Bill if it wanted to. The object of

the change was to do justice to the entire country.

Mr. Kennedy hoped the Government would go right ahead in the same direction as it was going. He did not think it necessary, however, to add to the number of representatives in order to give Kootenay another member. The extra member for Cassiar might be taken off and that would be a better way.

Mr. Graham remarked that he was glad to see that the Government members' sense of justice had at last led them to see that they were doing the country a very grave injustice indeed.

Mr. Sword urged the Government to keep right on exercising its sense of justice. He was sure there was plenty of field for it. For instance, his honorable friend from East Yale could point out where some of it was required in dealing with his constituency.

THE INJUSTICE TO BOUNDARY CREEK.

Mr. Graham moved to have Clause 4 reconsidered. He wanted to bring in an amendment which would be just to the electors of East Yale. He said he did not think that there could be found one man in the whole constituency who would say that the region had been treated fairly by the Government.

The motion was about to be put to a vote without an expression of approval from the Government side of the House, when Mr. Cotton rose and said that surely the Government did not intend to ignore the motion. Surely its sense of justice had not become exhausted so soon. The Government had said that it had seen the justice of the situation and led the House to believe that it was going to act on that.

There could be no reason why it should not respond heartily to the request of the honorable member for East Yale. What justice was there in joining a part of East Yale to Rossland? It was an unnatural union. The two districts were separated by boundaries which gave them nothing in common with each other. It had been an argument of the Government members in support of the Bill that constituencies were divided because natural obstacles stood in the way of justice being done to them by one representative. He would like to hear what justification the Government could offer for this. It meant nothing better than strangling the voices of the people of East Yale.

COPPER AND REDISTRIBUTION.

Hon. Mr. Eberts replied that Rossland and Grand Forks were similar to each other inasmuch as the both produced copper, and he would submit that the people of Grand Forks were much nearer Rossland than Vernon. The honorable gentleman who had just sat down had claimed that the Government was strangling the voices of the people of East Yale, but it was a matter of expediency that the Grand Forks country should be taken into Rossland and he could imagine that the people thereof, when they came to look seriously and properly into the division, would find it a very happy one indeed.

Mr. Cotton said that the Honorable Attorney-General must be very hard up for arguments when he would give as his reason for the joining of Grand Forks and Rossland that both districts produced copper. Did anyone ever hear of such an argument in the House before. Let the Government come down and announce that it would abandon that city of refuge which it was building up for itself in Cassiar and give an extra representative to East Yale.

Hon. Mr. Turner said he did not think the honorable gentleman knew the part of the country he was talking about. He had received information to the effect that the people there were very well satisfied.

Mr. Semlin said he had received information from there of a very different nature, namely to the effect that the people were determined to oppose being severed from East Yale and joined to Rossland.

Hon. Colonel Baker maintained that the Government was just throwing the mining portion of East Yale into the mining portion of Rossland. A number of people of Boundary Creek, who had been to the City of Victoria, had expressed themselves as satisfied.

Mr. Graham: "That was because the Boundary Creek people understood at that time that they would be divided as they wanted to be, and they were sent away with that impression."

Mr. Forster said that when the men spoken of were in the City they had been given the impression that Boundary Creek would be given a member, but now that they had seen that they were not to get what they wanted, they were joining the demonstrations against the Government.

The Chairman called for a vote on the reconsideration of the Clause. A number of Opposition hands went up. The Premier glanced around the room and quickly ordered one of the pages to ring the bell.

Mr. Cotton objected. He said that the vote had already been called.

Mr. Williams submitted to the Chair that neither the Premier, nor any one else in the House, save the Chairman, had the right to tell the boy to ring the bell.

Mr. Cotton pointed out that all the divisions had been taken without ringing the bell, and he hoped the Chairman's sense of justice would not permit such bulldozing. Four members had come in since the bell was rung, and he objected to those being allowed to vote.

Mr. Higgins, who was one of the members who had come in on the ringing of the bell, said he hoped he would not be debarred from voting, as he wished to vote for the reconsideration of the Clause.

Mr. Cotton said it made no difference which way the honorable gentleman wanted to vote, it was a point of order that should be sustained.

Mr. Williams challenged the members of the Government to say whether the objection was right or wrong, and if right to give it their support, as they surely could not make it a party question.

Mr. Hunter advised the Chairman that he was wrong, but said that there were enough members in to defeat the motion before the bell was rung.

Mr. Forster informed the Premier that he was a little hasty, or he would not have been so much scared.

Hon. Mr. Pooley said he had just looked up the Rules, and was convinced that the Chairman was in the wrong. The bell had no right to be rung after the vote was called for.

It was decided to allow only those who were in before the ringing of the bell to vote. The motion to reconsider was lost.

Hon. Mr. Eberts moved to reconsider Section 5. This was agreed to.

He then moved an amendment giving two members to West Kootenay, holding the district.

Mr. Cotton would not oppose the amendment, but he wished to congratulate the Government on its facility for turning around. It once used a range of mountains to separate districts, and at other times to join them, as this division would show.

The Committee rose and reported the Bill complete with amendments.

THE CARIBOO-OMINECA BILL.

The House then went into Committee on the Bill to confirm an agreement between Her Majesty in right of her Province of British Columbia, and Frank Owen and William John Stokes, and to incorporate the Cariboo-Omineca Chartered Company.

Mr. Macpherson moved to insert the Anti-Chinese Clause, which was accepted. The Committee then rose, reported progress, and asked leave to sit again.

THE NEW LOAN BILL.

The Premier presented by message an Act to amend the British Columbia Public Works Loan Act, 1897. The main features of the Bill were telegraphed this evening. [They appeared in the "News-Advertiser" of yesterday.—Ed.] Mr. Semlin said the Government should be remonstrated with. It was now bringing in a Bill which should have been brought in two months ago. The Government was leaving important matters to the last and then rushing them down.

Hon. Mr. Turner replied that it had been impossible to get the matter adjusted so as to bring it down before.

The Committee rose and reported on the Bill which was read a first time, being placed on the orders for second reading to-morrow.

LOG SCALING.

Dr. Walkem presented a report from the Select Committee appointed to enquire into matters relating to log-scaling, as follows: "Your Committee has held two meetings, at which the question of log-scaling was discussed with a delegation of loggers and Mr. R. H. Alexander, of the Hastings Saw Mill Company.

We find that the British Columbia scale is in use in this Province, but not in the manner contemplated in the adoption of the scale.

We would respectfully recommend that the Act of 1894 be enforced—that the scaling of all logs by a Government scale be made compulsory.

That some means be devised by which logs may be classified by the scaler as well as numbered, so as to keep track of the quantity contained in each log.

We think, also that some more efficient check should be put on the distinction between dutiable and non-dutiable logs, and with that object in view we would recommend that the Government should supply the masters of all tug engaged in towing logs with blank forms, to be filled in in duplicate on every tow, with the following information: The amount, or approximate amount, in the boom; the licence, lease or other description of property on which the logs were cut; the name of the logger; the name of the tug and the master thereof; the day and date.

A copy (in the form specified) of this information to be given to the Timber Inspector, and another copy to the mill authorities where the boom is delivered.

We are confidently of the opinion that if a fair trial is given to the foregoing suggestions, it will result in an increased revenue to the Government and a more satisfactory business understanding between the loggers and mill-men." The report was received.

Recess was then taken.

B. C. COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS.

The Revelstoke Incorporation Bill passed the second reading.

Hon. Mr. Eberts moved the second reading of the Medical Act Amendment Bill. He remarked that it was the purpose of the Bill to protect the public. The chief clauses of the Bill have been given in the "News-Advertiser."

Mr. Kennedy said that he had no objection to the Bill but he did object to the late time of bringing it down. It should have been brought down some weeks ago, so as to give the members a chance to hear from all the medical men in the Province as to their views on it.

Dr. Walkem said that the Bill has been under the consideration of the medical profession for some time past. The Bill would have been brought down sooner, but for the fact that the members of the profession wanted to consider it carefully.

Mr. Cotton supported the second reading of the Bill as he believed it to be a move in the right direction. It was calculated to advance the standard of the profession.

The second reading was carried.

On Mr. Williams' motion: "That the Government, in granting the lands to the Nelson and Fort Sheppard Railway Company, exceeded the powers conferred upon it by the Nelson and Fort Sheppard Railway Subsidy Act, 1892." He said returns in connection with this matter had been asked for two weeks ago and had not yet been brought down. It was no fault of his if the resolution had to be again postponed.

Hon. Mr. Turner said that when the returns were asked for it was specifically stated that the papers need not be printed. Later it was asked that they be printed. They were now in the hands of the printer and would be ready to-morrow. The Government under the circumstances just stated, was not obliged to postpone the debate, but would confer a privilege on Mr. Kelle by so doing.

Mr. Kelle replied that he wanted no privileges conferred on him by the Government. What he wanted was his rights. The returns had been asked for two weeks ago and should have been brought down long ago.

The Mechanics Lien Bill (Mr. Kelle) and the Medical Act Amendment Bill (Mr. Graham) were withdrawn.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Cattle Marking Bill was considered in Committee and reported complete with amendments.

Hon. Mr. Turner asked the Municipal Committee what progress was being made, as it was his intention to ask the Lieutenant-Governor to close the House on the evening of Thursday, May 12th, and he would like to have any amendments sent in as soon as possible.

Mr. Kidd replied that the amendments would be ready on Friday.

Mr. Cotton enquired as to what the Select Committee on the Companies' Act was doing. He said it was very desirable that some amendments should be brought in before the House closed.

Hon. Mr. Eberts replied that something would be brought down in a couple of days.

The House adjourned at 10:45 p. m.

