

A P R

1891

at present. Carried.

if the Government were so
this would be the time for
pay off and be easy. Just keep
the works, and there will be
required, as the revenue will
pay all. But, sir, that is not
of this Government; it be-
at this is a most important era
story of the Province; that it
every one to be up and doing,
ave of prosperity is rising, and
g in strength, and the Prov-
be prepared to take the ut-
antage of it, and go forward
it.

of this, the Government has
to boldly face the situation,
ely to our public works of
gely all through the Province
g full well that it is only by
that we can induce popula-
come in and stay with us; and
tion is essential, to enable
to have the best advan-
advancing wave. This is
that we see these sums on
for such works in the
east—o largely increasing the
penditure. This means work
for the Government. It will,
and it will greatly promote
it. But, sir, it carries
it beyond our receipts.

the necessity of making a
excess. I am happy
Government is fully prepared
rgey, with a scheme to
quirements, and such a one
itting the province in funds,
e same time, greatly add to
ad credit in the great finan-
of the world. It is not a
ne; it has been most care-
ered, and under corres-
two years, or more.
e, in a few words, is the
wer to issue a new loan, of
ount as to provide for all
demands for Public Works
e same time, pay off the
as of 1877 and 1887, and con-
into one, bearing a much
interest. I may state that
best, if not the very best
London states that there
whatever, that the position
ce is such, that it can get
is wanted, at a much lower
w, certainly not over 3½
d that the debts can be con-
solidated. No doubt,
ion will have to be very
naged. It is not to be done
t will take time, but the
age arising from its succe-
ion will much more than
all time and care expended

ill it be a great saving to
reducing interest, and re-
mediate use the sinking
\$300,000, but it will be
sh Columbia funds on the
world, giving our own
financial status and credit
it has not got. This
have before said, may take
me to complete. The mar-
watched, hence the neces-
the Government in such
to be able to take advan-
most favorable opportunity.
bject in view it is proposed
two acts, one to authorize
ment to bring the existing
loans into the form of in-
s, this being the favorite
estment in the European
w, and such as has been
the Dominion, by Australia,
il, the Cape, and all live
his act comes under the
1877, which provides for
ing inscribed stock. The
e introduced is one giving
ent power to issue a new
e conversion of existing
e general public purposes.
ose to explain these acts
to fully into the proposed
will be a more opportune
when the acts are up for
ding. And I feel that I
detailed the House far

of the Opposition have
mpanied that my speech
short. I never presumed
as a complaint, though it
been a very delicate one,
an additional compliment
the effect that I was too
poetical. It is true that
e poetry on that occasion,
rks were that it was out
at generally my views of
of the province were too
ell, sir, I greatly admire
I believe too, that it may
tely applied even to the
under consideration. It
tain that the progress of
of late is equal to any
gins I introduced last
hope, that on the present
ve not been too long and
e endeavored to place
e a straightforward and
ent respecting our affairs,
succeeded in making all
e satisfied. I must thank
our patience and consid-
e beg now to move that
the chair.

the speaker left the chair
into committee of sup-
in the chair. The
e first, seventy-five
discussion, rose, reported
s and asked leave to sit
lay next.
e Court Amendment Act
ers' Act were committed,
complete to the house.
e presented a petition of
shier, R. T. Williams, and
e, asking permission to
tion of the petitioners as a rail-
to operate a line from
the north end of the island.

The petition was referred to com-
mittee.

The Royal Hospital site bill was read
a second time.

Mr. Kellie asked permission of the
house to withdraw his notice of a reso-
lution placing an export duty on raw
ores, as he was now convinced it was
an error of judgment on his part, and
he was anxious to rectify the mistake.
There being no opposition raised,
the resolution was allowed to be with-
drawn.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

By Mr. Cotton—To introduce the fol-
lowing resolution:

Whereas, it is desirable that trade
and commerce between the Dominion
of Canada and the Hawaiian Islands
and Australia should be fostered and
developed:

And, whereas, the Government of the
Dominion of Canada have by their policy
shown an ever ready desire to pro-
mote and extend trade relations that
must ensure to the benefit of the Domi-
nion:

And, whereas, at present, there exists
no regular line of steamers connecting

Canada, the Hawaiian Islands and Au-
stralia, and there is every reason to be-
lieve that a large and productive trade
would be the outcome of the establish-
ment of such a line, and great benefits
would thereby be secured to the com-
merce of Canada:

And, whereas, in order to induce the
establishment of such a line, and to en-
sure the employment of first-class
steamers thereon, it is necessary that
some aid by way of an annual subsidy
should be granted:

Be it therefore resolved, that the
Lieut. Governor be prayed to move the
Government of the Dominion of Canada
to grant such aid as will lead to the
establishment and carrying on of an
adequate steamship service between
Canada and Hawaiian Islands and Au-
stralia.

By Hon. Mr. Davie—To introduce a
bill respecting the sale of fermented
and spirituous liquors.

THE LEGISLATURE.

A NUMBER OF BILLS READ A THIRD TIME.

The Vancouver City Amendment Bill Con-
sidered—Various Other Bills Advanced
a Little—An Important Clause in the
University Bill Under Discussion.

WEDNESDAY, April 1st.

The speaker took the chair at 2
o'clock.

Prayers by Rev. Mr. Barker.
The house went into committee on
the Vancouver city amendment bill,
Mr. Keith in the chair.

In committee among other amend-
ments section 27, giving the city power
to regulate and enforce the cutting
down of trees and clearing, burning,
removing of all timber, brush, etc.,
within the city limits, and for charging
the costs and expenses of the removal
thereof to the properties, was struck
out.

The principal discussion was on the
clause empowering the city to prevent
the sale of meat, vegetables, fish or
poultry within the city except at the
public market. The clause was finally
allowed to stand, but the attorney-
general has given a notice of motion to
strike out the clause on report.

The section allowing the city to ob-
tain or expropriate land for cremato-
ries, abattoirs or other purposes was
opposed on the ground that this was
giving the city too much power; that if
they wanted land they could buy it the
same as a private individual. Mr.
Cotton urged on the other hand that in
some cases people refused to sell, and
the city should have the same power in
this respect as railways. The com-
mittee at this stage rose and reported
progress.

It was decided to sit to-morrow even-
ing, instead of having a night session
on Friday.

The house rose for recess at 5:45.

NOTICE OF MOTION.

By Mr. Kellie—On consideration of
the bill relating to gold and other min-
erals excepting coal, that section 89
be struck out down to and including the
word "debtor" on line 11, and insert
therefore: "A clause to the effect that
any partner in a claim making default
in payment of his proportionate share
of the annual assessment work, shall,
after notice, be liable therefor, and
his interest may be sold in default of
payment."

Hon. Mr. Vernon—On consideration
of report of Land Act bill, to add to
section 10 the following clause: (a)
Provided also that tenders may be in-
vited by the Commissioner of Lands
and Works for the leasing of lands for
timbering purposes, the surveys of
which have been made by the govern-
ment, and the person tendering the
highest cash bonus, shall, after paying
the cost of such survey, be entitled to
such lease, subject to the provisions of
the Land Act.

EVENING SESSION.

The house reassembled at 7:45.
Mr. Brown moved the second reading
Suttor's Fund act amendment bill.
Carried.

Hon. Mr. Beaven moved the second
reading of the Benevolent Societies bill
and explained it was to provide for the
incorporation of benevolent, provident,
moral or charitable societies. There
was no act of this kind in this province
at present. Carried.

Mr. Smith moved the second reading
of the Game bill, which provided that
it should be lawful for any person hold-
ing a license under the act to export
skins or horns of such animals named
under the act as should have been killed
by such person.

Mr. Hall thought the bill a good
and sensible amendment to the existing
game law, but the session was too late
to discuss it. He moved the six months
hoist.

Hon. Mr. Beaven said the clause was
identical with one in Mr. Hunter's bill
which was already rejected and that
this bill was therefore out of order.

A discussion arose on this point and
the Speaker finally left it to the house
to decide.

The motion of six months hoist was
lost, and the second reading carried.

Mr. Kitchen moved the second read-
ing of the B. C. Dyking Company's bill,
which explained it was for the purpose
of reclaiming Sumas Prairie, which was
very valuable. To do this the com-
pany asked to turn Veddar creek back
into its old channel, and to protect the
land from overflow by the Fraser river.
This would reclaim some 40,000 acres
and make room for 800 families.
—Carried.

Mr. Keith moved the second reading
of an act relating to industrial and pro-
vident societies. It explained it was
for the incorporation of co-operative
societies, which would be very bene-
ficial to the province. It was nearly a
copy of the English bill of a like na-
ture. —Carried.

Third reading Vancouver Water
Works bill was carried; and the bill
passed.

Ascroft and Cariboo Railway bill
was read a third time and passed.

The following bills were read a third
time and passed: Kootenay Lake Tele-
phone bill, Vernon & Nelson Telephone
Co., Burrard Inlet Ferry and Railway
Co., New Westminster & Burrard Inlet
Telephone Co.

REPORT UNIVERSITY BILL.

Hon. Mr. Beaven moved to amend
section 13 by adding—"No religious
test shall be required of any professor,
tutor, lecturer, teacher, student, officer
or servant of the University, nor shall
religious observances, according to the
forms of any particular religious de-
nomination or otherwise, be imposed
on them or any of them."

Mr. Brown did not see the need of
inserting this, as the bill already pro-
vided that the University should be
unsectarian. It was no use to further
emphasize this.

Hon. Mr. Beaven said that it was
provided that the University should be
secular and unsectarian; this clause
provided that no religious test should
be imposed on the professors, officers
or students.

Mr. Hall was thoroughly in accord
with the amendment. The essence of
true religion was tolerance. Every
man should be free to follow his own
convictions.

Mr. Eberts considered the amend-
ment was not necessary. The bill pro-
vided that no religious dogma should
be taught, and he did not think the
religious question would come up in
the appointing of a professor.

Mr. Baker pointed out that this
clause was a very different thing from
the provision that no religious dogma
should be taught. It was, however,
quite in keeping with that, and guarded
against any denominational influence
in the university. He would vote for
the amendment.

Amendment carried, and the report
was adopted.

Nicola Valley Railway Co. Bill was
read a third time and passed.

Hon. Mr. Davie rose to a question of
privilege. In his absence in the early
part of the evening the Suttor's Bill
passed its second reading. The second
section would utterly destroy the con-
fidence of the people in the adminis-
tration of justice. It provided that the
moneys paid into the courts should be
paid out on the order of the registrar
instead of that of a judge as at present.

The money often amounted to a large
sum; and to place temptation in the
hands of men getting only \$100 or \$150
a month was wicked.

Mr. Brown said the hon. gentleman
was making remarks on a bill that he
could explain in committee.

Hon. Mr. Davie held himself open to
defeat the principle of the bill in com-
mittee as it was highly pernicious in
character.

Report Nassimo Tramway Bill was
adopted.

Report Upper Columbia Tramway
Bill was adopted.

Hon. Mr. Beaven moved the Chinese
clause—Amendment lost and report
adopted.

Committee Hot Springs and Goat
River Tramway Bill. Mr. Cotton in
the chair.

The committee rose and reported the
bill complete with amendments.

Committee Municipal Bill. Mr. Hall in
the chair.

A great many amendments were in-
serted. The bill was read as far as the
end of clause 97, when the committee
rose reported progress and asked leave
to sit again.

The house adjourned at 11:30.

THE LEGISLATURE.

THE ESTIMATES PASSED WITH- OUT MUCH DEBATE

And the House Placed in a Fair Position
to Finish the Session—A Little About
the Dry Dock—Hon. Mr. Beaven's
Statement in Regard to the Matter.

THURSDAY, April 2, 1891.

The speaker took the chair at 2 o'clock.
Prayers by Rev. W. D. Barber.

Select committee on standing orders
and private bills reported on an act re-
specting the corporation of New West-
minster.

Your committee are of opinion that
the said act so submitted for inspection
and report should not be passed in its
present form, but should be so
amended that while giving the
ratepayers of New Westminster an
opportunity of legalizing the
past large expenditure of moneys,
care should be taken that proper
safeguards should be inserted to
prevent any further illegal outlay on
the works mentioned in the bill, but in
no case do we report or recommend
that the corporation of New West-
minster should be empowered to carry on
private electric lighting. The report
received and adopted.

The following petitions were present-
ed.

By Mr. Kitchen, from Walter J. Wal-
ker, E. M. Wiltshire and others, land
owners on the Serpentine River, (op-
posing clause in Municipal bill legaliz-
ing certain by-laws of Surrey munic-
ipality relative to dyking).

By Mr. Brown, from W. A. Hand-
cock and 270 others, ratepayers of the
City of New Westminster (supporting
the passing of the "New Westminster
Enabling act," No. 12).

Mr. Cotton moved the following
resolution:

Whereas, it is desirable that trade
and commerce between the Dominion
of Canada and the Hawaiian Islands
and Australia should be fostered and
developed:

And, whereas, the Government of the
Dominion of Canada have by their policy
shown an ever ready desire to pro-
mote and extend trade relations that
must insure to the benefit of the Domi-
nion:

And, whereas, at present, there exists
no regular line of steamers connecting
Canada, the Hawaiian Islands and Au-
stralia, and there is every reason to be-
lieve that a large and productive trade
would be the outcome of the establish-
ment of such a line, and great benefits
would thereby be secured to the com-
merce of Canada:

And, whereas, in order to induce the
establishment of such a line, and to en-
sure the employment of first-class
steamers thereon, it is necessary that
some aid by way of an annual subsidy
should be granted:

Be it therefore resolved, that the
Lieut. Governor be prayed to move the
Government of the Dominion of Canada
to grant such aid as will lead to the
establishment and carrying on of an
adequate steamship service between
Canada and Hawaiian Islands and Au-
stralia.

Mr. Robson was in favor of the res-
olution. He thought they should do their
part toward independence in their trade
policy. By doing this Canada would
be able to bring about better trade re-
lations with the United States. He did
not believe in too great dependence on
the United States markets. We should
show that we can get on without our
neighbors to the south. He did not be-
lieve in free trade nor absolute trade
union. The sound policy was to seek
such trade relations as to enable both
to exchange natural products. Canada's
true policy was to strike out for herself
and get new markets and thus most
successfully bring about a better state
of trade relations with our neighbors.

The house should show its desire to
have communication, as proposed in
the resolution, promoted. He was sure
the house would be unanimous in pass-
ing the resolution.

The resolution was carried.
Committee on standing orders re-
ported that they have considered the
petitions of the North American rail-
way company and of Francis Bouchier
and others, and find that the standing
orders have not been complied with,
but respectfully recommend the sus-
pension of the standing orders to allow
the bills to be admitted, as they both
are of public utility.—Report adopted.

Mr. Grant moved the standing orders
be suspended for the purpose of pre-
sented a petition asking for the incor-
poration of the Victoria and North
American Railway Co.—Carried.

The petition was read and received.
The bill to incorporate the Victoria
and North American Railway Co. was
received and referred to railway com-
mittee.

Hon. Mr. Davie asked the suspension
of the rules to introduce an act in re-
lation to the Methodist church, for the
purpose of relieving them from the
clause which made all their real estate
come under the Religious Institutions
Act, 1889.—Bill read a first time.

Hon. Mr. Davie introduced an act
relating to the protection of cattle, and
an act to amend the B. C. Railway
Act.

These were all read a first time.

The house then went into committee
of supply. Mr. Martin in the chair.

Explanation was asked in connection
with the item of \$900 for lowering
Somerset Lake by Hon. Mr. Beaven and
Messrs. Sward, Grant and Semlin, as
to who would profit by it.

Mr. Kitchen objected to the govern-
ment doing this kind of work in one
part of the country and not in another.

Hon. Mr. Beaven thought the lake
was covered by the grant to the E. & N.
Railway. He hoped if the item passed
it would not be expended without this
being thoroughly looked into.

Hon. Mr. Turner said no money
would be spent unless it was for the
public benefit.

Hon. Mr. Beaven said the Attorney-
General and Mr. Croft called a public
meeting and promised roads and
bridges, etc., if the people would only

support his government. About the
only thing they did not promise was to
fence in the district (laughter). He did
not know whether they had promised
to have this lake lowered, but perhaps
this was the solution of the question.

On the item Comox district \$15,000
for roads and bridges, Mr. Semlin said
that other districts were much
greater contributors to the country's
revenue and should have larger appro-
priations. The government should
look at the province as a whole. The
government, instead, were ministering
to the wants of particular members.
He then sarcastically complimented
Mr. Hunter on posing as an independ-
ent, and remarked that if he continued
such a good independent the district
he represented would no doubt con-
tinue to benefit even more in the future
(laughter).

Mr. Hunter claimed that if the mem-
ber for Yale came to the house unfet-
tered by the party yoke his district would
fare better. Continuing his remarks,
he referred to Westminster district as
being papped for years past.

Mr. Kitchen retorted that Comox
district returned into the treasury only
\$15,000, while Westminster district re-
turned in much over \$200,000, and got
only \$30,000.

Hon. Mr. Vernon thought it not right
to compare districts in this way.

Mr. Kitchen said he wanted to show
his district was not papped.

Hon. Mr. Vernon threw oil on the
troubled waters by saying the member
for Comox very seldom meant what he
said (laughter and applause). This was
only one of his little jokes, like the
Game Bill he brought in the other day.
(more laughter).

The committee took up the whole
afternoon, and got through: Education,
\$180,000; Transport, \$5000; Rent, \$48,50;
Revenue services, \$12,000; Works and
Buildings, \$78,000; Government house,
\$3000; Roads, Bridges, etc., as far as
votes, 184.

The committee here rose, reported
progress, and asked to sit this evening.
The House rose for recess at 5:40.

EVENING SESSION.

The House re-assembled at 7:45, and
went into committee of supply, Mr.
Martin in the chair.

On the item for \$23000 for bridge
over Vedder creek, Mr. Kitchen re-
marked that engineers had estimated
the bridge would cost \$4000.

Hon. Mr. Vernon said if the sum was
insufficient the Government could have
the bridge built, and ask for the re-
mainder of the money next year.

Hon. Mr. Beaven thought it a mis-
chievous thing to make a practice of
issuing special warrants. The estimates
were not reliable at all, as the large
supplementary estimates of last year
proved. On the estimate \$3,700 for
immigration, Hon. Mr. Beaven said he
understood by the press and it also had
been mentioned in the house that the
government had a scheme on hand to
assist immigration to the province. He
considered an explanation should be
made now.

Hon. Mr. Robson said the scheme was
not yet in shape. As soon as it was it
would be placed before the house.

The estimates for 1892 having been
finished, the supplementary estimates
for 1891 were taken up.

Hon. Mr. Beaven got a chance to rake
the government over about the court
house, Victoria, the faulty construction
of the North Arm bridges and the gen-
eral land policy, the Hon. Mr. Vernon
replying for the government.

The committee rose and reported, to
be considered to-morrow.

Hon. Mr. Davie presented report of
select committee on the claim of F. B.
McNamee in connection with the Esqui-
malt dry dock. The report showed Mr.
McNamee had transferred the contract
to local men, and that he had suffered
heavily; the Dominion government had
allowed him \$17,000 and the committee
considered him entitled to the consid-
eration of the provincial government.

Hon. Mr. Beaven stated that the re-
port stated in effect that the Govern-
ment of that day, of which he (Mr. B.)
was a member, were aware at the time
the contract was awarded to Messrs.
T. B. McNamee & Co., of Montreal, for
the main work of the Esquimalt grav-
ing dock, that a profit of \$150,000 would
be made on it by the contractors. He
denied the correctness of this statement
so far as he was concerned. With re-
gard to Messrs. Huntington, Nicholson
and Robertson, who are referred to in
the report as the local contractors, the
government as such had no knowledge
of them. The only firm the govern-
ment recognized in the contract were
Messrs. T. B. McNamee & Co. As to
the statement that the arrangement to
transfer the work from McNamee &
Co. to the local contractors having been
made in the presence of Mr. Chief Com-
missioner Walkem, he (Mr. Beaven)
knew nothing of it. He knew that
John Nicholson had been on the work
and claimed to have put money into it
and lost considerable. As the govern-
ment had made a profit in selling the
dock to the Dominion Government, he
thought that if Mr. Nicholson's claim
could be substantiated, it ought to be
considered.

Hon. Mr. Davie said as to the statement that the Government knew the \$150,000 profit would be made, was from Mr. Walker himself. It was deemed by all parties that \$150,000 was made on that contract. The committee say that the negotiations were made in the presence of the Commissioner of Lands and Works. The first contract signed in Montreal was only temporary and a fresh one was signed afterwards. The committee found some men who were not particularly at fault lost money.

Hon. Mr. Beaven said that he wished to deny the statement that when the Government awarded the contract they knew that a profit of \$150,000 could be made. Some member of the Government might have thought so, but he had not known it before.

Mr. Milne considered the report rejected on the Leader of Opposition and this being the case the report should be rejected. It was an insult to the Government of that time.

The report was received and ordered to be printed.

Hon. Mr. Davie presented a message from the Lieutenant-Governor with an act to prevent the spread of disease among horses and animals. To be considered in committee of the House to-morrow.

The House adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

THE LEGISLATURE.

THE ASSESSMENT BILL UNDER DISCUSSION.

Several Important Amendments Carried.—The Mining Commission to Be Paid—A Loan Bill for \$3,500,000—Fat Times for Government Ahead if Bill Passes.

FRIDAY, April 3.

The House was called to order at 2 o'clock. Prayers by Rev. W. D. Barber.

Mr. Baker presented the report of the select committee on the Grohman affair, and asked that the evidence be printed.

Mr. Brown presented a petition from J. D. Montgomery and others in favor of female franchise.

Certain items were struck off the order paper at the request of the persons in whose names they stood.

Mr. Kitchen brought in a bill to declare valid some of the by-laws passed by the municipal council of Surrey.

Some discussion arose as to the regularity of the method of bringing in this bill.

Mr. Kitchen explained the special circumstances of the case.

The bill was read a first time.

The House then considered the report of the committee of supply, which was concurred in, and, on the motion of Hon. Mr. Turner, agreed to.

REPORT ASSESSMENT BILL.

Mr. Kitchen moved an amendment to the effect that improvements to the extent of \$2.50 an acre east of the Cascades, and \$5.00 west of the Cascades must be made on land at the end of four years, to exempt it from the wild land tax; for less than four years half that amount.—The amendment was lost.

Section 2 of the bill reads:—But improvements upon any part of land owned by any person shall be deemed to be improvements upon the immediately adjoining land of such person to the extent of six hundred and forty acres, in like manner as if such improvements had been equally distributed over the whole of the said immediately adjoining land of such person not exceeding in the whole six hundred and forty acres.

Mr. Hall moved to add after the word "acres," on the last line of section 2 thereof, the words "except where the lands adjoining such improved lands are suitable only for pastoral purposes, and where the business of farming and stock-raising are jointly operated, in which case the value of the improvements shall apply towards exempting from the wild land tax such adjoining pastoral lands."

Carried on division. Messrs. Brown, Kitchen, Cotton, Beaven, Semlin, Sword, McKenzie voting against it.

Mr. Kitchen moved to strike out the section in the Assessment Act exempting the property of charitable institutions.

Hon. Mr. Beaven supported the resolution on the ground that charitable and religious institutions were, by an act brought in this session, to be allowed to hold land like any other persons. If there was a general law exempting all improvements from taxation he would support that; but he did not believe in taxing one set of individuals and letting another class off.

Hon. Mr. Turner said at present these institutions were exempt from taxation altogether, and the bill intended to tax them for their property outside of the buildings and improvements occupied by them.

Amendment carried.

Mr. Sword moved to add to section 8, "and the amount of mortgages assessed on any property shall be deducted from the assessed value of such property."

The amendment was finally lost.

Mr. Kitchen moved:

"It shall be the duty of all assessors in assessing real property to assess the value of land separately from all improvements thereon, and to state in separate columns the assessed value of the land, and of the improvements, and for the purposes of this section 'land' shall mean the land itself with all things therein and thereunder, and all trees indigenous to the soil or underwood growing upon the land, and all mines (other than gold mines), minerals (other than gold), quarries, and fossils in and under the land, except mines belonging to Her Majesty, and 'improvements' shall mean all buildings, structures, or other things erected upon or affixed to the land, or improvements made to the land, and all machinery or other things affixed to any building on the land so as to form in law part of the realty."

Mr. Brown and Mr. Cotton spoke in favor of the amendment.

Hon. Mr. Turner said it was proposed to instruct the assessors to get some idea of the improvements on land. To carry out the amendment would be of too great a difficulty. The books, forms, etc., would have to be changed, and the Government could not undertake it this year.

Hon. Mr. Beaven considered the returns would be of great value. The amendment was in the right direction.

Mr. Kitchen withdrew his amendment after some more discussion. The report was adopted with amendments.

Hon. Mr. Beaven rose to a question of privilege. In the Colonist report of the discussion on the report of the select committee of inquiry into the McNamee affair, he was reported as saying that he had no knowledge of the local contractors. What he had said was that the Government did not officially recognize the local contractors. The latter part of the remarks attributed to him, viz: that Mr. Walkem's own evidence showed a profit of \$150,000 was expected; also that the first contract was only temporary and that a fresh contract was made afterwards, was not made by him at all. It appeared that the Attorney-General's remarks were mixed up in his. He hoped the paper would make this correction in justice to him.

The Attorney-General said that when he read the report he perceived that some of his remarks were mixed up with those of the leader of the Opposition.

Report of the Supreme Court bill was adopted.

Adjourned committee on Provincial Revenue tax bill, Mr. McKenzie in the chair.

The committee, after consideration, rose and reported the bill complete with amendments.

Hon. Mr. Davie presented a message from the Lieut.-Governor with the following bills:

"An act to recompense the members of the Mining Commission."

"An act to authorize the creation and issue of Inscribed Stock and other purposes."

"An act to provide £700,000 to Consolidate the Public Debt."

To be considered Monday.

The House rose at 5:45.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

Mr. Semlin—In committee of the whole, on bill to incorporate the Nicola-Kamloops and Similkameen Coal and Railway to move the following amendment to Mr. Martin's amendment, and thence to the town of Kamloops and full power and authority to construct, complete, lease, purchase and operate a railway from a point at or near Spence's Bridge to a point at or near the western extremity of Neble Lake.

Provided that the power hereby conferred on the company to build that portion of their line lying between Spence's Bridge and the junction of the Coldwater river should not be exercised until three years after the passage of the act, unless in the mean time the Nicola Valley Railroad Company elect not to proceed with the construction of their railway.

THE LEGISLATURE.

Night Sessions Now the Order, to Finish the Business of the Session.

VICTORIA, 6th April, 1891. The House was called to order at 2 o'clock. Prayers by Rev. L. M. Rugg.

The committee on railways reported the Victoria and North American Railway bill without amendments.—Received and ordered to be printed.

It was decided that the House sit to-morrow night, instead of to-night, as the Attorney-General was unwell, and it was important he should be present.

The Speaker gave the following ruling: Upon a point raised by the Hon. the Leader of the Opposition, I rule that the act to declare valid certain by-laws passed by the municipal council of the Municipality of Surrey, cannot be considered as a public bill. Rule 50 of our rules and orders expressly lays it down that bills "for doing any matter or thing which in its operation would affect the rights or property of other parties, or relate to any particular class of the community, or for making any amendment of a like nature to any former act," can only be introduced as a private bill, and after the publication of the usual notices.

The bill in question aims to indemnify the municipal council of the Municipality of Surrey for having exceeded the powers conferred by the "Municipal Act, 1889." May, page 768, 9th edition, says that bills for "enlarging or altering the powers of charters and corporations" are private bills of the first class. And on page 745, same edition, says that whether a bill "be for the interest of an individual, a public company or corporation, a parish, a city or county, or other locality, it is equally distinguished from a measure of public policy in which the whole community are interested." I rule that the order for the second reading of said bill cannot be moved.

Adjourned committee Mineral Bill, Mr. Foster in the chair.

A long discussion arose over clause 85, which provides that the share of a partner who shall fail to keep up his free miner's certificate shall become vested in his partners. Mr. Semlin held that if any forfeiture took place it should be to the Crown, if anyone. Mr. Martin held the same, and wanted the clause struck out.

The clause was allowed to stand. Among the other amendments adopted the following were some of the more important: By Mr. Smith, to have the record offices open upon such days and hours as the Lieut.-Governor in Council may from time to time appoint, and, failing any particular appointment shall be kept open; also that "any company of free miners who locate and record adjoining mineral claims to be worked by them in company as a mining partnership, as provided in part III, of this Act, shall be allowed to perform upon any one of such claims all the work required to entitle them to a certificate of work done for each claim held by such company, and upon being satisfied by affidavit, setting out fully the particulars of such work, that it is equal to one hundred dollars for each claim held by such company the Mining Recorder shall issue a certificate for work for each of such claims."

Mr. Kellie moved that section 89 be struck out down to and including the word "debtor," on line 11, and insert thereafter the following:—Any partner making default in payment of his proportionate share of the annual work required by section 24 of this Act, after receiving a notice specifying the amount due by him, shall, if such amount be correct, be personally liable therefor to the partnership, and his interest in the partnership may be sold in default of payment for the debt. Lost.

The committee reported progress and rose.

Hon. Mr. Robson presented the following returns:

Returns of ballot paper account made by each provincial returning officer in 1890 to the registrar of the Supreme Court.

Returns relating to orders-in-council and correspondence between the Provincial Government and Dominion Government in regard to disallowance or otherwise of statutes of 1890.

Returns relating to opening of toll trail from boundary to Alaska to a point north of Lynn Canal, B.C.

The act to amend the Assessment Act was read a third time and passed.

The House adjourned at 5:40.

NOTICE OF MOTION.

By Mr. Kellie—to ask for correspondence, orders-in-council, etc., between the Government and the Dominion Government or other persons concerning the refusal by the Dominion Government to issue Crown Grants for mineral claims on the "20-mile belt" in the Province because of alleged defects in the surveys of such claims or any other clauses relating thereto.

THE LEGISLATURE.

THE MINERAL BILL READ A THIRD TIME AND PASSED.

Discussion on the Bill to Remunerate the Mining Commissioners.—A Difference of Opinion on its Constitutionality—Bill to Consolidate the Debt.

TUESDAY, 7th April, 1891.

The House was called to order at 2 o'clock. Prayers by Rev. M. L. Rugg. Petition from John Clapperton and others, residents of Nicola (re Nicola, Kamloops & Similkameen railway) was read and received.

The House went into committee, Royal Hospital Site bill. Mr. Booth in the chair.

The committee rose, reported the bill complete without amendment. Report was adopted, and the bill read a third time and passed.

Adjourned committee Mineral Bill, Mr. Foster in the chair. The committee reported the bill with amendments.

The House then went into committee of the whole to consider the message of the Lieut.-Governor with the bill to Prevent the Spread of Contagious Diseases among Horses and other Animals.

Hon. Mr. Davie moved to report the bill to the House.

Mr. Semlin called attention to the telegram in the papers saying the Dominion Government had disallowed the Manitoba act on the subject.

The Attorney-General remarked he did not know the grounds the Minister of Justice took for the disallowance of the Manitoba bill. He was under the impression the Dominion Government would allow this act.

The committee reported the message to the House, and the bill was read a first time.

The Supreme Court Bill was read a third time and passed.

The House went into committee on the message of the Lieut.-Governor with the bill to recompense the mining commission. Mr. Croft in the chair.

Hon. Mr. Davie moved to report the message to the House.

Hon. Mr. Beaven said the bill was in conflict with the principle of the constitution, which would not allow members of the House to accept remuneration from the Government.

Nothing would sooner undermine the independence of the House than a method like this act. A member should be above influences of this kind. He regretted to see the measure brought in, and could only assume it brought in contrary to the wish of the member of West Kootenay, who was the member of the House upon that commission.

Hon. Mr. Davie did not think the bill affected the principle of the constitution alluded to by the leader of the Opposition. It was simply for the purpose of allowing the member for his expenses in connection with the commission. The bill was brought in because it was not right that a member should be placed in a position where any question could be raised against him; for this reason the whole matter was brought fairly before the House. He agreed that a member should be independent, but it was wrong to say that because a member belonged to the House the Government should be deprived of his services. He presumed the commission sent to Nanaimo did not pay their own railway fares or expenses. He also cited other cases.

He carried this contention to its logical effect. It would be illegal to have the lunch room in the House for the convenience of members. The principle of the constitution was to guard against members being in the employ of the Government, not to a case like the present one. He remembered when there was a statute on the books that no one who held emoluments from the Dominion Government could hold a seat in this House.

A case happened where a member of the Government had done something on a particular occasion for the Dominion Government and this question had been raised. A bill had been brought in like the present one to legalize the course of that hon. gentleman.

Mr. Semlin held a similar view to the leader of the Opposition.

Mr. Brown said no doubt Hon. Mr. Beaven and Hon. Mr. Semlin were right as a general principle, but in this case they should look at the particular circumstances. The Government appointed a commission to straighten out the Mining act, and so far as he could see he thought the Government was wise, and it was proper that a member of the House should be one of the commission.

The member for West Kootenay comes down expecting to be employed a couple of weeks and finds it takes several months to complete the work. The bill will not more than pay the actual amount he is out of pocket.

When a man neglected his business for two or three months in work of this kind he ought to have his expenses paid by the country. Therefore though he approved of the general principle, yet in this particular instance he was in favor of the bill.

Mr. Cotton thought it was not safe to depart from the principle that no member shall receive pay from the Government. It was better that a member should put up with temporary inconvenience rather than depart from that principle. He also considered that the House had put themselves somewhat in this same position by increasing the sessional allowance to members. For his part he would not accept his share and had always been opposed to the increase.

Mr. Hall thought this was only a special case to remunerate a member for some of the expenses he was actually out in doing work for the country.

Hon. Mr. Turner could not see how the bill trenching upon the independence of the members. No remuneration was intended. The member for Kootenay had distinctly refused such. It was only to recompense him for two months expenses before the House sat. In England committees similar to this had been appointed; when members of Parliament on them were paid their expenses. It was preposterous that a member should be put to expense for the country without being recompensed.

Mr. Kellie said he would ask the Attorney-General to withdraw the bill. He would far sooner lose his expenses than have members think he was infringing on the principle of liberty of the members.

Mr. Booth considered the bill should not be withdrawn. He certainly thought the gentleman entitled to his expenses; and that the question should be decided by the House.

Hon. Mr. Pooley said the bill should not be withdrawn. It was now the principle that was before the House. If the member for West Kootenay did not see fit to accept the recompense well and good; but the principle should be considered by the House.

Mr. Milne thought they should stand by the constitution. He considered that it was not the individual case, but the principles they must look at. If there had been an understanding between the Government and the members of the commission that pay was attached to the position it would have come under the objection raised to this. The House, however, was entirely independent of the Government, and could make a grant to recompense a member if they chose. The Government considered it an act of justice to the hon. gentlemen to bring in the bill to recompense him for the amount of the expenses he was out in connection with the commission.

They were only following the course pursued in similar cases in England. The House had the right to say what the rights and privileges of the members should be. The increase of sessional allowance to members was precisely similar to this. Although the member for Vancouver said he would not take his additional allowance, people would not think a bit more of him for it. His enemies would only say he was making an ass of himself.

Mr. Cotton said this additional allowance was a question for every man's conscience to decide. If the principle of the constitution was not infringed, why bring this bill at all. If the principle was involved the bill should not be brought in at all.

Hon. Mr. Beaven said, under our constitution the Government had to assume the responsibility of the bill, and could not claim that the House, not the Government were making the recompense. The 28th section of the constitution was very clear on the point involved. He was very glad that the member for West Kootenay had asked the Attorney-General to withdraw the bill. He gave him great credit for his manliness in doing so. The Government should accede to this request.

The motion to report to the House was carried.

The committee rose and reported to the House. Report adopted on division: Against—Messrs. Milne, Beaven, Cotton, Semlin, Grant, Sword—6.

For—Messrs. Smith, Keith, Baker, Hall, Vernon, Eberts, Stoddart, Booth, Hall, Nasen, Foot, Turner, Martin, Craft, Hunter, Rogers, Anderson, Fletcher—18.

The Bill was presented and read a first time.

Hon. Mr. Davie presented a message from the Lieut.-Governor with an act to amend the constitution act. To be considered to-morrow.

The House went into committee of the whole on the message of the Lieut.-Governor with the bill to authorize the issue of inscribed stock. Mr. Anderson in the chair.

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

The House went into committee of the whole on the message of the Lieut.-Governor in respect to the debt consolidation bill. Committee reported; report adopted and bill read a first time.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Vernon the Land bill was recommitted. Mr. Kitchen in the chair.

Hon. Mr. Turner moved an amendment to section 4 reducing the quantity of land that could be sold from 160 acres to 80 acres. This was carried after some discussion.

The House rose for recess at 3:30.

EVENING SESSION.

The House, after recess, met at 7:45 and went into committee on the Land bill. Mr. Kitchen in the chair.

Mr. Sword moved that land might be pre-empted in timber leases, on land not containing more than 10,000 feet of milling timber per acre, provided there is an area not less than 40 acres of such land in one block.

The amendment was finally withdrawn to bring in on report.

Committee rose and reported the bill with amendments.

Report Placer Mining bill was adopted; bill read a third time and passed.

Report Provincial Tax bill was adopted; bill read a third time and passed.

Mr. Cotton said if the House was wrong in the past the Commissioner of Lands and Works should bring in a bill to repeal that legislation, otherwise he must be considered as tacitly supporting that legislation. For his own part he was thoroughly in accord with the bill and would support the second reading.

Mr. Eberts quoted from the inquest in the No. 1 shaft explosion at Nanaimo, June 1887, to show it was from a blow out shot. He had never yet seen any evidence to prove that any of the mining disasters had been caused by Chinese.

Hon. Mr. Davie said he was not prepared to say he had made a mistake in voting for the bill last year. Last year the vote was unanimous. The argument was all on one side, and the House came to the conclusion the measure was a proper one. He had followed the general wave of opinion without enquiring into the evidence. He proposed this year to vote in strict conformity with the evidence. On the one hand they heard the explosions were due to Chinamen; but on the other hand they heard the explosions were not attributable to Chinamen, but to blow out shots. He would not vote without examining the evidence. They were told by the President of the Council that this bill would be detrimental to the Province and in the interests of the Union. He did not think the Union deserved any consideration. If he could see that the presence of Chinamen was dangerous to life he would vote in favor of the measure. He was inclined to agree with the Leader of the Opposition that any infringement of an act of Parliament is a misdemeanor. He moved the adjournment of the debate.

Mr. Brown thought it would not be fair to adjourn the debate. The question had been fully gone into and discussed, and if adjourned for a week or so, many things would come up in the meantime and the facts were liable to slip out of their memories. He thought it should be settled now. They had an act on the statute book; no bill was brought in to repeal it, but an amendment was here brought in to aid the working of it, and should be passed. Their own common sense should convince them that working Chinamen underground was a menace to life. When they had conditions occurring which required great presence of mind they all knew the Chinamen could not be depended on. This question was one of protecting human life, and if it was proved that men were in their daily vocations subject to danger from Chinamen working underground they should legislate to keep the Chinamen out.

Mr. Hunter said he would support the adjournment.

Mr. Booth could not see the good of adjournment. If it was not right to have the law on the statute book, repeal the whole thing. But as that could not be done this session the best thing was to make the present law operative by passing the amendment.

Mr. Semlin could not see that there was any need to adjourn the debate for more evidence. The Attorney-General was no stranger in the Province, and a few days' further delay would not make him any better acquainted with the matter than he was now.

Mr. Forster said the bill had been adjourned two weeks on the Attorney-General's account, and now he wanted further time to make up his mind. He saw no reason to adjourn the debate.

Mr. Keith said he saw no reason for the debate being adjourned any further. It was not in the interest of the Province to do so.

Hon. Mr. Beaven pointed out if the debate was adjourned the bill would go to the foot of the order list, and would be practically shelved for this session.

Hon. Mr. Davie said there would be no objection to bring it in on Friday. Mr. Keith said that with this assurance he would not object to the adjournment.

The debate was then adjourned.

Third reading University bill, Nanaimo Tramway bill, Upper Columbia Tramway bill, was carried and the bills were passed.

Report Hot Springs and Goat River Tramway bill.

Hon. Mr. Beaven moved his anti-Chinese clause. Amendment lost and report adopted.

Adjourned committee Vancouver City amendment bill, Mr. Keith in the chair. The committee rose reported progress and asked leave to sit again.

The House adjourned at 12:10 a.m.

PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE

MINERAL BILL READ A THIRD TIME AND PASSED.

100 Acres the Smallest Amount of Land Obtainable—Mr. Kitchen's Motion Lost by a Vote of 10 to 15—Second Reading of Bill to Re-compense the Commission.

THURSDAY, 8th April, 1891.

The House was called to order at 2 o'clock. Prayers by Rev. L. M. Rugg. Hon. Mr. Davie introduced "An Act to further amend the Provincial Voters' Act," which was read a first time.

The House went into committee of the whole on the message of the Lieutenant-Governor on the Constitution Bill, Mr. Brown in the chair, and subsequently reported the bill to the House. The bill increases the indemnity to members from \$400 to \$600; also makes the electoral district of Victoria City co-terminous with those of the municipal limits, and defines Victoria electoral district and Esquimalt electoral district. The report was adopted, and the bill read a first time.

The report on the Mineral Bill was adopted, and the bill read a third time and passed.

On the motion to adopt the Land Bill, Hon. Mr. Beaven moved to place all unsurveyed lands at the price of \$5 per acre. There should be, he said, one uniform price, and though not sure that \$5 was the proper price, he moved the amendment for the purpose of bringing the question to an issue. He believed that the system of grading of lands was liable to a great deal of abuse.

Hon. Mr. Vernon contended that land varied in quality, and defended the system of making different prices, according to the class of land.

Mr. Martin also opposed the amendment.

Mr. Hunter thought it would even be better to eliminate the prices of land from the bill altogether, and allow the Government to get the best price they could. He did not believe in selling land worth \$30 for \$5, and believed in the Government having a free hand in the matter; it would be better for the revenue from land sales.

The amendment was lost.

Hon. Mr. Beaven moved an amendment to make the smallest amount of land sales 100 acres, and not 80 acres. If people were allowed to pick out small pieces here and there, they would be enabled to pick out all the good land and leave the poor.

The amendment was carried.

Mr. Brown moved an amendment to section 7, which provides that the Government can grant land "for promoting immigration or other purposes of public advantage, not being bonus for the construction of railways," by striking out all the words after "bonus." Lost.

Mr. Sworn moved to amend section 7 by adding after "railway" the words "and by adding at the end of the section the words 'provided, however, that any grant for purposes other than the encouragement of immigration shall not exceed the value of \$5,000, and shall revert to the Crown if used for other purposes than those specified in such grant.'"

Hon. Mr. Beaven said he had understood that an application had been made for a part of the ground on which the Government buildings stood.

Hon. Mr. Robson said no such application had been made that he knew of. Indeed the Government had discussed the propriety of recovering parts of the reserve that had been formerly alienated from it. He did not approve of the amendment. The Government's hands should not be tied.

Hon. Mr. Beaven said if a Government alienated land wrongfully, the remedy of turning them out of office would not recover the land to the Province. The amendment was lost.

Hon. Mr. Vernon moved to amend section 10 by providing that tenders may be invited by the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for the leasing of land for timbering purposes, the surveys of which had been made by the Government, and the person paying the highest cash bonus shall, after paying the cost of such survey, be entitled to such lease, subject to the provisions of the Land Act. Carried.

Mr. Kitchen moved that "Notwithstanding anything in any act contained, any person who is entitled to record or pre-empt any land under the provisions of the Land Act shall be entitled to record or pre-empt land suitable for agricultural purposes, and not containing more than 20,000 feet of milling timber per acre on such land when there is an area of not less than 40 acres of such land in one block in any timber lease, and shall be entitled to cut and take for his own use, but not for sale or barter, such timber for posts, rails, and firewood as he shall actually require for use on the land so recorded or pre-empted; and shall be entitled to cut, for the purpose of clearing the said land, any timber that is not valuable for milling purposes; and shall have the right of passing and repassing over the lands in such timber lease without being deemed a trespasser. Provided always, that such person shall not commit willful waste or damage in passing over such lands, or in cutting such timber."

Hon. Mr. Robson opposed the amendment on the ground that the result would be to render worthless timber leases. Besides, the danger from fire would be greatly increased by settlers going in on timber leases. While protecting settlement in all reasonable ways the timber industry should not be forgotten. He thought \$0 was a small enough amount to name in the amendment and hoped the amendment would not be pressed in its present form.

The amendment was lost on the following division:

For—Semlin, McKenzie, Sword, Kitchen, Cotton, Milne, Beaven, Foster, Keith, Booth—10.

Against—Smith, Brown, Baker, Davie, Vernon, Eberts, Stoddart, Hall, Pooley, Turner, Croft, Hunter, Rogers, Anderson, Fletcher—15.

The adoption of the report was allowed to lie over for the purpose of bringing in some new amendments.

The House went into committee on an act for the Protection of Cattle, Mr. Croft in the chair.

This bill was to render all railways liable for stock killed on their lines; unless the lines were fenced. The committee reported the bill complete with amendments.

The House went into committee on the C. R. Railway bill, Mr. Gray in the chair. This bill is, as the Attorney-General said when introducing it, a sister bill to the act for the Protection of Cattle and provides for the fencing of railways. It was reported complete with amendments.

The House went into committee on the act to amend the act respecting the union of certain Methodist Churches in Canada, Mr. Booth in the chair, and it was reported complete without amendments. The report was adopted, the bill read a third time and passed.

Hon. Mr. Davie moved the second reading of the act to Prevent the Spread of Contagious Diseases among Horses and other Domestic Animals. In doing so he remarked that a Manitoba cattle contagious disease bill had been disallowed the other day as interfering with the Dominion quarantine law. There was some danger of this being treated in a similar manner. He had brought it in out of deference to the country members, but they must not blame him if it was disallowed. Second reading carried.

Hon. Mr. Robson moved the second reading of the bill to re-compense members of the mining commission. He knew the question had been raised as to the propriety of employing, on a matter of this kind, a member of the Legislature. There were, however, numbers of instances of this kind in this and other countries.

It was only fair to refund the expenses of members on the commission.

Hon. Mr. Beaven said the question had already been discussed at some length. He then proceeded to review the debate of the other day on the subject. He opposed it on principle, and held that it was a violation of the constitution and was calculated to undermine the independence of members. He was very much disappointed with the work of the commission.

Hon. Mr. Robson said that even if the member for West Kootenay had not been a member of the House, he would have been appointed on the commission owing to his being so well qualified on the subject of quartz mining. He considered the work done by the commission was very valuable.

It being 6 o'clock the House rose for recess without finishing the discussion.

EVENING SESSION.

The House met again at 8 o'clock.

In continuing the debate on the second reading of the Mining Commission Bill, Mr. Hunter said that the question was, whether the Government had violated the Constitution. He thought not. They simply asked the member for Kootenay to act without promising him any pay; in fact he had been given to understand that he was to have nothing for his services. The House was simply asked whether he was to be recompensed for his services or not. It was a question for the House to decide. The Mining Act itself was well worthy of the gentlemen composing the commission, and they were perfectly qualified on mining matters.

Mr. Cotton said the question really was as Mr. Hunter said, whether the member for Kootenay could be compensated or not. By the Constitution he could not. In recording his vote against the bill he desired to cast no reflection on the member for Kootenay West. He felt he would be voting against the spirit of the Constitution if he voted for the bill. He thought they must look at the clause which forbade any member taking any emolument from the Government.

Mr. Brown said section 28 of the Constitution did not prevent them voting for the bill. In matters of this sort he was more inclined to act up to the spirit rather than the letter of the law. This was a case where they could go a little outside of the strict letter of the law. The intention was to prevent any member from being in the pay of the Government. The member for West Kootenay was asked to come down and sit on the mining commission. He accepted it on the understanding that he was not even to have his expenses paid. The district of West Kootenay was one where the mining question was the great issue on which the gentleman was returned to the House. If he accepted the position he must incur a great deal of expense, but if he had refused he might have been run out of his constituency. When it was found that the expenses and loss of time largely exceeded the anticipated amount, he (Mr. Brown) held that under the circumstances this should be paid back to Mr. Kellie. On several occasions it had happened at Ottawa that members through sickness or some other cause were detained from taking their seats for more than half the session and yet drew allowance for the whole session. This bill should be supported as a simple matter of justice to the member for Kootenay.

Mr. Croft said instances had happened in England where members of the House had been paid for serving on military commissions, and he did not see why in that case a member here could not sit on a mining commission.

Mr. Keith said from his personal knowledge Mr. Kellie came down expecting to be here two or three weeks and the work was found to occupy three months. He thought it only right that he should be recompensed for his expenses.

Mr. Foster did not see who else they could put on the commission in preference to the member for West Kootenay who was from a district where the mining question had the greatest prominence. He took the view that the House not the Government were doing this and felt himself quite justified in voting for the bill.

Mr. Baker took the same view of the matter.

Mr. Hall said he had heard that the district of Kootenay was loud in its praise of the way in which the mining commission work had been done. He would support the bill.

Mr. Semlin said that the contention that the Government were not doing this was wrong; a private member had no right to bring in a bill of this kind. It had to be done by the Government. The object of the clause in the constitution was to prevent the Government from extending pecuniary benefits to the members of the House. In passing the bill they would make a great breach in the constitution, and he would vote against it.

Mr. Smith supported the bill.

The second reading was carried on the following division:

For—Messrs. Kitchen, Smith, Brown, Forster, Keith, Baker, Robson, Davie, Vernon, Stoddart, Booth, Hall, Nason, Croft, Hunter, Anderson.

Against—Semlin, McKenzie, Sword, Cotton, Beaven.

Hon. Mr. Davie moved the second reading of the Act to amend the Civil Service Act. This was a bill to repeal a relic of barbarity. The hours of the printing office were inflexible whether work was to be done or not. There were times when work had to be done beyond hours, and it was only just when work was slack these hours should be reduced and not be inflexible. This bill provided that in the summer months the office hours could be fixed by the Provincial Secretary. This was to allow the hours to be shortened in summer months when work was slack. The bill also did away with the title of Surveyor-General as applied to the Assistant Commissioner of Lands and Works, as in conformity with the land laws of this session it was intended to separate the duties.

Hon. Mr. Beaven did not see where the barbarity of the present act existed. The printers worked only nine hours a day with a half holiday on Saturday. He himself had wanted the eight-hour system applied to government work at the beginning of the session.

Mr. Keith said he was glad to vote for any measure that would go in the direction of reducing the hours of labor to eight hours and trusted that in time this would be in force all over the Province.

Mr. Semlin said the bill simply gave the Provincial Secretary the power of fixing the hours of work in the summer months, but said nothing about reducing the hours of work.

Hon. Mr. Robson said there was a slack season in the year and the Government came to the conclusion that it was not necessary to keep these men pent up in the printing office when there was not much work to do. He knew that standing nine hours a day sticking type was hard enough work. They did not ask to relax the hours when there was a press of work; but only when it was slack in the summer season.—Second reading carried.

Adjourned committee, Municipal bill, Mr. Hall in the chair. The House, after consideration, rose, reported progress, and asked leave to sit again.

Report Free Libraries bill was adopted. Bill read a third time and passed.

It was decided to sit again on Saturday.

The House adjourned at 11:30 p.m.

PROVINCIAL LEG

THE GRAVING DOCK DISCUSSED

Hon. Mr. Turner's New Scheme—Money—Chinese Amendment—Local Consolidation Bill Carried.

FRIDAY, A

The House was called to order at 10 o'clock. Prayers by Rev.

Mr. Croft introduced a bill for the Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1890; which was read a first time.

The Hon. Mr. Davie moved the following resolution: That the Select Committee appointed to inquire into the circumstances which local partners were by F. B. McNamee & Co. to construct the graving dock, what rate of interest was to be allowed on the financial position of the present time be adopted.

Hon. Mr. Beaven consented that the report should be referred to committee. At the time the report was referred to committee for the dock were exacted by the Commissioner of Lands and Works in 1873.

Mr. Walker was consulted a few days after the report was opened and he (Mr. Walker) appointed acting commiss

and Works. Mr. Beaven documents to Mr. Beaven, engineer, to report on; where there was simply a living made out of it. It would accept the statement that ment believed a profit of 10 to be made, as stated in Mr. Walker's individual had the statement made that profit was expected. ernment did not know that was expected. He then case, and proceeded to s contract was made between ment and Mr. McNamee, ment not recognizing a tractor in the matter. It fault of the Government the work of the hands tractor. He thought ad

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Mr. Anderson asked the Attorney-General the fol

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2. Is it the intention to

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3. If so, why?

Hon. Mr. Davie answer

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Mr. Keith said from his personal knowledge Mr. Kellie came down expecting to be here two or three weeks and the work was found to occupy three months. He thought it only right that he should be recompensed for his expenses.

Mr. Foster did not see who else they could put on the commission in preference to the member for West Kootenay who was from a district where the mining question had the greatest prominence. He took the view that the House not the Government was doing this and felt himself quite justified in voting for the bill.

Mr. Baker took the same view of the matter.

Mr. Hall said he had heard that the district of Kootenay was loud in its praise of the way in which the mining commission work had been done. He would support the bill.

Mr. Semlin said that the contention that the Government were not doing this was wrong; a private member had no right to bring in a bill of this kind. It had to be done by the Government. The object of the clause in the constitution was to prevent the Government from extending pecuniary benefits to the members of the House. In passing the bill they would make a great breach in the constitution, and he would vote against it.

Mr. Smith supported the bill. The second reading was carried on the following division:

For—Messrs. Kitchen, Smith, Brown, Forster, Keith, Baker, Robson, Davie, Vernon, Stoddart, Booth, Hall, Nason, Croft, Hunter, Anderson.

Against—Semlin, McKenzie, Sword, Cotton, Beaven.

Hon. Mr. Davie moved the second reading of the Act to amend the Civil Service Act. This was a bill to repeal a relic of barbarity. The hours of the printing office were inflexible whether work was to be done or not. There were times when work had to be done beyond hours, and it was only just when work was slack these hours should be reduced and not be inflexible. This bill provided that in the summer months the office hours could be fixed by the Provincial Secretary. This was to allow the hours to be shortened in summer months when work was slack. The bill also did away with the title of Surveyor-General as applied to the Assistant Commissioner of Lands and Works, in conformity with the land laws of this session it was intended to separate the duties.

Hon. Mr. Beaven did not see where the barbarity of the present act existed. The printers worked only nine hours a day with a half holiday on Saturday. He himself had wanted the eight-hour system applied to government work at the beginning of the session.

Mr. Keith said he was glad to vote for any measure that would go in the direction of reducing the hours of labor eight hours and trusted that in time this would be in force all over the province.

Mr. Semlin said the bill simply gave the Provincial Secretary the power of fixing the hours of work in the summer months, but said nothing about reducing the hours of work.

Hon. Mr. Robson said there was a slack season in the year and the Government came to the conclusion that it was not necessary to keep these men up in the printing office when there was not much work to do. He saw that standing nine hours a day working type was hard enough work. They did not ask to relax the hours when there was a press of work; but only when it was slack in the summer season.—Second reading carried.

Adjourned committee, Municipal bill, Mr. Hall in the chair. The House, on consideration, rose, reported progress, and asked leave to sit again. Report Free Libraries bill was adopted. Bill read a third time and passed. It was decided to sit again on Saturday.

The House adjourned at 11:30 p.m.

PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE

THE GRAVING DOCK CONTRACT DISCUSSED.

Hon. Mr. Turner's New Scheme for Raising Money—Chinese Amendment Clause Again Adopted—Second Reading of Consolidation Bill Carried.

FRIDAY, April 10, 1891.

The House was called to order at 2 o'clock. Prayer by Rev. M. L. Rugg. Mr. Croft introduced an act to repeal the Coal Mines Regulation Amendment Act, 1890; which was read a first time.

The Hon. Mr. Davie moved the following resolution: That the report of the Select Committee appointed to enquire into the circumstances under which local partners were admitted by F. B. McNamee & Co. in the contract for the construction of the graving dock, what rate of interest (if any) was to be allowed on the \$10,000 deposit as security for the contract, and the financial position of matters at the present time, be adopted.

Hon. Mr. Beaven considered that the report should be referred back to the committee. At the time that the tenders for the dock were examined he was commissioner of Lands and Works. Tenders came in for this contract when Mr. Walkem was commissioner of Lands and Works in 1879. He left for Ottawa a few days after the tenders were opened and he (Mr. Beaven) was appointed acting commissioner of Lands and Works. Mr. Beaven handed the documents to Mr. Bennett, the chief engineer, to report on; who answered there was simply a living profit to be made out of it. It would be absurd to accept the statement that the Government believed a profit of \$150,000 was to be made, as stated in the report. Mr. Walkem individually might have had the statement made to him that that profit was expected, but the Government did not know that such a profit was expected. He then reviewed the case, and proceeded to show that the contract was made between the Government and Mr. McNamee, the Government not recognizing any local contractors in the matter. It was not the fault of the Government that they took the work out of the hands of the contractors. He thought additional evidence should be added before adopting the report, and moved that it be referred back to committee and further report.

The Attorney-General and the Premier said that they were willing to amend section 6 and considerable discussion ensued as to just how the section was to be amended. It was finally decided that the committee be referred to committee to reconstruct section 6 and say when, or by, or to what member of the Government the profit of \$150,000 was demonstrated, and to report to the House.

Mr. Anderson asked the Hon. the Attorney-General the following questions:

1. For what reasons were the annual gaol returns for the prison year ending October 31st, 1889, not inserted in the sessional papers, as formerly?

2. Is it the intention to discontinue the publishing of statistical information concerning the various provincial gaols?

3. If so, why?

Hon. Mr. Davie answered that the officer whose duty it was to make the reports was the superintendent of police, whose office was vacant. The newly appointed sergeant had not sent in a report.

On the adjourned debate on the second reading of the Coal Mines Regulations bill, Mr. Hunter, who spoke first, held that the bill would affect no other company than the Union Company at Comox. The Nanaimo and Wellington mines together for the last two years had turned out in round numbers some \$4,500,000 worth of coal. How much of this was mined by Chinese labor? Not one single cent had been paid a Chinaman for mining this coal. There was no pressure that brought about this state of things. It was a purely voluntary action on the part of the owners. Hon. Mr. Dunsmuir had brought about the agreement among the mine owners to exclude Chinamen from working in the mines. Never in the history of those mines will Chinamen be employed again. Not even in the strike had the Dunsmuirs introduced Chinese labor. The Union colliery at Comox would be the only one coal mine affected by this bill. There were underlying that part of the country thin seams of coal. White miners would not work them. There was not a single white man in the mines. They had tried every means to put white labor there but failed. If the Chinamen were stopped it would ruin those mines. He then proceeded to pitch into the Union for its action in connection with the Wellington strike, and characterized the attempt to boycott as a tyrannous proceeding. He quoted from the San Francisco Chronicle, an article headed "The Coal Boycott," which gave an interview with Tully Boyce in that city. He also read from the Columbian, in the Victoria correspondent's letter of this week, in which there was an interview with Tully Boyce. Mr. Boyce claimed that the output was less than under the old men. He characterized the statement as a notorious falsehood, and was sorry to see it in a respectable newspaper and one that represented the opinions and was the organ of the member for Westminster. He read from the advertisement of the Vancouver Coal Co., "None but Union labor employed." He thought it a shame and unneighborly for the Vancouver Coal Company to

attempt to injure its neighbor for a temporary advantage. He did not think that the House would pass a bill which was simply calculated to shut up the Union collieries. All the money the Wellington mines made for the last six years had been spent on improvements in the country. He detested the system which this bill was destined to bring about if passed.

Mr. Brown remarked that in justice to the Columbian, he wished to correct the statement made that it was his organ and represented his personal interest. His personal interest in it was as a citizen of Westminster; he desired to see it succeed as a good paper. He had nothing to do with the paragraphs that appeared in it.

Hon. Mr. Davie said that so long as the statute remained on the statute book they were in duty bound to vote for this bill.

Mr. Semlin said the member for Comox had really given reasons for voting for the bill. He had said that no Chinaman had been employed in those mines for six years past, and that the great prosperity attained by the mines had been since then. It proved that if this had been done without Chinese labor, by all means let Chinese labor be kept out. This bill was simply to define how the bill passed last session could be made effectual. They had nothing to do with Chinese labor or Union labor. The member for Comox had seen fit to find fault with Mr. Robins advertising his wares in a particular way. He thought the remarks were out of place. He would support the bill.

Mr. Booth said the investigations had shown where the explosions had started, but they did not show how the gas was allowed to accumulate. Does not the fact of the mine owners keeping out Chinamen show that they considered it best for the mine? All the investigations could show was that the gas had been there in the mines. Those mines must have been full of gas or the explosions could not have extended so far. In every mine miners should have something to say about what they considered was wrong, so that if the mine owners refuse to take precautions the consequences should fall on them. If men were careless and reckless the miners should have the right to say that they were not carrying out the spirit of the rules. Miners said Chinamen were dangerous in the mines. It was useless to speak of the work of agitators. No agitator would do anything where men were satisfied. The cure was in voting this amendment. It was in the right direction.

Mr. Croft thought the question really was whether Chinamen were dangerous or not. No evidence had been shown that they were dangerous. He referred to the island of Formosa, where Chinese had been employed, and said there had been no explosions there. He claimed that the mines at Comox had only thin seams and they could not be worked except by cheap labor. Explosions in coal mines could not always be explained. He thought the mines at Wellington were properly ventilated. The real reason of the bill was to exclude Chinamen on the ground that they worked for smaller wages than white men. The bill interfered with private rights. To put down the Chinaman as an ignorant and lazy and ridiculous. The Chinaman did not lack in intelligence. Some gentlemen supported the bill on the ground that it contributed to the working of a bill passed last year. He did not see if that bill was wrong that it should be supported.

Mr. Stoddart reviewed some of the remarks made in the debate, and said he had heard nothing to induce him to change his intention to support the bill.

Mr. Milne thought the action of last year should be endorsed. The legislation of the country should be in favor of white labor and to keep out the Chinese. He charged the Government with having only supported the bill last year for political capital, the general elections being then at hand. He believed if the Dunsmuirs treated the Chinamen as well as Mr. Robins has dealt with his, there would have been no trouble. The latter preferred to deal with the Union rather than the individual. He would support the second reading.

Mr. McKenzie said the question was, would the exclusion of Chinamen tend to safety of life? He thought it would. Chinamen did not understand our language, and were ignorant and dangerous in the mines. He quoted from the mining report to show that four explosions had occurred in Comox to one in the other mines. It was not proper to bring in the name of Mr. Robins. Can't Mr. Robins employ union men if he liked?

The debate was adjourned on the assurance of the Premier that it would not be prejudiced but could come up at the head of the private bill, and not go to the foot of the list.

The House rose for recess at 5:45

EVENING SESSION.

Second reading Inscrbed Stock bill.

Hon. Mr. Turner said this was to take advantage of the Imperial act which was framed with a view of placing the colonies in a better position for getting money than foreign countries. At the same time it did not give any Imperial guarantee. But the fact that being under the inspection of the Imperial Government materially aided colonies in getting loans. He mentioned Canada and a large number of colonies which had benefitted highly by coming under the act, and ascribed their high position in the money market to that. The bill changed Debenture Stock to Inscrbed Stock. Debenture Stock is represented by debentures of a certain amount and are like bank notes; but Inscrbed Stock is much simpler. When you wish to buy Inscrbed Stock you have your name inscribed in a book in the bank and when interest is due the money is paid over without having to trouble about debentures. Under this form any small amount of stock can be subscribed instead of in large stated sums as in debentures. Plenty of people have only small amounts they would like to invest safely. A large amount of the Dominion, Australian and other colonial stock is taken up by these small investors. Arrangements are made with a bank in London which attends to it and it has to be registered at Somerset House. It would raise the credit of the Province in Europe. The financial adviser to the British Government advised this form of loan, and from the character of this colony he is sure the credit will rise. Glynn, Mills, Ferry & Co. had agreed to take hold of the loan. The Province paid now \$120,488 per annum on the

two loans which were for 30 years, while with the proposed 50 years loan they would pay \$80,482, saving \$80,000 annually and would set free \$20,000 sinking fund for present use. That saving and \$300,000 released is not so important as the advantageous position the Province would occupy on the money market. The very fact of the present debts bringing high interest was rather detrimental to the credit of the Province. Debentures are very well for the original holders, but not to the permanent investor, it being what is called a diminishing security. The credit of the Province has been good. The bonds have fallen in the hands of a few. They are not quoted on the market. It is another reason that should recommend the new form of loan to the House. Australia three years ago issued a loan on this plan that is over par to-day though bought under. As the country progresses it must have money to carry it on. We ought to know what our credit is. The Dominion paid 3½ per cent, and probably we would 3½ per cent. Some time must elapse before the loans are consolidated, but he could say this on the very best authority that it could be done.

Mr. Cotton was heartily in accord with the proposition properly. Besides the advantage of being dealt with in fractional amounts by issuing this kind of stock, it will be available for investment by trustees. He was glad that such an eminent firm would be associated with the loan. He wanted to know how the sinking fund would be dealt with in connection with the inscribed stock.

The second reading was carried.

Hon. Mr. Turner moved the second reading of the Debt Consolidation bill. He was not prepared to go into minor details. It would not be wise to place before the public at the present stage. There must be sufficient confidence that the Government will use the best means possible. Not over 25 per cent. will be paid annually, and that was sufficient guarantee that the Government would not be extravagant. As to the sinking fund, that was a detail that would be dealt with. As to the exact form or other matters, it was an inopportune moment to consider them. It was to enable them to consolidate the two old loans. He thought they would get it at 3 per cent. On the 30th June, 1892, owing to large expenditure on public works, the Province would need more money. In this critical period wise expenditure is good. In order not to be hurried over the matter but to take the best method of getting money, it was the tightest best to provide for it beforehand.

Mr. Cotton was not prepared to vote for the bill. It was not in the interest of the public. He remarked that the expenditure exceeded the revenue this year by about 25 per cent. He did not expect the revenue would increase at the same rate as the expenditure. They would have to keep borrowing and finally their credit would get lower as it has in some of the other colonies. Unless some better justification is shown than had been shown he would oppose the bill.

Hon. Mr. Robson was surprised at the attitude Mr. Cotton took against the bill. True wisdom was to borrow money and carry out the works needed for the rapid development of the country. She would quicker be in a position where she would not need to borrow at all. Those who come fifty years hence will reap the fruit of this enterprising policy of the government.

Hon. Mr. Beaven said one must have been struck with the discrepancies in the statements of the Minister of Finance. The figures of the estimates he placed before the House were utterly worthless. He had criticised the estimates himself. Since the Government had come into office they had been selling off the assets of the Province and making all the loans they could. It is only from the proceeds of pad sales and borrowed money and selling all the

loose property lying about the country that they got along at all. It had been said that when the last \$1,000,000 was expended the country would be in a position to get along without borrowing any more. Now they were coming asking for another loan. If he thought the Government would expend the money in a business like way he would be in favor of a new loan; but he had no hopes that they would and consequently he would vote against the bill.

Col. Baker, Mr. Hall and Mr. Croft spoke in favor of the bill.

Dr. Milne said he believed that a government were in much the same position as an individual, that the income should in all cases be near as possible with the expenditures. If we look at the expenditure this year we find that it exceeds the estimates of revenue and receipts by nearly \$150,000. Now the receipts of late years have increased to a marked degree and that the expenditure should be kept within the estimated revenue as near as possible, this should be the decision of the Government. The hon. the Finance Minister explained or excused the receipts over the expenditure of last year, on the ground that they thought it well to sell the public lands owing to a boom in land, and this produced the excess over the estimates. He (Dr. Milne) thought that this policy was not in the interest of the country as if the lands were retained in the hands of the Government to-day they would be worth to the Government ten times the value of the land when they were sold. An ordinary individual would not have conducted his business on this line, but the Government made the sales in order to replenish the exchequer, and the money has been spent. The loan before the House now is no doubt for a similar purpose as the sale of public lands. If we look at the estimates for the incoming year, we can readily see where the public funds are going. If we look at the district of Cowichan last year, the grant was \$600, this year it is placed at \$1200; Comox District last year was granted \$5000, this year it is \$15,000; Cassiar District last year received a grant of \$800, this year it receives the magnificent sum of \$6000. Other constituencies might be mentioned. The increase this year over last year is not justifiable. This is due, no doubt, to the promises made by the gentlemen representing these districts at the last general election. Other estimated expenditures might be mentioned when it is necessary, but sufficient has been shown to indicate the policy of the Government, that they intend to borrow money and spend it to their own political advantage. He (Dr. Milne) said he wished to spend all the estimates available to advance the settlement of the country, but was opposed to place in the hands of the present Government over a million and a half of money by way of a new loan, so that the Government would be able to give to their friends all that they demanded.

Hon. Mr. Davie followed in defence of the Government policy.

Mr. Semlin also attacked the bill.

The second reading passed on division.

For—Messrs. Kellie, Smith, Brown, Forster, Robson, Davie, Vernon, Eberts, Stoddart, Hall, Nason, Pooley, Martin, Croft, Hunter, Rogers, Anderson—17. Against—Messrs. Semlin, McKenzie, Sword, Cotton, Milne, Beaven—6.

Hon. Mr. Robson said since the Mineral Bill had passed the member for West Kootenay had received from his constituents letters asking amendments, which he considered should be placed in the bill. At present, if unable to pay his share it fell to his associates. He did not think there was a great possibility of a company doing this; but there was a feeling of alarm among the miners that this could be done. It was only a matter of detail to put in safeguards to render such a course impossible. The reason he brought this before the House was that he did not wish to ask the Lieut.-Governor to send back the bill till he took the sense of the House.

Mr. Kellie said great hardship would be done if this bill was not corrected.

Committee Cattle Contagious Diseases bill, Mr. Kellie in the chair.

The committee rose and reported the bill with amendments.

The bill to remunerate the mining commission and the bill to amend the Civil Service Act were read a third time and passed.

Second reading bill to raise sessional indemnity to members to \$600, and to define the limits of the Victoria city electoral district, Victoria Electoral district and Esquimalt electoral district.

Mr. Cotton opposed the raising of the sessional allowance, but Hon. Mr. Robson said \$400 was almost a mockery to offer to some members. In Quebec the sessional allowance was \$800, and in Ontario \$600, while the expenses there were not nearly as great as they are here. He thought the general opinion of the people of British Columbia was that their representatives should be properly recompensed.

Mr. Cotton said his opinion was that when a House raised the indemnity it should be for the succeeding one and not for itself.

Mr. Semlin opposed the second reading.—Second reading carried.

Hon. Mr. Davie moved the second reading of the Provincial Voters' bill.—Carried.

The House adjourned at 11:30 p.m.

PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE

THE ANIMALS CONTAGIOUS DISEASES BILL PASSED.

Mr. Robson Again Stultifies his Vote of Last Year on the Chinese Question—Inscribed Stock Bill—Several Members Rise to a Question of Privilege.

SATURDAY, 11th April, 1891.
The Speaker took the chair at 2 o'clock.

Mr. Brown presented report of select committee appointed to enquire into correspondence between the Bishop of Westminster and the Government re Block 13, Westminster.

The speaker thought the committee had rather exceeded the lines of the resolution.

On motion of Mr. Brown it was referred back to committee.

Mr. Keith presented the report of the select committee to inquire into the strike at Wellington.—The report was received and ordered to be printed.

The report said the committee concluded that the primary cause of the strike in May last was the desire of the miners to be recognized as an organization known as the Miners and Mine Laborers' Union, and the refusal of the Wellington mine owners to treat with such an organization.

The House then went into committee on the Inscribed Stock bill, Mr. Kitchen in the chair.

The committee subsequently rose and reported the bill complete without amendments.—Report was adopted and the bill read a third time and passed.

Committee Debt Consolidation bill, Mr. Booth in the chair.

The committee rose and reported the bill complete without amendment.—The report was adopted, bill read a third time and passed.

Report Animals Contagious Diseases bill was adopted and the bill read a third time and passed.

Adjourned debate Coal Mines Regulation bill. Hon. Mr. Robson in continuing the debate said that the member for Comox yesterday brought forth an array of facts and figures that made a great impression on his mind. Some of the remarks of the member for the Islands (Mr. Booth) intimated that the explosions in Wellington and Nanaimo had occurred through bad ventilation; but enquiries into the chief cause of explosions in mines, the weight of evidence went to show that dust explosions were nearly always the cause, and these dust explosions were more numerous in highly ventilated mines. The impression on his mind was that the Wellington mines were well ventilated, and the explosion at No. 1 shaft, Nanaimo was a dust explosion. He would not like the impression to go abroad that they had no efficient mine inspector in British Columbia; for he considered they had. Last year the House passed a bill to exclude Chinese from working underground. Mr. Haswell, the member for Nanaimo, who introduced the bill, succeeded in convincing him (Mr. Robson) that Chinamen were dangerous to the mines. It had been charged against him and the Attorney-General that they passed a defective bill purposely. He held the bill was not defective. He was confident the House was perfectly sincere in the passage of the act. They accepted the statement of the member who brought it in, coupled with a numerous signed petition from the miners of the district. He was almost ashamed to say, that up to a few days ago he had never properly examined into the evidence. He had, however, done so now, and had come to the conclusion that Chinamen were not dangerous in the mines. The Mining Report in 1889 showed all the gas explosions occurred with white miners. Last year the only mines worked by Chinese labor were the Union mines, where there were employed 150 whites and no Chinese. Four slight gas explosions had occurred—three with whites and one with Chinese. So far the evidence has proved the very reverse that Chinese are a danger to the coal mines. He would vote against the bill, though he knew he would be charged with inconsistency. He had come to the conclusion that he had made a mistake in supporting the bill last year. He thought that in as far as the House could do so, it should make the coal mines contribute to the good of the country. He did not think that the Chinese were a desirable class of population. They should discourage them coming into the country, and encourage white emigration. He thought the moment they accepted the principle that coal mining was not rendered dangerous by the Chinese, it put the question on the same footing as other industries. Then the House had no more right to dictate to mine owners than to canneries, farmers, etc. They were told that the causing industry could not live without Chinese labor. He thought they could not carry on their business successfully without employing Chinese. The House had no more right to dictate to the colliery owner than to any other industry. It would be interfering with the right of the subject. As to Chinese being employed on public works the House had a perfect right to say as representatives of the people that they should not be employed. He thought the House should see it did not put itself in a false position in dealing with one class of labor as compared with another. He was sorry that the committee on the Wellington

strike did not report till to-day as it deprived them of using that report in considering this subject. If the strike had not occurred there would have been \$30,000 more paid out as miners' wages than there has been this year. The local miners had a perfect right to form a union; but they had no right to trench upon the rights of others. They undertook to dictate to others and prevent them from working. He thought the union in Wellington had gone a long way to alienate the minds of any person who had a regard for what was moral and decent. They even followed the Wellington coal into the foreign market and boycotted the purchaser and consumer. The Wellington strike was because the owners would not treat with the miners as a union. Their methods were secret and they wanted the colliery owners to let them say how the collieries shall be managed. They had seen what that organization was capable of. When he had voted for the bill twelve months ago, he did so thinking it would benefit the miners. He was only too glad to lessen the danger to those working in the mines. He had now come to the conclusion that the evidence proved the very opposite. The behavior exhibited by the union had led him to consider whether they should place the coal mining industry at the mercy of the union. He did not think the Chinese question came up, to a great extent, in coal mines. He believed the mine owners only employed it when they could get no better. He believed as an abstract principle that the relations of capital and labor should be friendly. The only true rule to govern capital and labor was the golden rule. Labor could never triumph in undertaking to boycott and fight capital. Unless they went together in a friendly spirit, one or the other must go to the wall. He thought the proper course to pursue was that the second reading should be adjourned till Mr. Croft's bill to repeal the mining regulation act had been settled. The proper way was to postpone the bill till the other was disposed of.

If the House, by the defeat of the other bill, decided the statute would remain, then they could amend it by this bill. He moved to adjourn the debate till the other bill was disposed of.

The Speaker decided a member could not move an adjournment of a debate twice.

Mr. Foster quoted from the speech of the Premier favoring the bill last session supporting it on the ground that it was a safeguard the miner had the right to ask. He (Mr. Foster) knew from experience that miners would place their caps with the lamps stuck in it on the box after the light was put out so that the fact of the lamp being there proved nothing. This bill was for the safety of the miner. He did not think the union question should be brought up at all. He was speaking on behalf of every miner employed in the mine. Previous to No. 5 explosion, white men had employed Chinese. After the explosion they would not employ Chinese, but generally took in white men as partners, and by doing so lost from \$1 to \$2 a day by the change. At East Wellington they had a very small vein of coal and yet they employed white men, and he did not see why the Union collieries could not do the same. If a mine could not be run safely to the miners it should be shut up. He only advocated the bill on the question of safety. After the Nanaimo explosion in 1887, the Wellington miners met and decided that Chinese must be kept out of the mines as a measure of safety. This was from men who employed Chinese themselves. They recognized if the Chinese were to be got out of the mines they must move in the matter themselves. Three years ago the miners of Wellington and Nanaimo had urged the House to pass a measure keeping out Chinese. He believed it was just to keep men out of the mines who do not understand English or who do not know something about mining. There was a radical difference between Chinese and whites. The Chinese are degraded fatalists. They have not the slightest idea of what makes coal mines so dangerous. After an explosion they could not get a Chinaman to carry bodies out of the mines. They believe a devil caused the explosion, and at Nanaimo would not go down again till their priest exorcised the devil. He was quite willing to admit some exception to this class of Chinese, but it is the exceptional Chinaman who is not superstitious. Among white men if one in a number transgressed the rules. Some one of the others knew what was wrong and could call attention to it. With Chinese it was different. The white men felt that they were responsible as far as their actions went for the safe working of the mines. It is impossible to prevent every explosion; but if some could be prevented the House would be doing good work. Even after the mine is ventilated there is always danger of disaster. There are doors and curtains to turn the air into the passages, and if a door is left open, brattice broken or curtains torn down the air is turned out of the proper direction and some part of the mine is not properly ventilated. The only case on record where an explosion was traced to its cause was in the mining report of 1879. A Chinaman walked into a chamber in the Wellington

mines where there was gas. In the coroner's inquest of the last two explosions the verdict was they were caused by blow out shots. After an explosion there is nothing to show that before that explosion took place a door might not have been open or a curtain torn down. There was nothing left but the blow out shots as evidence. If one of those men who were killed could speak they would find out there was some other reason besides the blow out shots. The one case he quoted was the only one on record where the exact cause was shown. When anything was wrong in the mine Chinese did not impart it to any one else, as a white man would, what they knew was wrong. White men when they did not consider a mine safe would discuss it and come to a conviction. It was in the interest of the mines that men should not be allowed in them who did not understand the working of them. He wished that the House would take into consideration the petitions and desires of the miners and take measures to protect them.

Mr. Martin said he did not believe in Chinese labor, but he did not believe in any man being allowed to coerce his employer. He did not believe the Chinese were dangerous. The question was labor versus capital. The mine owner should be considered as well as the miner. The capitalist who put money into the mines and developed them should be entitled to consideration. Nothing had been proved against the Chinese. This question was simply a piece of clap trap and a seeking for votes. He was proud to say he would rescind his vote of last year. He was always ready to set matters right when he found he was wrong. He moved the adjournment of the debate.

Hon. Mr. Davis held that the debate should be held till after Mr. Croft's bill had been dealt with.

Mr. Keith said he failed to see why the debate should be adjourned. The bill had been a long time before the House, and no real reason had been adduced for adjourning. There must be some other reason behind it.

The debate was adjourned till Wednesday by a vote of 15 to 11, no names being taken.

Committee Municipal Act, Mr. Hall in the chair. The committee, after consideration rose and reported progress and asked leave to sit again.

Hon. Mr. Davis presented the report of the committee on the circumstances connected with the graving dock, amending section 6.

The House adjourned at 6 o'clock.

NOTICE OF MOTION.

By Mr. McKenzie—That the Lieutenant Governor be requested to send down copies of correspondence and other documents relating to the application of T. L. Davis, of Nanaimo, to prospect under the Coal Inspecting Act, 1888, a portion of the De Courcy group of islands and Free Island, and to purchase the same.

Before the House went into committee on the Municipal Bill, Mr. Hall rose, and holding in his hand a copy of the TIMES of this evening, proceeded on question of privilege to draw the attention of the House to the fact that he had been caricatured.

Several other of the members created some amusement by their remarks on the appearance they made.

THE PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE

Bill to Amend the British Columbia Railway Act Passed.

MONDAY, April 13.
The House was called to order at 2 o'clock. Prayer by Rt. Rev. Bishop of Comox.

On the report of the Act for the Protection of Cattle, some slight amendments were made to the bill, and it was left over for further consideration.

The bill to amend the B. C. Railway Act received some slight amending, and the report was adopted. Bill read a third time and passed.

The bill to amend the Constitution Act, by raising sessional indemnity to members, and further defining the Victoria city district, Victoria district and Esquimalt district, was passed through committee and reported complete with amendments.

The bill to amend the Provincial Voters' Act was reported complete without amendments and the report was adopted. The bill was read a third time and passed.

The House rose for recess at 5:15.

EVENING SESSION.

The House reassembled at 8 o'clock. Mr. Brown presented the report of the special committee in connection with the correspondence between the Government and the Bishop of Westminster re block xii Westminster. The report was referred back to committee because the evidence was only given in effect. Mr. Brown explained that the committee had done so because a great many maps, etc., had to be examined which would be difficult to hand in as evidence to the House.

Adjourned committee Municipal act, Mr. Booth in the chair. The committee rose and reported the bill complete with amendments.

The House adjourned at 11:25 p.m.

PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE

ANOTHER DULL DAY IN THE HOUSE.

Constitution Bill Passed—Second Reading of Bill to Repeal the Mines Regulation Act Passed—The Game Bill is Read a Third Time and Passed.

TUESDAY, 14th April, 1891.

The Speaker took the chair at 2 o'clock. Prayers by Right Rev. Bishop of Comox.

Hon. Mr. Robson introduced a bill respecting the sale of spirituous liquors. Hon. Mr. Davis moved, that the report of the select committee appointed to enquire into the circumstances under which local partners were admitted by F. B. McNamee & Co., in the contract for the construction of the graving dock, what rate of interest (if any) was to be allowed on the \$10,000 deposit as security for the contract, and the financial position of partners at the present time, be adopted. Carried.

Mr. Kellie remarked that in Toronto exhibition last year, and at Spokane Falls, West Kootenay had made the finest display of ores. In the museum here the display of ores of the Province was a poor one, the only good one being that of his district. Other districts of the Province, he felt sure, could make fine displays, and in fact he felt that with the assistance of the Government the finest display on the continent could be made. This would greatly aid in bringing our mineral wealth before the eyes of capitalists, and would be conducive of great good to the country. He moved: "Whereas, the present accommodation in the Provincial Museum for the display of specimens of ores and other exhibits is very inadequate; and whereas, the display of such ores in a manner worthy of the importance of the subject would be of the greatest assistance in bringing under the notice of capitalists visiting this Province the greatness and importance of our mineral wealth; and whereas, before an adequate display could be made it would be necessary, first to collect from every mining district the best available specimens of ores, and next to materially enlarge the space devoted to this purpose in the museum; Now therefore be it resolved, that a respectful address be presented to His Honor the Lieutenant Governor in Council praying him to take such steps as he shall think expedient for effectually carrying out the collecting and exhibiting of such specimens." The motion was carried.

Mr. McKenzie moved for copies of all correspondence and other documents relating to the application of Thomas L. Davis, of Nanaimo, to prospect under the "Coal Inspecting Act, 1888," a portion of the De Courcy group of islands and Free Island, and to purchase the same. Carried.

Hon. Mr. Davis moved the adoption of the report of the Constitution Bill. The bill was read a third time and passed.

On the motion to adopt the report on the Jurores' Bill, Hon. Mr. Davis moved some amendments, and in doing so explained the rights of the Province and Dominion in regard to questions of criminal procedure. The amendments were for the purpose of settling matters where the Provincial and Dominion legislation clashed.

Hon. Mr. Heaven thought these were put in to meet the case of the Wellington miners now before the court.

The Attorney-General assured him the points did not arise in that case that he knew, and even if they did any legislation passed now would not effect that case.

Mr. Croft moved the second reading of a bill to repeal the Coal Mines Regulation Act.

Hon. Mr. Heaven thought it would be a great mistake to repeal the act, which was a very good one; and the principle of not allowing the Chinese to work underground was a sound one.

Hon. Mr. Davis said he intended to vote for the bill. He had said a few days ago that while the present act was in force they should vote for a bill to make it more workable; but now that this bill would repeal the present act he would vote for it. Last year the House had passed the act, led away by the petition sent down by the miners, and by the advocacy of the gentlemen from the Nanaimo district. Upon further consideration, he found that it merely strengthened the hands of the union, and that he was not prepared to do. He found that the evidence did not show that the Chinese were dangerous in the mines. The evidence indeed was to the contrary. It was simply the result of political agitation to keep Chinese out of the mines that the no. really had been brought in. He had referred to the mining report for 1879, for the instance spoken of by Mr. Forster, of an explosion caused by a Chinaman, but had been unable to find it. He had no hesitation in rescinding his vote of last year, since he had weighed the evidence.

Mr. Forster read the instance he had referred to the other day in the report of the mines, 1879, and showing that the Chinaman had caused the explosion. What had the union to do with the question. Laws should be passed for the safety of the miners; and that was why they wanted to exclude Chinamen. He did not think the conditions had changed since the law was passed last year. The reasons which passed the bill last year were more conclusive now than they were then; because no explosions have occurred since the Chinese were excluded. The more the

mines are worked the more they become. The petition three years ago and last subject, were signed by people in the district. They should be considered more of people who knew nothing of mines. It was not a matter of cents, but lives. He believed if the House did not make the mines as safe they would have other expenses they would regret they had not opposed the bill.

Hon. Mr. Robson said that a little of evidence to show disastrous explosions were Chinamen. There is only where Chinese are employed was no intention of the mine employ Chinese if they could men. They would not, of course, the Union to dictate to them good authority to say that the intention of the Union Mploy Chinese, except in the seams of coal where white men not work. He was told a year by passing the Act they were about a strike, and sure strike did take place. Capital not be at the mercy of a laborer. He believed that by permitting owners to employ Chinese, Chinese would be employed present, for he was informed owners would not employ Chinese unless obliged to. He had pointed out the day that at Comox, an accident had occurred, and Chinese employed there, and deaths among 150 white men employed. He had also stated that strike at Wellington the mine lost in wages alone \$250,000, going to support this bill. He kept the present act only be an additional inducement for Union miners to go on strike. Look at those miners, living contributions of their brotne because the mine owners recognize the right of the Union to them how they show their mines.

Mr. Sworn thought if the last year was hasty, that reason to bring in hasty this year. He moved the six months' hoist.

Mr. Semlin said that last Government all supported the in force. There was no last year. The evidence produced was nothing new. It was before the country for a long time. Government had not been in action hastily. Mr. Haswell had little to do with inducing to vote for the measure. The ment was going to rescind it last year, that the Chinese were dangerous, because a certain miners were on strike. It was easy to make the legislation a year for the protection of life.

Mr. Brown supported the six months' hoist, and said that while some speeches had been made to repeal the evidence was very very. These speeches on such positions, that really there is no in them. He would rather the question. They had not evidence to warrant the repeal act. The act was passed on the standing that Chinamen were underground. When they their own sons on sent they doing an unwise thing to repeal on the evidence before them point was, is a Chinaman a danger as far as the occurrence of explosions was concerned only real evidence before the was distinctly in the affirmative point. He ridiculed the idea because more accidents had been to white men than Chinamen, ing to their numbers in the mine white men were more dangerous Chinamen. The question before House was not the interests Province, or individuals, but the tion of the safety of the men.

He had been done to show why it should be read now, and so show why it should be read six months, that he supported months' hoist.

Mr. Cotton would support months' hoist. He said the arg of the Attorney-General showed he thought, he could twist this round his finger. Last week a bill was up, and that gentleman expressed a desire to study it dence carefully. He could not as yet he had had time to study dence. The Premier and the Attorney-General had both said that the not the time to read the report committee to Wellington. He agreed that they should take a look over the evidence, and then when this bill was sprung on they should not be hasty. He follow the advice of the Premier Attorney-General. He would the six months' hoist.

Mr. Milne said that no evidence been brought forward to change decision of last year.

Mr. Keith said he would support six months' hoist. He did not see the evidence of the select committee Wellington had to do with the The Attorney-General had a wanted time to study the question was willing to give him the months' hoist. The bill should not be second time now, because it was mental to the miner. Notwith the argument about unions, the Attorney-General and the Premier had to show that Chinese were not mental to the miners, or why it should be read a second time reason has been brought up to the present act.

PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE

ANOTHER DULL DAY IN THE HOUSE.

Constitution Bill Passed—Second Reading of Bill to Repeal the Mines Regulation Act Passed—The Game Bill is Read a Third Time and Passed.

TUESDAY, 14th April, 1901. The Speaker took the chair at 2 o'clock. Prayers by Right Rev. Bishop Crigge.

Hon. Mr. Robson introduced a bill respecting the sale of spirituous liquors. Hon. Mr. Davies moved, that the report of the select committee appointed to enquire into the circumstances under which local parties were admitted by F. B. McNamee & Co., in the contract for the construction of the gravestone dock, what rate of interest (if any) was to be allowed on the \$10,000 deposit as security for the contract, and the financial position of matters at the present time, be adopted. Carried.

Mr. Kellie remarked that in Toronto exhibition last year, and at Spokane Falls, West Kootenay had made the finest display of ores. In the museum were the display of ores of the Province was a poor one, the only good one being that of his district. Other districts of the Province, he felt sure, could make fine displays, and in fact he felt that with the assistance of the Government the finest display on the continent could be made. This would greatly aid in bringing our mineral wealth before the eyes of capitalists, and would be conducive of great good to the country. He moved: "Whereas, The present accommodation in the Provincial museum for the display of specimens of ores and other exhibits is very inadequate; and whereas, the display of ores in a manner worthy of the importance of the subject would be of the greatest assistance in bringing under the notice of capitalists visiting this Province the greatness and importance of our mineral wealth; and whereas, before an adequate display could be made it would be necessary first to collect from every mining district the best available specimens of ores, and next to materially enlarge the space devoted to this purpose in the museum; Now therefore be resolved, that a respectful address be presented to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor in Council, praying him to take such steps as he shall think expedient for effectually carrying out the object of exhibiting of such specimens." The motion was carried.

Mr. McKenzie moved for copies of all correspondence and other documents relating to the application of Thomas Davis, of Nanaimo, to prospect, under the "Coal Mining Act, 1888," a portion of the DeCourcy group of islands and Tree Island, and to purchase same. Carried.

Hon. Mr. Davies moved the adoption of the report of the Constitution Bill. The bill was read a third time and passed.

On the motion to adopt the report on the Mines Regulation Bill, Hon. Mr. Davies moved amendments, and in doing so explained the rights of the Province in Dominion in regard to questions of mineral procedure. The amendments were for the purpose of settling matters where the Provincial and Dominion legislation clashed.

Hon. Mr. Beaven thought these were to meet the case of the Wellington miners now before the court. The attorney-general assured him the bill did not arise in that case that he was, and even if they did any legislation passed now would not effect that.

Mr. Croft moved the second reading of the bill to repeal the Coal Mines Regulation Act.

Hon. Mr. Beaven thought it would be a mistake to repeal the act, which was a very good one, and the principle of allowing the Chinese to work underground was a sound one. Hon. Mr. Davies said he intended to move the bill. He had said a few days ago that while the present act was not perfect, it was a very good one, and he thought they should vote for a bill to repeal it more workable; but now that the bill would repeal the present act and would vote for it. Last year the act had passed the act, led away by a motion sent down by the miners, by the advocacy of the gentlemen of the Nanaimo district. Upon further consideration, he found that it strengthened the hands of the miners, and that he was not prepared to do that. He found that the evidence did not show that the Chinese were dangerous miners. The evidence indeed was to the contrary. It was simply the result of political agitation to keep the Chinese out of the mines that the act was brought in. He had referred to the mining report for 1879, for the reasons spoken of by Mr. Forster, of the explosion caused by a Chinaman, and been unable to find it. He had written in his concluding his vote of 1879, since he had weighed the evidence.

Forster read the instances he had read to the other day in the report of the miners, 1879, and showing that a Chinaman had caused the explosion. He had the union to do with the miners. Laws should be passed for the safety of the miners; and that was what he wanted to exclude Chinamen. He did not think the conditions had changed since the law was passed last year. The reasons which passed the law were more conclusive now than they were then; because no explosion had occurred since the law was passed. The more the

mines are worked the more dangerous they become. The petitions sent down three years ago and last year on this subject, were signed by nearly all the people in the district. Their opinions should be considered more than those of people who knew nothing about coal mines. It was not a matter of dollars and cents, but lives. He thoroughly believed if the House did not take steps to make the mines as safe as possible, they would have other explosions and would regret they had not done so. He opposed the bill.

Hon. Mr. Robson said there was not a little of evidence to show that the disastrous explosions were caused by Chinamen. There is only one mine where Chinese are employed; and there was no intention of the mine owners to employ Chinese if they could get white men. They would not, of course, allow the Union to dictate to them. He had good authority to say that it was no intention of the Union Mines to employ Chinese, except in the case of thin seams of coal where white men would not work. He was told a year ago that by passing the Act they would bring about a strike, and sure enough a strike did take place. Capital should not be at the mercy of a labor union. He believed that by permitting the owners to employ Chinese no more Chinese would be employed than at present, for he was informed that mine owners would not employ Chinese unless obliged to. He had pointed out the other day that at Comox only one accident had occurred among 300 Chinese employed there, and three accidents among 150 white miners employed. He had also stated that by the strike at Wellington the miners had lost in wages alone \$350,000. He was going to support this bill. He believed that keeping the present Act would only be an additional inducement for the Union miners to go out on strike. Look at those miners, living on the contributions of their brother miners, because the mine owners would not recognize the right of the Union to dictate to them how they should work their mines.

Mr. Sword thought if the legislation of last year was hasty, that was no reason to bring in hasty legislation this year. He moved the six months' hoist.

Mr. Semlin said that last year the Government all supported the act now in force. There was no hasty action last year. The evidence produced last year was nothing new. It had been before the country for a long time. The Government had not been induced to act hastily. Mr. Hasler's eloquence had little to do with inducing the House to vote for the measure. The Government was going to rescind its action of last year, that the Chinese were dangerous, because a certain number of miners were on strike. It was necessary to make the legislation passed last year for the protection of life effective.

Mr. Brown supported the six months' hoist, and said that while some strong speeches had been made to repeal the bill, the evidence was very uncertain. These speeches are on such poor foundations, that really there is not much in them. He would rather deal with the question. They had not sufficient evidence to warrant the repeal of the act. The act was passed on the understanding that Chinamen were dangerous underground. When they went on their own common sense they would be doing an unwise thing to repeal the act on the evidence before them. The point was, is a Chinaman a source of danger as far as the occurrence of dangerous explosions was concerned? The only real evidence before the House was distinctly in the affirmative on that point. He ridiculed the idea that because more accidents had happened to white men than Chinamen, according to their numbers in the mine, that white men were more dangerous than Chinamen. The question before the House was not the interests of the Province, or individuals, but the question of the safety of the men. So little had been done to show why this bill should be read now, and so much to show why it should be read this day six months, that he supported the six months' hoist.

Mr. Cotton would support the six months' hoist. He said the arguments of the Attorney-General showed that he thought he could twist this House round his finger. Last week a sister bill was up, and that gentlemen had expressed a desire to study the evidence carefully. He could not see that as yet he had had time to study the evidence. The Premier and the Attorney-General had both said that they had not the time to read the report of the committee to Wellington. He quite agreed that they should take time to look over the evidence, and therefore when this bill was sprung on them they should not be hasty. He would follow the advice of the Premier and Attorney-General. He would support the six months' hoist.

Mr. Milne said that no evidence had been brought forward to change the decision of last year.

Mr. Keith said he would support the six months' hoist. He did not see what the evidence of the select committee to Wellington had to do with the subject. The Attorney-General had said he wanted time to study the question. He was willing to give him the next few months. The bill should not be read a second time now, because it was detrimental to the miner. Notwithstanding the argument about unions, the Attorney-General and the Premier had failed to show that Chinese were not detrimental to the miners, or why this bill should be read a second time. No reason has been brought up to repeal the present act.

The six months hoist was lost on the following division: For—Messrs. Semlin, McKenzie, Sword, Kitchen, Cotton, Kellie, Milne, Beaven, Forster, Keith, Stoddart, Booth, Brown—13 Against—Messrs. Baker, Smith, Robson, Davies, Vernon, Eberts, Hall, Nason, Pooley, Turner, Martin, Croft, Hunter, Rogers, Fletcher—15.

Mr. Semlin said he had supported the Government last year in passing this act, because the miners who were risking their lives in the mines should have their wishes considered. He taxed the Government with having passed the act last year, because they were on the eve of a general election. Now that elections would not come up for some years they had changed their minds. If the lives of the miners were in danger from Chinese last year that argument applied just as well now.

Hon. Mr. Pooley moved the previous question. The second reading was carried on the following division: For—Messrs. Baker, Smith, Robson, Davies, Vernon, Eberts, Hall, Nason, Pooley, Turner, Martin, Croft, Hunter, Rogers, Fletcher—15. Against—Messrs. Semlin, McKenzie, Sword, Kitchen, Cotton, Kellie, Milne, Beaven, Brown, Forster, Keith, Stoddart, Booth—13.

The House rose for recess at 5.30.

EVENING SESSION.

TUESDAY, April 14.

The House met after recess at 8 o'clock, and went into committee on the Suitsors' bill, Mr. Smith in the chair.

Hon. Mr. Davies opposed the bill on the grounds that the second section, which provides that money paid into court shall be paid out on the certificate of the registrar of the supreme court without an order from the court or judge, as at present, would put too much temptation in the way of men earning only small salaries.

Mr. Brown said these men had not

the control of the money, it was to be paid into the treasury as before. It was for the convenience of the people. In England a judge's order was not needed, and he did not see why it would not work here.

Hon. Mr. Pooley opposed the bill, and the committee rose without reporting.

Committee act to incorporate benevolent and other societies, Mr. Sword in the chair.

The committee, after consideration, rose and reported the bill complete, with amendments.

Committee Game Bill—Mr. Hunter in the chair. The bill was to allow the export of heads, horns or skins of animals as shall have been legally killed by a license holder under the Game Act.

The committee rose and reported the bill complete without amendments, the report was adopted. Bill read a third time and passed.

Committee B. C. Dyking & Improvement Co. Bill—Mr. Cotton in the chair.

Hon. Mr. Vernon raised the point of order that the bill could not be brought in as a private bill, that it imposed certain duties on the Government and encroached on the prerogative of the crown.

The committee rose and reported the bill for the speaker's decision and asked leave to sit again.

Committee Industrial Societies Bill—Mr. Semlin in the chair.

The committee rose and reported the bill complete with amendments.

The House adjourned at midnight.

PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE

PREMIER AND ATTORNEY-GENERAL DIFFER.

Westminster Enabling Bill Discussed and Ordered for Friday—Bill to Extend the Franchise to Women Lost—Prorogation Probable Early Next Week.

WEDNESDAY, April 15.

On the House being called to order, prayer was offered by Rev. Mr. Dobbs.

On the second reading of the Companies Incorporation Bill being called, Mr. Kellie said it was to make it as easy for a railway to incorporate as for any other kind of a company, and also to save the time of the House.

Hon. Mr. Robson said it would be better for the matter to remain over for twelve months, so that it could be brought before the public, as the idea was too new and the subject too large a one to be considered in the last days of the session.

Mr. Kellie, in deference to the wish of the Premier, withdrew the bill on the understanding that it would be brought up early next session.

The act to amend the Graveyard act was read a third time and passed.

In committee on the Nicola, Kamloops and Similkameen Railway Bill; Mr. McKenzie in the chair, Mr. Martin said this was only a scheme to black-mail the Nicola Valley Railway, and on that part of the country traversed by that railway. He moved the following amendment:

The said railway company, their agents and servants, shall have full power and authority to survey, lay out, construct complete, lease, purchase and operate a single or double line of railway, of a gauge of four feet eight and one-half inches, from a point at or near the western extremity of Nicola Lake, where the terminus of the Nicola Valley Railway Company shall be located; thence to the town of Princeton, and thence by way of the Similkameen River as far as may be deemed advisable in a southerly direction to Osoyoos Lake; also from a point near the junction of the company's railway with the Nicola Valley Railway Company's terminus at Nicola, in a northerly direction past Nicola and Stump Lake to the South Thompson River, at some point to the eastward of Kamloops.

Mr. Sword thought both bills should be allowed to pass, in which case the company which was best prepared to build would go ahead with the road. In the discussion which followed, Mr. Semlin supported the bill, and denied that the promoters, who were well known, would stoop to a blackmailing scheme. He moved: That the said amendment be amended by adding thereto the following words, "and hence to the town of Kamloops; and also full power and authority to construct, complete, lease, purchase, and operate a railway from a point at or near Spence's Bridge to a point at or near the western extremity of Nicola Lake; Provided that the power hereby conferred on the company to build that portion of their line lying between Spence's Bridge and the junction of the Coldwater with the Nicola river shall not be exercised until three years after the passage of this Act, unless in the meanwhile the Nicola Valley Railway Company elect not to proceed with the construction of their railway."

Hon. Mr. Robson strongly supported Mr. Martin's amendment, which, after a long discussion, was carried. The bill was reported complete with amendments.

The committee on the Westminster Enabling Bill—Mr. Martin said this bill was of a similar nature to the Surrey Enabling Bill. The corporation could not amend their charter except as a private bill. He wished the Speaker to reconsider his decision on the Westminster Bill.

The Speaker said he still held to the decision he had already given.

Mr. Semlin held that as far as he could see, both municipalities had exceeded their charters in the same way, and if one was to be considered a private bill, the other was also.

Mr. Brown said he thought the ruling must commend itself to all the House as a fair and elaborate consideration of the whole question, and the House should be content with it. The bill was of exceeding importance to Westminster, and was in accord with the wishes of the great number of citizens of that place, and was not to indemnify past mistakes so much as to give those powers to the corporations which had been given to other corporations.

Hon. Mr. Davies said, the circumstances under which the bill received the unanimous assent of the House on the second reading were that they had been told that in no way did this bill affect private rights. They had not proceeded far before it was pointed out that the bill would concern a gas or electric light company's rights. To set this matter straight the bill had been given to the Standing Orders Committee, and when before that committee it was opposed by a large number of people who said they would be affected by it. It was a direct attack on the lighting company. The bill was to remedy deliberate expenditure by the council of money which they had not been authorized by the taxpayers to do. He had learned these facts from the report of the committee. The gentleman who gave him the bill never said anything to him when the bill had come back from the committee; but had introduced it through another gentleman (Mr. Booth's name appeared in the

orders of the day to-day as looking after the bill) without consulting him; though personally he did not take any exception to that. The committee had reported that the bill should have been brought in as a private one, and should not be passed in its present form, but that in no case was the city to be empowered to do private lighting. This recommendation had been ignored, and the bill was brought in in the same form as before. It provided for no safeguard against further illegal outlay of the corporation. That being the case the House could not go into committee on the bill in its present form; but it must be reconstructed as in the recommendation of the committee. The bill was no personal concern of his; but he had brought it before the House in the first place under the impression that it was of public utility, but when he found it would do injustice, he had changed his mind, and would vote

against the House going into committee.

Mr. Brown said that how Hon. Mr. Davies could make such statements was astonishing. He defied anyone to find in the bill that private rights had been infringed on. There appeared against the bill in committee eight ratepayers, and one of these had made the remark in the committee room that the opposition to the bill was in this room. These gentlemen represented less than a quarter of a million of property. He asserted that no large number of ratepayers opposed the bill. These men had opposed the bill because they wanted to do the work themselves and to pocket the profits instead of letting the city get the benefit. The only expenditure in connection with the bill that could be called illegal was in response to the demands of the people, and it had the support of three-quarters of the ratepayers. Someone had been stuffing the Attorney-General. The way Mr. Booth's name came to be on the bill seemed to be a mistake. He (Mr. Brown) had supposed that the Attorney-General, not wishing to look after the bill, had caused Mr. Booth's name to be placed on it. If the report of the committee had been ignored it was through ignorance. Two amendments had been put before the private bills committee to cover the points in the recommendation. One was that no money was to be raised without the assent of the ratepayers; the other that the bill itself had to have the assent of the ratepayers. The citizens were perfectly satisfied that these amendments should go in. As to the private lighting competing with the gas company, only one-fifth of the city could be served with gas and the city proposed to give the people of the rest of the city a chance to have their houses lit. The gas company had allowed a charter for an electric light company to go through without opposition, but opposed the city in trying to get one. The effect of throwing out the bill would be the same as taking \$5,000 a year of the ratepayers' money and throwing it away. The city's power house would have that amount of power running to waste, if not allowed to do private lighting. The bill was referred to the private bills committee to allow private individuals a right to bring up their grievances. The objections to the bill objected to the whole bill and did not show that any private rights would be affected. The gas company had a contract to light the streets, and the by-law empowering them to do so was the only right they had to any work in Westminster. It had no charter, being incorporated under the Companies Act. The president of the company, in his evidence, said this himself. An agreement was made between the city and the Gas Company, that \$800 should be paid to the company in full settlement of the damages done to the company. At the very time the President of the Gas Company was getting ready to oppose the Bill, he arranged this agreement. He proceeded to read the resolutions passed in the public meeting in Westminster, when only one dissenting voice was raised against the Bill; and also the resolutions passed unanimously by the City Council in favor of the Bill. He explained that the public meeting vote was a standing one, so there was no mistake about that vote. With regard to the supposed illegal contracts, Mr. Corbould's evidence denied that there were any, and that all they wanted was the ratepayers' right to vote for the by-law. The evidence against the Bill was curious; long digressions being made that were not evidence. On the 4th day that the committee sat, the evidence given was all in favor of the Bill, and by some curious circumstance that evidence had been altogether suppressed and did not appear in the report. How did this happen? He quoted from an article in the Ledger, the organ of the objectors, that it opposed the Bill on the 31st March, and which expected the Bill to be up next day in the House, presumably having received a tip to that effect, and evidently wanting to get in a last word against the Bill. Then on April 1, thinking that the Bill would be disposed of that day, and knowing what public opinion was on the subject, they tried to hedge by saying they were in favor of granting the city the private lighting asked for. The committee had censured the Council of 1889; he would not challenge that. They had then proposed to legalize the outlays of the city, and to put in proper safeguards in this respect. The objectors did not object to a private company having the right to light the houses, but they objected to the corporation doing so. Should the citizens be compelled to let their electric power run to waste in order that a few men might benefit at their expense?

Report of the committee for the protection of the public health. Some slight amendment was made, the adoption being left over till tomorrow.

Report on act to amend the Jurors Act. The bill was further amended, the report was adopted and the bill read a third time and passed.

Report Land Bill. The following amendment by Mr. Booth was carried: to add the following to section 4, sub-section (c): "Provided always that no person shall purchase more than one tract of land, of whatever extent, under this section until the above mentioned improvements have been completed in accordance with this act."

Hon. Mr. Vernon moved the amendment re granting terminal facilities and right of way to railroads, brought down a message from the Lieut. Governor. Hon. Mr. Beaven moved in amendment to restrict the grant of right of way to railroads to 66 feet in width and to strike out all the words after "through crown lands" in line 4. Mr. Milne supported this amendment and opposed the granting of terminal facilities by the Government. He contended that it gave too much power to the Government.

Mr. Brown thought the clause a little wide. There were cases where terminal facilities should be granted. He proposed that the words "wharves and houses, should be struck out and to restrict the amount of the grant to actually required for the uses of company."

Mr. Booth said the whole argument of the Leader of the Opposition proved that the Government was disinterested. He held that while it possesses confidence of the people it should exercise the right.

Mr. Cotton said the whole question that the Government was asking House to give up a right that belonged to the House. He saw no difficulty in the companies coming to the House and asking for these advantages. He thought, perhaps, he might be able to allow the Government to give right of way through crown lands, but he was not allowed this. If a tramway was 100 feet right of way near a street they might use only twenty feet of the rest of it in lots. The right to use unlimited amounts of land to lay by the Government, was open at abuse.

Mr. Robson denied that this gave the Government the right to lay railroads and tramways. It gave them only to give them the land they needed for carrying out lines. When twenty feet would be enough for a tramway that is all the amendment would give. The Government possesses constitutional power to take thousands of dollars without giving to the House, until after the bill is passed. This was a similar case when the matter came up House next session, the House had right to hold them responsible for abuse of that power.

Mr. Davis said he could not at the leader of the opposition deputy leader of the opposition. He was only to give them the land they needed for carrying out lines. When twenty feet would be enough for a tramway that is all the amendment would give. The Government possesses constitutional power to take thousands of dollars without giving to the House, until after the bill is passed. This was a similar case when the matter came up House next session, the House had right to hold them responsible for abuse of that power.

Mr. Beaven's amendment was as Mr. Brown's. The amendment as brought down was added Land Bill as clause 17 on the division.

Messrs. Punch, Kellie, Smith, Robson, Davis, Vernon, Eberts, Booth, Hall, Nason, Pooley, Martin, Croft, Anderson, For-

—Messrs. Semlin, McKenzie, Eberts, Cotton, Milne, Beaven, and Brown—10.

Mr. Beaven rose to a question. A serious charge against the House should be in the division. He was shocked at the fact that the Leader of the Government gave the Attorney-General referring to a remark that Mr. Robson made last night on the Sunday Bill, when he said the Attorney-General stated (knew to be untrue). Here at approach. Hon. Mr. Beaven took himself heard.

Mr. Beaven thought that the Attorney-General should, in justice allowed to state his question.

Mr. Beaven, however, did not answer the question.

Mr. Beaven presented additional correspondence between the Provincial Government and the Assessment Act.

Mr. Turner presented a message from the Governor, with supplementary and on his motion referred to committee of the House.

The House rose and reported to committee of supplies.

Mr. Grant said, in the general interest he would like to call attention of the Government to the inability of the Government to build the Province. He suggested they might give, if they would, a bonus of \$20 a ton to vessels built in the province. There were people here who were deliberating between buying vessels for the trade of the Province or having them built. He thought the Government might well take up this matter, as it was most important.

Hon. Mr. Turner said that he considered the question very important, but it was rather late to take it up this session. He and other members of the Government would favorably consider the matter, as it would be of great advantage to the Province. The committee then took up the estimates.

Mr. Semlin wanted some explanation with regard to the Superintendent of Provincial Police, for whom a salary of \$1800 for the year ending 30th June, 1902, was put down.

Hon. Mr. Davis explained that the office was necessary, owing to the growth of the country.

In reference to the \$22,500 in settlement of Esquimalt Dock claim, Hon. Mr. Beaven said that two previous attorneys-general had said there was no legal claim.

Mr. Milne thought if money was to be expended the local creditors should be paid first.

Hon. Mr. Robson said if the question was taken to the courts the Province would be put to a very large expense. The Government had considered it was better to settle than let the thing go through the courts. It was intended that local creditors should receive the first consideration.

The supplementary estimates were passed as follows:

Year ending 30th June, 1902—Administration of Justice (salaries).....	2,520
Education.....	1,380
Public Works.....	1,000
Miscellaneous.....	2,000
Total.....	7,400
Year ending 30th June, 1901—Civil Government (salaries).....	900
Revenue Service.....	150
Esquimalt dock claim.....	22,500
Total.....	30,550

Various sums expended during 1901-02 amounting to \$24,776.3. The committee rose and asked leave to sit again.

The House rose for recess at 5:30.

Evening Session.

The House met again at 8 o'clock.

The reports of the supplementary estimates passed through committee to-day were agreed to and read a second time. The resolutions were then agreed to. The House then went into committee of ways and means, Mr. Martin in the chair.

The committee rose and reported that the supplies be granted. The report was adopted.

The House went into committee with the Supply Bill, rose and reported the bill to the House. The report was adopted. The bill was read a first and second time and the bill was put through committee and reported without amendment.

The bill was read a third time and passed.

The following bills were read a third time and passed: Okanagan Land and Development Bill, Liverpool and Canoe Race Railway Bill, Vancouver and Lulu Island Railway Bill, Vancouver and Lulu Island Improvement Bill, Vancouver, Northern and Alaska Railway Bill, Benevolent Societies Bill, Industrial Societies Bill.

Report Nicola, Kamloops and Similkameen Railway was amended and adopted and the bill read a third time and passed.

Committee Victoria and North American Railway Bill, Mr. McKenzie in the chair.

The committee rose and reported the bill complete without amendments. The report was received.

Report Toad Mountain and Nelson Tramway Bill. The anti-Chinese clause was lost on division of 5 to 7. The report was adopted.

Committee Legal Professions Act. The bill was adopted with amendments. Third reading to-morrow.

House went into committee on the County Courts Bill, Mr. Milne in the chair.

The committee rose and reported the bill complete with amendments and the report was adopted.

Report Vancouver City Amendment Bill. Hon. Mr. Davis moved to strike out section 28 which allowed the city to prohibit the sale of meat, vegetables, and poultry elsewhere than at the public market, provided that the rights of existing dealers be protected. He held that this was interfering with private rights.

Mr. Cotton was surprised at bringing up the question again after the House had approved of the clause. The argument amounted to the fact that the city could not look after its standing affairs. It was no good building a market place and then allowing dealers to carry on their trade where they pleased to the injury perhaps of the health of the city. These amendments had been duly adopted and no objection had been made against them. The city should be allowed to regulate its business and say whether certain businesses should be carried on in certain localities.

Hon. Mr. Pooley said the clause was to compel people to close up their shops and sell in one particular place. The clause was pernicious in character.

After some discussion Mr. Grant suggested to put in "the owners of the premises occupied by such dealers" put in after the clause would protect all private rights in the matter.

The Attorney-General's amendment was carried by 15 to 10.

The report was then adopted.

Report Municipal Bill. The following amendments were adopted.

By Hon. Mr. Beaven—"30. The clerk of each municipality shall in every year, immediately after the final correction and revision of the list of voters, make out a correct alphabetical list thereof, divided into separate columns, with headings stating under what qualification each voter is entitled to vote."

By Mr. Sward, to add as sub-section to section 74:

(a) Whenever it shall appear by the assessment roll of any township or district municipality that the wards in such municipality are so unequally divided that the amount of assessed property in any ward exceeds in proportion to its representation in the council by more than 40 per cent. the assessed property in any other ward in proportion to its representation, then it shall be the duty of the council, on the written request of any councillor, to re-divide such municipality into wards, on the basis of assessed valuation.

By Hon. Mr. Beaven, to strike out all the words after "works" in section 90, and insert: "for arranging and settling with any owner or owners of real property the terms and conditions under which the sewer may be constructed or laid through his or their land; and to expropriate such land as the council may deem necessary for the purpose of constructing the main sewer, not, however, exceeding the feet in width, subject to the restrictions contained in sections 206 to 209 (inclusive) of this act; and provided, always, that the power to expropriate land in this subsection is only conferred, and can be only exercised by the council, in the event of there not being a street or road allowance in the vicinity which the council can use for the purpose of constructing or laying the main sewer."

A number of other amendments were put in.

Hon. Mr. Beaven moved: Show (a) The heading, rate or tax under which the assessment is made; (b) The land, real property, or improvements the person is assessed for; (c) The value or sum of money at which each piece, lot, or subdivision of the person's land, real property, or improvements, has been estimated and assessed; (d) The total amount of the estimated value and assessment of such; (e) The number of days' statute labor (if any) the person is considered liable for; (f) The rate per diem and the total amount in cash the person may pay as commutation money in lieu of statute labor (if any); (g) The amount, if any, then entered on the roll, opposite the name of the person assessed, of the date of the delivery, or of transmitting such notice, with a copy of the address if transmitted.

This was carried.

Hon. Mr. Beaven moved to strike out section 132 and insert: The council may, in each and every year, after the final revision of the roll, pass a by-law for levying a rate or rates on all the land, real property, or improvements upon the assessment roll, to provide for all the necessary expenses of the municipality, as well as the payment of every such sum or sums as the municipality shall be liable for during the current year in respect of any debenture or other debt or obligation, and also such other sum or sums of money as may be found expedient; provided, always, that the rate to be levied in any year, including what is required for payment of interest on outstanding debentures, and the amount required for a sinking fund thereon, and for school purposes (if any), shall not exceed the sum of one and one-half cents on the dollar. Carried.

Hon. Mr. Beaven moved to add to section 132 (a) The council may settle, impose, and levy rates and taxes upon improvements at a percentage less than that imposed by the council upon land, or they may exempt improvements from taxation altogether; (b) The council may keep different columns in the assessment roll, showing separately the assessed value of "land" and the assessed value of "improvements," or they may keep an assessment roll showing the value, in the assessor's estimation, of the improvements thereon. Carried.

Mr. Kitchen's amendment to exempt the land adjoining a hospital to the extent of only five acres instead of twenty.

Mr. Eberts, citing the Jubilee Hospital and the good it did in looking after the old and incurable. He thought it would be very hurtful to them to tax them on the land they had over five acres.

Mr. Milne hoped the Government would make a home for the poor, aged and incurables apart from the hospital. He thought the day was not far distant when the City and Government together would put apart, not 20 only, but 50 acres, where these poor people could be placed.

Mr. Grant said it was most desirable to make pleasant grounds round hospitals for the use of the patients. He believed in exempting a good sized piece of land around hospitals for that purpose. He hoped the House would look at it in this spirit of broad Christian charity.

The amendment was lost.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Robson the following was added as clause 191:

"In cases where the board of licensing commissioners have refused to grant a new license, it shall not be lawful for the said board to entertain or consider a second or further application for a new license from the same applicant within twelve months from the date of such refusal."

The following amendments by the Attorney-General were carried:

"250. In case it shall appear that the council of any municipality has, prior to the passing of this act, obtained advances of money from any persons or corporations for works within the municipality, whether beneficial to the whole or only part thereof, and that securities which are of doubtful validity have been given for such advances, it shall be lawful for the council of such municipality to pass a by-law providing for the redemption of such doubtful securities by the issue of new debentures, or in any other manner provided in this act for the raising of money by municipalities."

"251. Such by-law shall, as near as possible, conform with the requirements prescribed in this act for the passage of by-laws for contracting debts, and shall be voted upon by the electors, in accordance with the provisions of section 103 of this act."

"252. If such by-law shall receive the assent of the electors, and shall be finally passed by the council, it shall, notwithstanding any want of substance or form, be a valid by-law; and the debentures issued thereunder shall not be questioned on any ground whatever, and the council shall thereafter be at liberty to redeem the said doubtful securities, by issuing the said new debentures, or otherwise, in accordance with the provisions of the said by-law."

Mr. Kitchen protested this was to meet the Surrey Enabling bill ruled out the other day.

Mr. Sward moved an amendment to the effect that it should be by consent of the majority of the voters, and majority of the ownership of the land affected, and not spread over the whole municipality.

Mr. Sward's amendment was lost.

Hon. Mr. Beaven moved: "Notwithstanding the limit of taxation of 1 per cent. and one-half of 1 per cent. on the assessed value which may be levied upon land, or upon real property, or upon improvements, under authority of this act, the Council should have power to borrow funds necessary for dyking or improving on the local improvements, etc., but that section 251, subsection (a). The by-law shall not come into force or take effect until the assent of the electors has been obtained, in conformity with the provisions of this act in respect of by-laws for contracting debts." This was lost.

The House adjourned at 12:30 a.m.

THE PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.

Rushing Through the Last Business of the Session.

FRIDAY, April 17.

The House was called to order at 2 o'clock.

Prayer by Rev. Mr. Dobbs.

Mr. Milne presented a petition from property owners of Surrey against the insertion of any clauses in the Municipal Act to enable the Municipal Council of Surrey to assess property owners in the district for the money illegally spent in the dyking operations in the municipality.—Petition read and received.

The House went into committee on bill to regulate the sale of spirituous liquors, Mr. Anderson in the chair. After considerable discussion the committee rose, reported progress and asked leave to sit again.

There was a long debate on the second reading of the act to amend the Columbia and Kootenay Railway bill, which was to allow the company to take its land bonus in blocks of two miles square; in the original bill it was only permitted to take its land in four-mile blocks. On a division the second reading passed by a vote of 17 to 9. The bill was then committed. The committee rose and reported the bill complete with amendments. The report was adopted and the bill read a third time and passed.

Mr. Keith said several members had come to him and wanted the action on the Coal Mines Regulation bill postponed till next session to give them an opportunity of looking into the evidence. He was quite willing to do as if Mr. Croft would withdraw his bill also. This Mr. Croft refused to do, and Hon. Mr. Pooley said that if the present law remained the Union Company would be harassed. He thought it should be repealed.

Adjourned on second reading of Mr. Keith's Coal Mines Regulation bill.

Mr. Martin continuing the debate said the bill should be left over till next year.

Mr. Grant said he was sorry the bills were not left over till next year. At the first of the session attempts were made to put in the Chinese clause in different bills and the House, he had understood, would put in that clause when something had been given to a company, but when it came to a vote the clause was never put in. He was willing to allow the Chinese to be employed in all kinds of work. If the people don't like it, they can say so. He held that when the Legislature gave away anything they had a right to say Chinese should not be employed; but in private works he considered the House had no right to interfere.

Mr. Nason held that any man could employ Chinese if he wanted to. He had last session voted for the Chinese clause, but had come to the conclusion he had made a mistake.

The second reading was lost on division.

Nays—Messrs. Smith, Grant, Robson, Davis, Vernon, Eberts, Hall, Nason, Pooley, Turner, Martin, Croft, Rogers, Anderson, Fletcher—15.

Yeas—Messrs. Stoddart, Booth, Milne, Cotton, Brown, Forster, Keith, Semlin, McKenzie, Sward, Kitchen, Punch, Kellie, Beaven—14.

Mr. Croft's bill to repeal the Coal Mines Regulation Act was killed in committee by 15 to 14 amid applause from the Opposition side.

The House rose for recess at 5:30.

It was understood that if all the business was not finished to-night the House would meet at 10 a.m. to-morrow to get through that forenoon.

Evening Session.

The House met at 8 o'clock.

The following bills were

READ A THIRD TIME AND PASSED:

Victoria & North American railroad—Mr. Grant.

Toad Mountain & Nelson Tramway—Mr. Kellie.

Legal Professions Bill—Hon. Mr. Davis.

County Courts Bill—Hon. Mr. Davis.

The report of the committee of the whole on the Municipal Amendment Bill was read a third time.

WESTMINSTER ENABLING BILL.

The House went into committee on the Westminster Enabling Bill, Mr. Croft in the chair.

The first clause read: "The term 'corporation,' wherever used in this act, means the municipality of the corporation of the city of New Westminster, and wherever the term 'works' is used in this act, such term shall include all the works, matters and things hereinafter recited and all such other works matters and things whatsoever as may hereafter at any time, and from time to time, be deemed by the corporation to be necessary or expedient in extension or aid of the hereinbefore recited works, matters and things, or any of them, for the more fully and effectually completing, operating or developing the same, or any of them, or rendering them, more serviceable, efficient or effective for any purpose for which the same, or any of them, may have been constructed, or may hereafter be found to be to the advantage of the corporation or its inhabitants."

Dr. Milne contended that it was against public policy that the House should pass this bill. He denounced the way in which the bill had been brought in; how it had been reported by the Attorney-General and placed in the name of another gentleman, who knew nothing about it. He moved to strike out all the words after "hereinbefore recited."

THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR'S SPEECH.

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly: In relieving you from further attendance at this time, I desire to express my appreciation of the patience and zeal with which you have devoted yourselves to the public service during the protracted session now closing.

The number of bills to which I have just assented in Her Majesty's name is unusually large, and includes many measures of vital public importance, which will, I feel confident, contribute to the prosperity of the province and the well-being of its inhabitants.

The large number of private bills passed this session may be regarded as indicating increasing confidence amongst capitalists in the resources and brightening prospects of our country, and I trust the expectations of the promoters of these bills may be fully realized.

The measures providing for the consolidation and conversion of the public debt cannot fail to place the credit of the province upon a firmer and more advantageous basis, thus enabling you to carry out a liberal and progressive policy in regard to such necessary public works as could not be undertaken were the expenditure confined within the limits of the ordinary revenue.

Thanking you for the liberal provision you have made for the public service, I now take leave of you with the earnest hope that your labors may richly conduce to the public good, and that you may all be spared to bring to work of another session the same ability and self-sacrificing zeal which have distinguished the closing one.

The Hon. Mr. Robson, Provincial Secretary, said: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislative Assembly—His Honor the Lieut. Governor's speech is a masterpiece of eloquence and is hereby prorogued until it shall please His Honor to summons the same dispatch of business, and this Provincial Legislative Assembly is hereby prorogued accordingly.

SUNDAY BILL, 1884.

THE PREMIER AND ATTORNEY-GENERAL ARE PERSONAL.

Hon. Mr. Robson says that his colleague's statements are "wholly untrue"—Hon. Mr. Davis is grieved at the "Wan-wan Attack"—Extraordinary Language.

The debate on Wednesday evening last, on Hon. Mr. Robson's Sunday bill, was a most remarkable one. The speeches were not lengthy, but they were marked by considerable feeling, and the extraordinary spectacle of a scene between two cabinet ministers gave additional interest to the proceedings. Our reporter's notes of the debate, which was condensed in our columns on the day following, were preserved, and as a number of our readers have expressed a wish to know what actually did occur, we append a pretty full synopsis of the remarks of the Premier and Attorney-General. Apart from the merits of the question of Sunday observance altogether, the "scene" was a most unfortunate one; indeed, if both gentlemen were sincere, and were not simply talking to the galleries, it will be impossible for both to remain in the cabinet and retain their self-respect. The portion of the debate referred to was as follows:

Hon. Mr. Robson—I can't understand why the Attorney-General sets himself in opposition to legislation of this kind, such as is in force in Australia and the other Provinces.

Hon. Mr. Davis—The Sunday law has been abolished in many States of the Union.

Hon. Mr. Robson—It is very easy to make rambling, taxing statements. But exaggerations such as these are outrageous. There may be occasional places where the law is not carried out. There are places where all the crimes in the calendar are committed, but that is no reason why crime should not be legislated against. To say in the light, unqualified manner the Attorney-General has done, that all the hotels violate the law is saying what he does not know, or wilfully saying what is untrue. I do not say whether he knows or not, but he cannot know from his own observation. When he says that they are abolishing the Sunday law in the States of the Union, it is not true. There is not a single state that is abolishing it. It is true that there are seven states which have no Sunday law, but there is no going back at all. I am astonished and ashamed that a member of the House—a member of the Government particularly—should have made such unfounded and unjustifiable statements.

Mr. Martin—I appreciate the motives of the leader of the House; but one ought to do as we would be done by. It is going back a hundred years, indeed, farther back than that, to the days of Queen Elizabeth, to legislate as the Premier wants hon. members to do. Let a man do as he likes on a Sunday. I say let him go to church and be religious if he chooses, and let him not be made fun of for doing so. Let him go shooting if he likes. I don't believe in interfering with the liberty of the subject. I am just as religious a man as any in this House, yet I and the members for Kootenay have been held up in the churches and declared to have no right to seats in this House. I know of a clergyman in Victoria who is always preaching abstinence, yet I know that the believers have been in the habit of taking beer to his house after dark. It is not fair for gentlemen in the pulpit to hold up members to public execration. Nobody has a right to talk about me and my fellow members as some people have done.

Mr. Booth—I agree with the leader of the Government. What the Attorney-General has said is not true. There may be some small dens which are kept, like Free Masons' conclaves, where liquor are sold on Sundays; but as a rule the law in Ontario is carried out.

Hon. Mr. Davis—I do not like to obtrude my own views upon the House, but in answer to the gentleman who has just spoken I will repeat that what I said is the truth. Moreover, he can ask anyone who goes to Ottawa if what I have said is not true. As for the Premier, if he chooses to brand me as a liar, if he thinks conduct such as his is worthy, all very well. I have been surprised and grieved that he should have made so wanton an attack on a colleague. If he will inquire he will find that I have not exaggerated at all in speaking as I have done. I know what it was in Ontario and at Ottawa when I was there.

Hon. Mr. Robson—I don't deny that it is possible to find disreputable houses; but I affirm that what the Attorney-General has said is one of the grossest caricatures on those people. I know my honorable friend can find such places as he describes, and go into them, if he likes, but they are few and far between. It is a gross slander on the other Provinces to say what he has said, and it is impossible that it should be so under the system that exists.

Hon. Mr. Davis—But it does.

Hon. Mr. Robson—It does not.

Col. Baker—If it be true that honorable members have been held up in the pulpit to the contempt of the public, we have a strong argument against this bill. I don't know who did this.

Mr. Keith—It was Rev. Mr. McLeod.

Col. Baker—I don't care who it is. It is utterly impossible for any body of gentlemen, or reverend gentlemen, to legislate people, not into Christianity, but into belief in any of his ideas. All nationalities have different ideas as to keeping the Sabbath, but are we to be dictated to by rev. gentlemen on the subject? I think the Sabbath is observed here in a decent manner, and we have already sufficient law to punish unseemly conduct on the Sabbath. The people will rebel against it, if they are to be dictated to in this way from the pulpit.

After further discussion, during which the Attorney-General said that politics ought to be kept out of the pulpit, there was, he continued, no necessity for a clause in a bill to make Sunday respected. It was a legal holiday and always would be, so bills of this kind are entirely unwarrantable. With people in the mines, Sunday is their day for trading. The discussion on this measure, the Attorney-General described as simply trifling. It is a wicked waste of time. The Hon. Premier must see that the House had no

intention of passing this bill, and he should withdraw it.

The Premier intimated that it had been proposed by one of the leading lawyers in the Province. He said that after what had been done, and the disposition there was among hon. members to make amendments to the bill, he should support the proposal that the committee rise.

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PRIVILEGE.
HON. MR. BRAVEN rose to a question of privilege to correct an inaccuracy as to his remarks on the report on the McNamara matter as published in the DAILY COLONIST. He could not blame the reporter because he knew it to be difficult to take in the points. He had been accidentally reported on this for him to explain what he had said. He had intended to say that the Government had no official knowledge as to who were the local contractors, but the Government had dealt with Mr. McNamara direct. He feared that the remarks of the Attorney-General had been mixed up with his own. He (Mr. Braven) had never said that the first contract was only a temporary one, something to which effect he believed had been said by the Attorney-General. When the papers came down he should be prepared to deal with the matter.
HON. MR. DAVIS said that when he saw the paper he at once perceived that the report had been mixed up.

SUPREME COURT BILL.
The report of the committee of the House on the Supreme Court Bill was adopted third reading this morning.

REVENUE TAX BILL.
The House again went into committee on the Revenue Tax Bill, Mr. McKenzie in the chair, and, subsequently, reported the bill complete with amendments.

MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR.
HON. MR. DAVIS presented a message from His Honor, transmitting bills to recompense the members of the Mining Commission; to authorize the creation and issue of scribbled stock and for other purposes, and to provide for a loan of £700,000 sterling, and for consolidating the public debt. The message will come up on Monday. The House adjourned at 6 o'clock.

NOTICE OF MOTION.
MR. SEMLIN-In Committee of the Whole on bill to incorporate the Nicola, Kamloops & Similkameen Coal and Railway, to move the following amendment to Mr. Martin's amendment, "And thence to the town of Kamloops, and also full power and authority to construct, complete, lease, purchase and operate a railway from a point at or near Spence's Bridge, to a point at or near the Western extremity of Nicola Lake. Provided, that the power hereby conferred on the company to build that portion of their line lying between Spence's Bridge and the junction of the Coldwater River, shall not be exercised until three years after the passage of this Act, unless in the meantime the Nicola Valley R.R. company elect not to proceed with the construction of their railway."

PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.

First Session of the Sixth Parliament.

FORTY-NINTH DAY.

The SPEAKER took the chair at 2 o'clock. After prayers by Rev. M. L. Rugg.

VICTORIA AND N. A. RAILWAY.

MR. BAKER presented the report of the railway committee reporting the Victoria and North American Bill, which was received and ordered to be printed.

HON. MR. ROBINSON said that by arrangement with the leader of the Opposition he would not sit to-night, but would do so to-morrow night.

In reply to MR. COTTON.

HON. MR. ROBINSON said it was the desire of the Government that the House should sit every night this week, except to-night. There might, however, arise circumstances which would interfere with this.

SPEAKERS RULING.

MR. SPEAKER said: "Upon a point raised by the Hon. the leader of the Opposition, I rule that bill (No. 89) intituled 'An act to declare valid certain by-laws passed by the municipal council of the municipality of Surrey,' cannot be considered a public bill. Rule 50 of our Rules and Orders expressly lays it down that bills 'for doing any matter or thing which in its operation would affect the rights or property of other parties, or relate to any particular class of the community, or for making any amendment of a like nature to any former act,' can only be introduced as a private bill, and after the publication of the usual notices. The bill in question aims to indemnify the municipal council of the municipality of Surrey for having exceeded the powers conferred by the 'Municipal Act, 1889.' May, page 768, 9th edition, says that bills for 'enlarging or altering the powers of charters and corporations' are private bills of the first class. And on page 745, same edition, says, that whether a bill 'be for the interest of an individual, a public company or corporation, a parish, a city or county, or other locality, it is equally distinguished from a measure of public policy in which the whole community are interested.' I rule that the order for the second reading of said bill cannot be moved."

THE MINERAL BILL.

The House went into committee on the Mineral Bill, Mr. Forster in the chair.

Clause 85 provides that "should any partner fail to keep up his free miner's certificate, such failure shall not cause a forfeiture or act as an abandonment of the partner's claim; but the share of the partner who shall so fail to keep up his free miner's certificate shall become vested in his partners, pro rata, according to their former interests."

The clause elicited considerable discussion, the contention being that, in the event of any lapse, it should be to the Crown, and not the remaining partners.

In amendment to clause 89, Mr. Kellie proposed that "any partner making default of his proportionate share of the annual work required by section 24 of this Act, after receiving a notice specifying the amount due by him, shall, if such amount be correct, be personally liable therefor to the partnership, and his interest in the partnership may be sold." His object was, he said, to protect the poor miner against the capitalist.

The amendment was, however, lost, only two members voting for it.

On motion of Mr. Smith, the following amendments were adopted: To have the Mining Recorder's office open upon such days and hours as the Lieut. Governor in council, may from time to time appoint, and, failing any particular appointment, shall be kept open.

"Any company of free miners who locate and record adjoining mineral claims to be worked by them in company as a mining partnership, as provided in Part III. of this Act, shall be allowed to perform upon any one of these claims all the work required to entitle them to a certificate for work done for each claim held by such company, and upon being satisfied by affidavit, setting out fully the particulars of such work, that it is equal to one hundred dollars for each claim held by such company, the mining recorder shall issue a certificate for each such claim."

After passing a number of sections, the committee rose, reported progress, and asked leave to sit again.

The Assessment Bill was read a third time and passed.

RETURNS.

HON. MR. ROBINSON presented a return to an address asking for correspondence respecting the disallowance of the Provincial legislature of 1890, respecting the opening of a toll trail from the boundary of Alaska to a point north of Lynn Court, British Columbia; return of the Ballot account made by the returning officers in 1890 to the Supreme court.

The house adjourned at 6 o'clock.

NOTICE OF MOTION.

By MR. KELLIE, to ask for correspondence, orders in council, etc., between the Government and the Dominion Government or other persons, concerning the refusal of the Dominion Government to issue Crown Grants for mineral claims of the "Twenty-mile belt," in this province, because of alleged defects in the survey of such claims, or any other causes relating thereto.

PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.

First Session of the Sixth Parliament.

FIFTIETH DAY.

Tuesday, April 7th.

The SPEAKER took the chair at 2 o'clock. After prayers by Rev. M. L. Rugg.

A petition from John Clapperton and others, of Nicola, (re Nicola, Kamloops & Similkameen R.R.) was read and received.

IN COMMITTEE.

The Bill to confirm the sale of the site of the Royal Hospital, Victoria, was read through committee, and was read a third time and passed.

The House went into Committee on the Mineral Bill, Mr. Forster in the chair, and reported the Bill with amendments.

ANIMAL CONTAGIOUS DISEASES.

The House went into Committee, Mr. Hunter in the chair, on the message of His Honor, with the Bill to prevent the spread of contagious diseases among horses and other domestic animals.

After some discussion as to the report in the papers on the disallowance of the Manitoba Act, in the course of which the Attorney-General said he had no information other than had appeared in the newspapers. He did not, however, think that the Dominion Government would be disposed to disallow the present Bill, were it passed.

The committee reported the bill, which was read a first time.

The Supreme Court bill was read a third time and passed.

INDENTIFYING THE MINING COMMISSION.

The House went into committee on the message with the bill to recompense the members of the Mining Commission.

HON. MR. BRAVEN protested against legislation of this kind as an interference with the independence of a member of the House.

HON. MR. DAVIS said that was wrong to say that because a gentleman was a member of this House it was improper for the Government to avail itself of his services. The bill did not propose to do more than pay the expenses incurred, which, as in other cases, he cited—among them the committee on the Wellington matter—were necessary in order to have the work of the country performed. He charged the leader of the Opposition with inconsistency in his course, contrasting his present action with his bringing in, when he was in office, a bill to legalize the course of one of his own colleagues.

MR. BAKER supported the action of the Government in availing itself of the services of the member for West Kootenay.

MR. SEMLIN, strongly opposed what he described as an attempt to corrupt a member of the House, had he been capable of being so corrupted.

MR. BROWN pointed out that there were special circumstances in this case—the thorough acquaintance of the member with the subject of mining, and the excellence of the legislation which the Mining Commission had initiated. These, he thought, had justified the action of the Government in availing itself of the services of the member who could not be expected, not only to give his time but to pay his own expenses.

MR. COTTON contended that the principle of the independence of Parliament ought to be indicated, and no member should receive pay from the Government for doing any service for the administration without being compelled to go to his constituents. He had objected, he said, to the increase of the indemnity to members, and had refused to sign the petition for that augmentation, and this session did not intend to accept the increase. To be content he could not do other than oppose the present bill. It was better that the member for West Kootenay should sustain a little loss rather than have so important a question as the one at issue violated.

MR. HALL dwelt upon the importance of having a member of the House upon that commission, who had been able from his place to point out the reasons for and the advantages of the different provisions of the new Mining Act. He objected to a too straight-faced view of the matter being taken.

HON. MR. TURNER said the member for West Kootenay had declined to accept any remuneration, all that it was proposed to give him for the important services which he had rendered was to reimburse him for the expenses he had incurred, during the two or three months he had served on the commission. In England members had recently been recompensed for expenses they had incurred in connection with several commissions, and it was preposterous to pretend that this should not be the case here.

MR. KELLIE said that he had no intention to be reimbursed for his services, and as for the expenses incurred he begged the Attorney-General to withdraw the Bill.

MR. BOOTH objected to the withdrawal of the bill. The man best fitted to serve on the mining commission was the member for Kootenay, and some of the remarks which had been made use of this afternoon were indecorous and improper. He trusted the bill would not be withdrawn.

HON. MR. POOLEY said it was a question of principle that was now involved. Member's services were certainly valuable to the House, and if the bill were passed it would be for the member for West Kootenay to then say whether or not he would be reimbursed.

MR. MILNE quoted section 28 of the Constitution Act, providing for the independence of members, by which he said the bill should be bound.

HON. MR. DAVIS said this was not a mere matter of individual rights, but it was one of principle. There were, as the member for Westminister had said, exceptions to every rule, and it ought to be competent for a member of the House to render the province a service for which he was particularly well qualified. Had there been any understanding as to remuneration in this case, it would have come under the section of the Constitution Act. The Government had not, however, attached any emolument to the commission, and the member for Kootenay had no claim upon them. But the House was in a position to do an act of justice. The Government was not simply the House, and it was perfectly competent in this case, for the House in its wisdom to do what the Government could not do. There had been no hint to or understanding with the member for Kootenay that he should receive anything, nor did he expect anything; but to prevent him suffering a pecuniary loss was the object of this bill. The Finance Minister had said there were precedents for this bill in Great Britain. There was no country which lived so closely up to the constitution, from which ours was taken, as did Great Britain, and the British commission on agriculture and labor contained members of Parliament who received reimbursement. If it was not wrong for them to be paid their expenses, how could it be wrong here? This House had the right, power and jurisdiction to say what the rights and duties of its members were. He did not think it had been wrong for the members to increase their own indemnity. Their time and energies had been taxed more than ever before, and it was but proper that their remuneration should be augmented. He commended the member for Vancouver upon his consistency in expressing his determination not to accept the extra \$200 indemnity, but though he might just as well take the \$200 and say nothing about it. There was a principle involved in the bill which he believed would commend itself to the members.

MR. COTTON contended that the bringing in of this bill was an admission that the Government was doing wrong. If it were right the Government should have taken the responsibility of placing a sum in the estimates for the member for West Kootenay.

HON. MR. BRAVEN denied that the members of the Government could relieve themselves of responsibility as the Attorney-General had tried to do. He cited the independence of parliament provisions of the constitution, and charged that the Government had placed the member for West Kootenay in a false position. Under the circumstances the least the Attorney-General could do would be to comply with the request of the member interested and withdraw the bill. He was thoroughly satisfied that a vote of the kind proposed would in no way influence the member for West Kootenay, of whom he entertained a high opinion, but he objected most strongly against the violation of principle in the present case. He did not, and could not think the member for West Kootenay was in any way a party to the bill, and hoped the Government would recede to his request and withdraw the measure.

On a division the motion to report the bill was carried by a vote of 19 to 6.

The report of committee was adopted on a vote of 18 to 6. Ayes: Smith, Keith, Baker, Davie, Vernon, Eberts, Stoddart, Booth, Hall, Nason, Rooley, Turner, Martin, Croft, Hunter, Rogers, Anderson, Fletcher, Nays: Semlin, Grant, Serod, Cotton, Milne, Braven. And the bill was introduced and read a first time.

MESSAGES FROM HIS HONOR.

The HON. MR. DAVIS presented a message from the Lieut. Governor transmitting a bill to amend the Constitution Act. The message will be referred to committee of the House to-morrow.

The House went into committee, Mr. Anderson in the chair, on the Governor's message transmitting the bill to authorize the Creation and issue of Inscribed Stock.

The committee reported the bill, which was introduced and read a first time.

On motion of HON. MR. TURNER the House went into committee, Mr. Sword in the chair, on the message of His Honor with the Debt Consolidation Bill.

The report of committee was adopted, and the bill introduced and read a first time.

THE LAND BILL.

The House went into committee on the Land Bill, Mr. Kitchen in the chair.

An amendment proposed by HON. MR. TURNER to reduce the quantity of Government land which might be sold from 160 to 80 acres was adopted.

The committee rose and reported progress and the House rose.

EVENING SESSION.

The House met again at 7:45, and went into committee on the Land Bill, Mr. Kitchen in the chair.

After some discussion the committee rose and reported the bill complete with amendments.

Reports on Placer Mine Bill and Provincial Tax Bill were adopted, the bills read a third time and passed.

HON. MR. DAVIS in moving the second reading of the Act for the Protection of Cattle, explained that the object of the bill was to make railways, whether under the operation of Provincial or Dominion Railway Acts, responsible for killing cattle on their lines of railway. He was of the opinion that the province had the right to deal with property and civil rights. Railways should be liable for cattle killed by them, unless they fenced their lines.

Second reading carried.

HON. MR. DAVIS moved the second reading of the R. C. Railway Bill, and remarked it was the sister bill to the last Bill, and provided that railways be required to fence their lines.

Second reading carried.

The second reading of the Methodist Church Bill was carried.

Committee Toad Mountain and Nelson Tramway Bill. Mr. Stoddart in the chair. The committee rose, reported progress, and asked leave to sit again.

Committee Okanagan Land and Development Bill. Mr. Keith in the chair. The committee rose and reported the bill complete with amendments.

The House adjourned at 11:40 p.m.

PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.

First Session of the Sixth Parliament.

FIFTY-FIRST DAY.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8, 1891.

The SPEAKER took the chair at two o'clock. After prayers by Rev. M. L. Rugg.

MR. MARTIN presented a petition from Culbert Blois, C. Dunbar and others—settlers in the Railway Belt, on the subject of a survey of such land.

MR. SWOOD submitted the report of the select committee, appointed to inquire into the answer given by the Commissioner of Lands and Works in re lands applied for under section 29 of the land act, and as to whether they are placed on the assessment roll when such application is made.

The report was ordered to be printed.

THE TWENTY MILE BELT.

MR. KELLIE moved that a respectful address be presented to the Lieutenant-Governor, requesting him to cause to be placed before the House copies of all correspondence, Orders in Council, and other papers, that have passed between the Government and the Dominion Government, or any other persons, concerning the refusal of the Dominion Government to issue crown grants for mineral claims in the "Twenty-mile Belt" in this Province, because of alleged defects in the survey of such claims, or any other causes relating thereto. Carried.

FREE LIBRARIES.

The House went into committee, Mr. Kellie in the chair, on the Free Libraries Bill, which was reported complete with amendments.

MR. KELLIE withdrew his Advisory Mining Boards Bill.

CATTLE PROTECTION.

MR. MARTIN said that the Cattle Bill introduced by the Attorney-General, covered what he desired to meet by his motion, the debate on which was adjourned on March 13. In view of the absence of Mr. Croft, who had the floor, but was now absent, he was not prepared to withdraw the resolution.

IN COMMITTEE.

The House went into committee (Mr. Smith in the chair) on the Liverpool & Canoe Pass Railway Bill, which was reported complete with amendments.

The Vancouver & Lulu Island Railway Bill, and the Vancouver & Lulu Island Electric R. R. and Improvement Bill passed through committee of the House and were reported complete with amendments.

The Vancouver Northern Peace River & Alaska R. R. Bill was also under the consideration of committee which rose and reported progress.

The Speaker gave the following ruling regarding the city of Westminster Enabling Bill.

The hon. member for New Westminster city has asked me to rule as to the status of Bill No. 12, intituled "An Act respecting the corporation of New Westminster." This bill was introduced as a public bill. It passed the first and second readings, and went to the committee of the whole on February 4. On motion it was resolved—That the committee rise, report progress, ask leave to sit again, and recommend to the House that the bill be referred to a select committee consisting of the members forming the private bills committee, with instructions to give fourteen days' notice, by advertisement in the New Westminster papers, so as to afford private parties (if any) affected by the bill an opportunity to appear before the committee, and with power to hear evidence and to report to the House. The committee reported the resolution. Report considered forthwith, adopted, and agreed to.

On the 2nd April, the Private Bills Committee, sitting as a Select Committee, reported, *inter alia*, that the bill should have been introduced as a private bill. The circumstances attendant upon the introduction of the bill are peculiar, and, I think, unprecedented in the practice of this House. I find that the notices required by the Standing Orders in the matter of private bills were published; but that pending the presentation of the customary petition it was arranged that the measure should come in as a public bill. It is in order to amend or delete a private bill by a public bill. (See Mr. Speaker Pooley's ruling in the journals of this House, page 22, Session of 1887, where it is held that the Sumas Dyking Act, a private bill, could be amended by a public bill, and it was done accordingly.) Bill No. 12, intituled "An Act respecting the corporation of New Westminster," was introduced as a public bill. Under ordinary circumstances, I think that Rule No. 48 would not insurmountable barrier to forward of the bill as a public bill. But the circumstances attendant upon the introduction of the bill are peculiar, and, I think, unprecedented in the practice of this House. I find that the notices required by the Standing Orders in the matter of private bills were published; but that pending the presentation of the customary petition it was arranged that the measure should come in as a public bill. It is in order to amend or delete a private bill by a public bill. (See Mr. Speaker Pooley's ruling in the journals of this House, page 22, Session of 1887, where it is held that the Sumas Dyking Act, a private bill, could be amended by a public bill, and it was done accordingly.) Bill No. 12, intituled "An Act respecting the corporation of New Westminster," was introduced as a public bill. 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Hon. Mr. Ross gave his own experience in a pen-up printing office, describing the closeness in which the printer was confined to his frame. He said that in the Government printing office there was a slack season, and the Government had come to the conclusion that it was only just to set the men at liberty when there was no work for them.

The Bill was read a second time.

The House went into committee on the Municipal Bill, (Mr. Hall in the chair), reported progress and asked leave to sit again.

The Free Libraries' Bill was read a third time and passed.

It was decided that the House would sit on Saturday.

The House adjourned at 11.30 p.m.

PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.

First Session of the Sixth Parliament.

FIFTY-THIRD DAY.

FRIDAY, April 10.

The Speaker took the chair at 2 o'clock. After prayers by Rev. M. L. Rugg, Mr. Croft introduced an act to repeal the Coal Mines Regulation Amendment Act, 1890.

THE GRAVING DOCK CONTRACT.

Hon. Mr. DAVIE moved that the report of the Select Committee appointed to enquire into the circumstances under which local partners were admitted by F. B. McNamee & Co. in the contract for the construction of the graving dock, what rate of interest (if any) was to be allowed on the \$10,000 deposit as security for the contract, and the financial position of matters at the present time, be adopted. The Attorney-General reviewed the facts, at some length, as set forth in the evidence brought out by the committee, upon which they had expressed the opinion that the case is one for the favorable consideration of the Government.

Hon. Mr. BEAVEN objected that the subject had not been sufficiently investigated. He, for one, could have given some important testimony, but had not had the opportunity. He took strong exception to clause 6 of the report, which said that "a close calculation demonstrated a profit of \$150,000 to be realized by the contractor upon the work, and both the Government and Mr. McNamee believed that that profit was derivable." For his own part, as acting Commissioner of Lands and Works, after the tenders had been opened, he had gone into the subject at length with Mr. Bennett, who had said that the tender was based on an on a lot living prices, and that, after some \$50,000 had been paid out to the contractors, it was discovered that the work to be done would involve an expenditure of about \$300,000 more. He discussed the subject at some length, and moved, in amendment, that the report be referred back to committee for amendment and further report.

Mr. SMITH seconded the amendment. Mr. GRANT said that he was satisfied that Mr. Walker had stated in his evidence what this reference in the report contained, but he had only spoken for himself. It might therefore be better to have the report sent back to have the position of the leader of the Opposition made clear.

Mr. HUNTER thought that the reference might be made clear by amending the clause of the report by saying that "both the leader of the Government (Mr. Walker) and Mr. McNamee believed that the profit of \$150,000 was derivable." He believed that the price was no more than a living one, but probably the contractor believed that by obtaining his help and material from Montreal he would be able to increase his profit.

After some discussion, it was resolved to refer the report back to committee, with instructions to reconstruct section 6, so as to show when, by and to what member of the Government the \$150,000 of profit had been demonstrated.

QUESTIONS.

In answer to Mr. Anderson, the Attorney-General said that the reason the jail returns for the prison ending Oct. 31, 1889, had not been inscribed on the sessional papers as formerly was that the office of the person whose duty it was to make the report had been vacated, and the sergeant who had been subsequently appointed had not sent them in. It was not the intention to discontinue the publishing of statistical information concerning the various provincial jails.

On the order to resume the debate on the motion for a second reading of the

COAL MINES REGULATION BILL.

Mr. HUNTER said that the act might have been better entitled an act to prevent the Union Colliery company from working Chinamen underground. The member who had introduced this bill was recognized as a representative of labor, and of labor unions, and he must say no one had done his duty as a member of this House more ably than he had. The coal mines, east of the Cascades, in the Nanaimo Basin, were the Wellington and East Wellington mines, worked respectively by the Messrs. Dunsmuir and Messrs. Chandler, of San Francisco, and the North Wellington, the Nanaimo and the Southfield mines. During 1889 they had produced 548,625 tons, which at \$4 per ton were worth \$2,194,500, and in 1890, 608,603 worth \$2,434,412 or upwards of four and a half million dollars. How much of this, it might be inquired, was the product of Chinese labor? Not one single ton of it had been mined by Chinese labor, and for this year there would be a similar output, not one pound of which the Chinese had produced. And how had this come about? No pressure had been brought to bear on the employers. It had been their voluntary action, on the part of the Wellington colliery, which had excluded the Chinamen. But action had not been voluntary elsewhere. The first suggestion to this end was made by the late Hon. Robert Dunsmuir, at whose desk he had had the honor of sitting for six years. To his own knowledge he had sent to the manager at Nanaimo, who had finally

consented to withdraw the Chinamen and never again would they be operated by those people. It would, he assured the House, be a sacrifice, and a great sacrifice, to re-introduce them. What, he would ask, did the proprietors at the Wellington strike, which had cost such a great loss to them? They never dreamed of introducing them! The result of the contest had been a great victory over the unionists, and over their great commercial neighbor, the Vancouver Coal Co. The Union colliery was the only one that would be affected by this Bill. Long ago the emissaries of the enemy had been at the Union mines; but every time they had been sent to the right about. This Bill, however, would give the Unionists the power to crush this Union mine. That colliery was, he might inform the members, different to all the others. It consisted of thin seams of coal. White there was no white men employed, yet the colliery was paying a high rate of wages. The company had tried by every means to get white labor, but had failed. Were the bill passed the mines must remain idle until the price of white labor was brought down to the level of the Chinese. The bill had made use of considerable literature, of which there had been a fund both in the Colonist and the Free Press. For his own part, he did not see why he should not make some quotations. In the San Francisco Chronicle of February 8, last, he found an article headed "The Coal Boycott—President Blye Comes to Give It More Vigor." Tully Blye was a name which inspired a good deal of dread and fear to much respect. He (Mr. Hunter) did not know his nationality, but he was not an Italian, any how. He believed in unionism. To a certain extent it was good for labor, but when it terrorized over the capitalist or the laborer then he was against it. There was a line which defined closely the rights of the union and of the capitalist, but whenever either of them transgressed it committed an act of tyranny.

Mr. Hunter continued to refer further statements reported in the San Francisco papers as having been made by Mr. Tully Blye, adding that the cause of the Wellington lock-out had been that the Messrs. Dunsmuir were determined to do their business in their own way, without the impudent interference of the union. Mr. Tully Blye had said that the coal seams at Wellington were uneven, and that the miners were, in consequence, sufferers. The Wellington seams were not uneven, so that this statement on his part was utterly untrue. In a word, the Union was allowed to step in and tell the manager of the Vancouver Coal company what he ought to do, and that gentleman meekly acquiesced. The Messrs. Dunsmuir had refused to be so dictated to, and had now in their employ many non-union men as they had belonging to the union. Tully Blye and his people said in effect if men would not join the union let them starve. This had been the same with the London dock strikes. Mr. Hunter next referred to an interview with Tully Blye published in the Westminster Columnist, of April 6th, which said that Tully Blye still held the fort at Wellington. The Messrs. Dunsmuir, he would say, did not want to make a settlement with the union. The proposed to work their mines their own way. Tully Blye said that though they were employing more Chinese, the Dunsmuirs were now at the most getting out only 700 tons per day. That was a notorious falsehood. The output on the day in question was 1,200 tons. Mr. Hunter further quoted the boycotting circular, reproduced in the Colonist of July 13th, showing how it had been attempted to close the market to Wellington coal. He next took up the wages question and showed that while in 1889 the earnings of the men at the Nanaimo collieries had been from \$3 to \$5, those at Wellington had been from \$2.75 to \$5.90 and \$6. He further cited an advertisement of the Vancouver Coal Co., and signed by S. M. Robins, which set forth that these coals were mined by this company only and by union labor. In this way Mr. Robins had entered the field and tried to prolong the boycott on Wellington coal. He (Mr. Hunter) thought it a shameful, unneighborly and un-British act to try in this way to aid those men who had done the province so much injury for a mere temporary advantage, the mines now being in as full blast as ever. The House should not lend its aid in the manner proposed to an act of tyranny which all would regret. There was no necessity for either the Wellington or Nanaimo collieries to employ Chinese, and there was no possibility that they would do so. The effect of the bill, he repeated, would be to shut down the Union mines. For the last six years every dollar that had been earned at Wellington had been expended in improvements, there having been invested in this way some four or five millions for which not one cent of recompense had been received. The present was a bill to prevent progress and to ruin the Union colliery, that was of such an immense benefit to Comox.

Hon. Mr. DAVIE said he noticed that a Bill was to be introduced by his colleague from Cowichan, to repeal the Bill of last session to exclude Chinamen from mines. The only logical thing to be done, however, was to adopt the present Bill, so long as existing legislation was on the statute book.

Mr. SMITH said that the figure cited by the member for Comox showed how successful coal mining had been without the employment of Chinese labor. The present Bill was to render effectual the legislation of last session, which had been declared by the courts to be unworkable. It seemed to be the general impression that the employment of white labor in the mines was much more profitable than that of Chinese. He objected to the comments which had been made upon Mr. Robins' method of advertising his wares.

Mr. BROWN said that if the mines had been properly ventilated the explosions which had been referred to could not have taken place, and the fact of the mine owners having ceased to employ Chinese in their mines further proved that there was something wrong. In every mine the

miners should have by statute something to say as to what they considered right or wrong about a mine. In the mines it was not the Chinese alone who were to blame. There were hundreds who were both reckless and careless other than Chinamen. It was useless to talk against agitators for no one of them could be successful unless there was something to be dissatisfied with. He thought this Bill a step in the right direction and should support it.

Mr. CROFT said that the proof had not been that the Chinese were more dangerous in mines than any other people. In the Island of Formosa Chinese were exclusively employed in the coal mines, and from correspondence which he had had he had ascertained that they had had no accidents. At Comox, where Chinese were employed, the seams were thin, and could not be advantageously worked without cheap labor, and therefore were more easily accessible, and were not so dangerous as those approached by a shaft. Were the Chinese so dangerous as claimed in the mines, no mine managers or mine owners would be content to go down and be among them. They had quite as much interest in the protection of life and property as those who opposed the employment of Chinese. The opposition to Chinese, he contended, was caused by nothing more nor less than the fact that they worked more cheaply than the whites. If white miners objected to working with Chinese, why did they not go to other mines? The Chinaman was in no way the ignorant he was pretended to be. Mr. Croft showed how apt he was to learn, and this made certain classes of white men afraid of his competition.

Mr. STODDART congratulated the member for Comox on his speech, but differed from his conclusions. If the Chinamen were not dangerous why should the mine managers have agreed to dispense with their services below ground?

Dr. MITCHELL said the whole question was should we or should we not encourage white labor and keep out that of the Chinese? For a number of sessions the employment of Chinese in the mines had been debated in this House, and objected to by the Government, who had only consented to it last session in anticipation of the general elections. Tully Blye might have done what he ought not to have done, but he felt that if the Dunsmuirs had treated their men as Mr. Robins had done there would have been no trouble.

Mr. McKENZIE spoke of the menace which the Chinese were when working in the mines. There had been four explosions at the Union mine, which was compared with one in each of the other mines, and more than at all the other mines put together. He referred upon the statement made against Mr. Robins, who had in a lawful manner made Nanaimo one of the most prosperous places in the province. The law of their conduct was systematically violated by the Union company, which should be made to pay it.

Hon. Mr. Ross moved that the debate be adjourned to the next sitting of the House.—Carried.

The House rose for recess.

EVENING SESSION.

After recess the Inscribed Stock bill and the bill for the Consolidation of the Provincial debt and for the loan of £700,000 took their second reading, the latter upon a division of 17 to 6.

Contagious diseases among cattle bill was reported complete with amendments.

The bill to remunerate the Mining Commission was read a third time and passed. The Constitution bill was read a second time and the House adjourned at 11.30 till 2 p.m., to-day.

PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.

First Session of the Sixth Parliament.

FIFTY-THIRD DAY—CONTINUED.

EVENING SESSION.

FRIDAY, April 10.

Hon. Mr. TURNER in moving the second reading of the

INSCRIBED STOCK BILL.

said, as this is the first Act of the kind introduced here, it is desirable to explain somewhat fully its object. It will be observed that this Act is not for the purpose of raising a loan, but to authorize the Government to change the present existing loans in the form of Inscribed Stock, and also to make the issue of future loans in the same form. It will be noticed that section one of the Act refers to an Imperial Act, No. 59 of 1887, which Imperial Act makes provision for the inscription of colonial debts in London. That Imperial Act was passed with the object of assisting the dependencies of the Empire in their financial arrangements. A province or colony desiring to take advantage of the Imperial Act has to comply with certain requirements and arrange with a banker for inscription. It can then be registered under the title of Inscribed Stock, and also Inland Revenue at Somerset House, where all particulars can be had with respect to the loans of the colony. Thus a colony that has been able to take advantage of this registration has a sort of standing given it by the Imperial Government which other countries do not enjoy, and this gives confidence to investors. I have no doubt, Mr. Speaker, that you quite understand the difference between the form of our present loans and that of inscribed stock. In the present form debentures represent the investment made in the loans, more debentures being for sums of not less than one hundred pounds each. They can be transferred almost like bank notes, and have to be as carefully kept. Inscribed stock, on the other hand, is not represented by debentures at all. When stock is purchased it is registered at the bank at which it is deposited to the credit of the purchaser. He need take no further trouble about it; the bank takes all the responsibility and pays him his interest.

he has no trouble about keeping his debentures safely, and takes no risk of their being lost or burned. If he sells he has to sign the transfer at the bank or appoint a proxy to sign for him. In this way any small amount of stock can be subscribed, instead of in large sums, as in the case of debentures. Numbers of people have only small amounts to invest, and by these means of the Dominion and Australian stock has been taken up. These small loans. The Government here has had this matter under consideration for some time; a large number of correspondents has gone on, and it is quite assured that such a change in our financial methods will be of great advantage. One of the first financiers of the day, Mr. Currie, of the great banking house of Glyn, Mills, Currie & Co., the financial advisers of the Indian Government, recommends that this province should issue inscribed stock and consolidate its debts. He assures us it will add to the credit of the province. Such an advance from such a source is, I feel, sufficient for us. The great advantage to the province will be that it will get a financial standing in the money markets that it does not now possess. At the present time it is virtually unknown. Its bonds from their form are not quoted and are not a marketable commodity, in the way that other colonial securities are. It has one loan at 4½ and another at 6 per cent. This at once casts a shadow on its standing, for the general public, and, as we know, its debentures are held merely by original buyers—a very good investment for the general body, and not liked on the market. The Bonds of British Columbia, to-day, for instance, are at \$1.22 for the 6 per cent. 1877. These bonds represent, therefore, a diminishing or wasting security, as what cost £120 will in about fifteen years only be worth £100. Such securities are therefore not reliable to trustees and small buyers—as a matter of fact they are not in the market.

With inscribed stock, having a low rate—say not over 3½ per cent.—of interest, the province would be before the world, and as it readily pays its interest and sinking fund and shows, in other ways, its stability, its loan would gradually appreciate in value. Its credit would be a fixed fact, so that in the future when a loan was wanted there would be no trouble about it. The market quotations would at once fix the price for it. I might further say, in connection with this subject, that the inscription of stock is undertaken in London by four world renowned institutions. The Bank of England, Glyn, Mills, Currie & Co., The London and Westminster and Barings—and an inscription of our loan by one of them would be a guarantee at once of its success. It gives virtually the imprimatur of the Bank to our credit. I have spoken of the advantages to us, as far as the standing of credit goes. In addition to this, we should reap an immediate pecuniary advantage if we succeeded in consolidating the existing loans, as on them we now pay annually, for interest and sinking fund \$120,488, but when consolidated by a 50 year loan, our annual payment would not exceed for interest and sinking fund \$90,452, thus saving \$30,000 yearly. In addition to this we release for the immediate use of the province about \$300,000, sinking fund now lying idle in London. The plan of dealing with this large sum is for after consideration, we might invest it in such a way as to pay with the annual saving already alluded to, more than the total interest on the new loan of a million dollars or so now proposed. We should then stand in the position of having borrowed another million and yet be winning less to pay out yearly in our debts than we have to pay now. But, sir, I do not place this saving as the most important consideration. I consider that what I have before referred to is what should principally guide us, and that is the standing of the province. It is most important to have the loans of the province dominated by one of the great houses. What an investor wants is a market, the security of which shall not be subject to interference within any reasonable period, and which has a tendency to increase in value. Such a security, so dominated would make our standing a certainty. We should certainly want more money in the future for developing our resources. We ought, therefore, to have a fixed and regular credit. The Dominion of Canada paid £3.10 per cent. and ours would probably be £3.15 at first. If we got it at the price, and in that way we should have a first rate position, upon which we should have reason to congratulate ourselves. I would take some time to consolidate our credit, but no doubt this could be done.

Mr. CROFT said he was heartily in accord with the Government in the proposition to change our debt from the form of debentures to that of stock. There was an additional advantage in the proposed change to those already named, inasmuch as British Columbia stock would be available for purposes of investment by trustees. Within inscribed stock we should always find a market, a fact which would make our stock the more desirable. He also spoke of the high position of Glyn, Mills, Currie & Co., the provincial agents of the province in London. He would like to know how the sinking fund would be dealt with in connection with the inscribed stock. Would it be by drawing, as was the case with the debentures? This, he presumed, the Finance Minister would explain at a later stage. The revenue of the province was a single for considerable public works; but the time had come when the province was wanted more of them.

The bill was read a second time.

DEBT CONSOLIDATION.

Hon. Mr. TURNER moved the second reading of the Debt Consolidation Bill also to provide for a loan of £700,000 sterling. He said he did not think it wise to present time to place all the details before the House. They would take some time to elaborate. He would rely on the Finance Minister to take some time to elaborate. He would rely on the Finance Minister to take some time to elaborate. He would rely on the Finance Minister to take some time to elaborate.

It was proposed that the position of the sinking fund be not both for sinking fund and interest would be

less than under the old of the loan a being much earnest had to ascertain of the sinking fund. exp' aimed itself. H new money would be got at 3 F. e thought, was a good ish Columbia. On the owing to the large expen works, surveys, etc., require more money, an p'ried in our history it liberal expenditures, not be required before Ju interim would give the G take the best method and ting money.

Mr. CROFT said while the proposal to borrow in date the debt, he could proved the method of get upon the large deficit, so 25 per cent. of the expen sorry to say he could no thing was going to er money which was to be a loan could not be ch capital account. Much for wharves, but th two or three years, and, not be looked upon as p Much of the proposed loa to be expended on our lan hardly be regarded a ent works. It cou expected that he should be a financial equilibrium A when our credit would was the case in New Z colonists, and to this we m Unless the Finance Min some better argument, he pelled to vote against the cause he did not think it to increase our debt at the Hon. Mr. Ross was position taken by the an Vancouver with respect to He contended that the money for permanent impr ish Columbia as true econ 3½ per cent. expended I was good policy. The wor carried on without money be undertaken, was in that the more readily bring Brit to that position which oth not attain. Those who would say this enterprising ing on great works we did not undertake generations would say worthy to lay the four great empire on the Ne Moreover, the senior memb had approved the estimates of which money was requ erment had brought in es in excess of revenue, yet nber had got up and challen true policy of the Govern ally spend money on pub the ballot box the people b policy. The rural constit oughly endorsed the Gove quently the cities did not lo able eye upon public wor remote districts—to which a was calculated to attract the congested districts. It was importance that the present passed so as to place the sound and healthy position markets of the world. He the policy was wise and wo by the country.

Hon. Mr. BEAVEN defend ment with which he had from the charge of being government. He generally policy of putting so much hands of the Government, would only be used by them themselves. The Government any reliance on the figures Minister.

COL. BAKER remarked th and permanent prosperity o proved how wise the policy had been, and went on for the continuance of it money must be lib'ally spe improvements.

Mr. CROFT contrasted th this country with those of where the debt was over t while here it was only about reason why New Zealand has because the money has but here such was not the ca that our increase in revenue illeg-d, arose out of land i graded the taxation and it this province with those themselves. The Government that o astefully taxed.

Mr. HALL said that this w calculated to promote the b the province, and deserved support.

Dr. MITCHELL objected to allo ment to have such a sum disposal. He did not think he Government had been su ant the confidence in them sired.

Hon. Mr. DAVIE denounce nessicism, such as had b v gentlemen opposite; sayi were here, as well as in V many people who could t either their own property o country. The policy of the Opposition was to borrow whi fices, but not to borrow wh power. The Government purpose for which to borrow ood policy in the way of fe concluded by vigorously eruence of a chess-playing Mr. SMITH condemned w lack of economy in the government, but for which have been no need to incu an.

On a division being take eading was carried as follow Ayres-Kellie, Smith, Br

was read a second time.
DEBT CONSOLIDATION.
MR. TURNER moved the second reading of the Debt Consolidation Bill as amended for a loan of £700,000 sterling to place all the details before the House. He said that it was at the present time a relief to the Government to have the details before the House, and that he was sure that the House would be able to take some time to consider the details before the House. He said that the Government would be able to take some time to consider the details before the House, and that he was sure that the House would be able to take some time to consider the details before the House.

fe concluded by vigorously denouncing the assurance of a cheese-paring policy.

MR. SELWIN condemned what he called the lack of economy in the policy of the Government, but for which there would have been no need to incur the proposed expenditure.

On a division being taken the second reading was carried as follows:—

Ayes—Kellie, Smith, Brown, Forster,

men who should be kept out of mines just as much as the Chinese. But the Chinese were the representatives of a petrified

PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.

First Session of the Sixth Parliament.

FIFTY-FIFTH DAY.

MONDAY, APRIL 13, 1891.

The Speaker took the chair at two o'clock. After prayer by R. Rev. Bishop Cridge.

PROTECTION OF CATTLE.

On the order to receive the report of the committee of the House on the Cattle Bill, several slight amendments were made, and the bill was left for further consideration.

The bill to amend the British Columbia Railway Act was read a third time and passed.

THE CONSTITUTION ACT.

The House went into committee on the bill to amend the Constitution Act, so as to increase the indemnity of members to \$600, and to further define the electoral districts of Victoria City, Victoria district and Esquimalt. The bill was reported complete with amendments.

The House went into committee on the Provincial Voters' Bill, Mr. Kellie in the chair. The bill was read a third time and passed.

The House again went into committee on the Municipal Bill, Mr. Hall in the chair. A number of the proposed amendments to the act were discussed at considerable length and in detail, and at 5.30.

Mr. Kitchin moved that the committee rise, report progress, and ask leave to sit again.

Hon. Mr. Robson said that it was expected that the House would sit every night this week.

The House rose.

EVENING SESSION.

The House met after recess at 8 o'clock. Mr. Brown presented the report of the special committee in connection with the correspondence between the Government and the Bishop of Westminster. The report was again referred back to the committee for exceeding the lines of the resolution.

The House went into committee on the Municipal Act, Mr. Booth in the chair.

Amendments were put in to provide for the dyking or draining of land on the local improvement plan, the land to be improved being assessed for the cost of it or for the payment of principal and interest of bonds issued to make such improvements.

The committee rose and reported the bill complete with amendments. The House adjourned at 11.25 p.m.

PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.

First Session of the Sixth Parliament.

FIFTY-SIXTH DAY.

The speaker took the chair at 2 o'clock. After prayers by R. Rev. Bishop Cridge.

THE SALE OF LIQUORS.

Hon. Mr. Robson introduced a bill respecting the sale of fermented and spirituous liquors.

THE GRAVING DOCK CONTRACTS.

Hon. Mr. Davie moved that the report of the Select Committee appointed to enquire into the circumstances under which local parties were admitted by F. B. McNamee & Co., in the contract for the construction of the Graving Dock, what rate of interest (if any) was to be allowed on the \$10,000 deposit as security for the contract, and the financial position of matters at the present time, be adopted. The Attorney-General briefly reviewed the facts of the case as adduced in the report of the evidence taken by the Special Committee.

In reply to Hon. Mr. Beaven Hon. Mr. Davie said that there was no material difference between the corrected evidence of Mr. Justice Walkem and that which had been at first printed and circulated. The shorthand writer's notes as revised would be printed in the sessional papers in place of the uncorrected ones.

The report was adopted.

THE PROVINCIAL MUSEUM.

Mr. Kellie said that whoever happened to see the animals in the Provincial Museum rounded up and corralled as if to be branded, would at once see how inadequate the accommodations of the museum were for all the displays that British Columbia might make. He spoke of the excellence of the exhibits made by this province and some of the adjoining States on a number of occasions, and begged that the Government would take steps to improve the facilities and accommodations provided, as a good display of our minerals could not fail to have an excellent effect in inducing capitalists to invest here. He moved: "Whereas the present accommodation in the Provincial Museum for the display of specimens of ores and other exhibits is very inadequate; and whereas the display of such ores in a manner worthy of the importance of the subject would be of the greatest assistance in bringing under the notice of capitalists visiting this province the greatness and importance of our mineral wealth; and whereas before an adequate display could be made it would be necessary, first to collect from every mining district the best available specimens of ores, and next to materially enlarge the space devoted to this purpose in the museum; Now therefore be it resolved, that a respectful address be presented to his Honor the Lieutenant-Governor in Council praying him to take such steps as he shall think expedient for effectually carrying out the collecting and exhibiting of such specimens." The motion was carried.

THE DE COURCEY ISLANDS.

Mr. McKenzie moved for copies of all correspondence and other documents relating to the application of Thomas L. Davis, of Nanaimo, to prospect, under the "Coal Prospecting Act, 1883," a portion of the De Courcy group of islands, and Tree Island, and to purchase the same. Carried.

THE CONSTITUTION BILL.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Davie the House went into committee on the Constitution Bill, which was read a third time and passed.

THE JUDGES' BILL.

Hon. Mr. Davie, in moving the adoption of the report of committee of the House on the Judges' Bill, drew the distinction between the respective rights and functions of the Dominion and Provincial authorities in regard to matters of criminal procedure. As concerned some matters, both the Dominion and Provincial Parliaments were legislating; but their respective jurisdictions, save in exceptional cases being absolute, it was therefore, in order to prevent any conflict, that he proposed to reenact the Dominion legislation with respect to judges. He substituted a number of amendments.

Hon. Mr. Beaven said he had only seen these amendments last night, and had only had time to casually glance at them. From what he could gather their object was to provide for a case which had been before the supreme court, and for which he knew might be there now, he meant that of the Wellington miners.

Hon. Mr. Davie said that such was not the intention. Indeed, he did not think the bill would apply. In fact, it could not, as he had not seen any *facto* operation, the miners having been tried under the law which was in existence when their cases came up.

COAL MINES REGULATION.

Mr. Croft moved the second reading of the bill to repeal the Coal Mines Regulation Amendment Act, which was last year passed to prevent the employment of Chinese under ground. He briefly reviewed recent debates on this subject, contending that there had been nothing developed to show that the Chinese were a dangerous element underground, and, therefore, there was no reason why they should be excluded.

Hon. Mr. Davie contended that the agitation against the employment of Chinese in the mines had not been because they were a dangerous element, but in order to strengthen the hands of a number of men who were entitled to no sympathy whatever. They were in fact no friends of the province or its interests, but at the time of the Wellington strike had, in addition to their other actions, gone to San Francisco with the avowed intention of injuring a leading industry of the province and boycotting our coal which had not been produced by union miners. This bill had, he repeated, been brought in order to benefit the province, in default of carrying out their own schemes, would bankrupt any or all of our interests. He reviewed his own course last session in connection with this bill, which it was now proposed to repeal, and at the risk of it being said that he had stifled himself, he felt bound to vote in a different sense from what he had formerly done. There had been only one accident which, with any amount of success, had been placed upon the shoulders of the Chinamen, but even that had not been done to his (Mr. Davie's) satisfaction. There were, it must be remembered, other ignorant people who were equally as dangerous as the Chinamen. There were not only ignorant whites, but there were Indians allowed in the mines, who could not talk English or even Chinook. There were employed in mines in other countries Hindoos, Hottentots and Japs, who could not talk English, who had not been found to be so very objectionable or dangerous.

The fact was that this agitation was against a certain class of people whom it was wished to keep out of the mines for political and other reasons. To be consistent, the agitators should keep out of the mines all people who could not talk English. Here and there, in case of an accident, a Chinaman was found to blame, but he had been astonished at the statistics which had been shown by the member to Lillooet. He had shown that there had really been a greater percentage of accidents among the whites than among the Chinese.

Referring to the Sessional papers of 1879 and the report of the Inspector of Mines, he said, he found three cases of accident, one among white men and two among the Chinese, neither of which was of the character mentioned by the member for Nanaimo. One of these men had been the victim of an accident which he could not have foreseen, and the other was the result of the dastardly act of some other men. So far as his research had gone, he had been unable to discover a single case in which the Chinamen were responsible. Most of the accidents were the result of the carelessness of good miners, who were so skilled and so self-confident that they thought they could do what other men could not do. Frequently experienced miners would take chances which men of less experience would not. There was not a Chinaman who did not understand the dangers of mining, and therefore they would not be likely to cause accidents. He had noticed, last night, that a death had been caused in one of the mines as the result of a premature explosion. These would occur, no matter who were in the mines. One was continually being shocked by reading the accounts of disasters in coal mines in connection with which there could be no suggestion of a Chinaman. With the information now before him he had no hesitation in rescinding his vote of last year, and he should be a coward did he not vote for the second reading.

Mr. Forster explained the risks which miners had to run, saying that the speech of the Attorney-General showed that how much he might know about law he knew nothing about mining. He proceeded to read the official record of the accident in 1879, as contained in the report of the Inspector of Mines in 1880, which, as well as the Coroner's jury, showed that a Chinaman was the person who was responsible. He spoke of the strictness of the mining law in Great Britain, which excluded ignorant men and women and children from the mines. Those who desired to make the mines safe had to begin somewhere, and he knew no stopping place until they had made the mines as safe as it was possible for them to be. There had been very few cases of accident here since the bill of last year had been passed. The evidence was quite as conclusive this year as it was last. The longer miners were worked the more dangerous they became, as the gas accumulated more readily and in greater volume. He hoped the members would consider the claims of the miners who, if they did not need a bill similar to the one passed last year, would not have asked for it. It was the practice in matters of legislation to

consider the views and feelings of those most interested, and they were the people who spoke and had a right to be heard. This was not a matter of dollars and cents, but it was one of lives. He held his present views because of his painful experience that the Chinese were unsafe. If the Chinese were not excluded there would be more explosions. Let members pause before it was too late.

Hon. Mr. Robson said there was no more reason to connect the Chinese with the explosion which had been referred to than to associate them with the man in the moon. The most experienced miner was frequently the most to blame, as he took the most risks. There was only one mine in the province where Chinese were employed. The proprietors of the other mines had voluntarily withdrawn them, and had no intention of ever again employing them. But though this was the case, they were not going to allow the union miners to close their mines. At Comox the Chinese were only employed because the sea was too thin for white men to undertake to mine it. Surely men who banded themselves as the miners had done in antagonism to the best interests of the country could not expect that they would be allowed to paralyze its most important industries. It had not been found possible, and, indeed, was not safe to exclude Chinamen from the large industries of the country for capital would not come in unless it were guaranteed that it would not be interfered with, as had been the experience at Wellington.

The allegation that the presence of the Chinese in mines was dangerous had been proved not to be tenable, and mining must therefore be placed on the same footing as other industries. Labor must be free, and that was the only way in which there could be success. If white labor refused to follow an industry, was it to be supposed that employers had not the right to secure the next best help they could get? The experience of the Union Mine had, he had previously said, illustrated the fact that the Chinese were no more dangerous than other people. Indeed, the evidence showed the reverse. He had been informed when the legislation of last session was brought in that there would be a strike. That had been a true prophecy. Since last session it had been demonstrated that the conditions, in view of which the Chinese Bill of last session had been passed, did not exist. The commercial industries must not be allowed to be boycotted and paralyzed as the coal interest had been. It would tell on every one, and the miners would be more injured than anyone else. He believed it to be a mistaken kindness, an act of cruelty, to afford to the miners facilities to go out on strike when there was no necessity for it. There had been no reason for the Wellington strike, except that the mine owners would not recognize the union and would not allow them to regulate the business of the mine. The men, he was free to say, had a perfect right to strike, but they had no right to attempt to paralyze industry. The bill of last session offered an inducement to strike. Let the members look at the mining community at Wellington. Many of them were living on the contributions of miners and others. They had gone out on strike because their employers would not allow them to conduct their business. There was not a man who would not resent such an attempt as this. The other day when debating the Sabbath Observance Bill, the member for Nanaimo had spoken with force as to the rights of the subject. He (Mr. Robson) had no hesitation in saying that for the Miners' Union to attempt to trench on the rights of others—its members even going down to the wharves and interfering with the sailors, because the men who had mined the coal on board were not unionists—was outrageous, and for representatives of that union to talk in the way that the member for Nanaimo had done, was a piece of perfect hypocrisy and abominable nonsense.

Mr. Sward said he was not prepared for any hasty legislation of this kind. He therefore moved, seconded by Mr. Semlin, that the bill be not read now but be read this day six months.

Mr. Semlin denied that the members had last year, been taken unawares and had voted ignorantly in favor of Mr. Haslam's bill, which it was now proposed to repeal. The members for Nanaimo had advocated that measure as necessary to protect human life. The subject was well understood, and had been for years. It would be very singular if this House which, for humanity's sake, had passed the existing law, should now repeal it because there was a strike at Wellington. The men were just as risky now as they were then, and, on this account, the law must be made as perfect as possible.

The SPEAKER ruled that Mr. Semlin ought not, on the motion of the six months' hoist, to enter so largely into the merits of the bill as he was doing.

Mr. Brown said that much as the subject had been debated he did not believe that members were possessed of sufficient information as to the working of Chinamen underground to act upon this matter now. It would be dangerous, and it was therefore right and proper that there should be further delay. The point to be considered was—Is the presence of Chinamen in mines a source of danger? From all the information he had, he concluded that the Chinaman was a source of danger. He (Mr. Brown) had no uncertainty about this, he believed the Act on the statute book should be amended and made workable; but he knew there were members who were uncertain how to act. They desired to be guided by the evidence, as he believed every member of the House did. But so far the evidence was not sufficient to enable them to give an intelligent vote. He dwelt upon the conflict of evidence that existed, and continued that the question before the House was the lives of men which might be seriously imperilled were the bill of the member for Cowichan read a second time now and existing safeguards were removed.

Mr. Cotton felt that time must be taken to consider this Bill. On the debate on the sister Bill the Attorney-General had pleaded for time in order to study the Bill and the evidence of the Commission. The Premier had taken a similar position, and according to the arguments of those two

members of the Government he felt bound to object to voting hastily. This Bill was never heard of till Saturday last and every member would be justified in this case in following the advice which had been given by members of the Government.

Dr. MILNE and Mr. KEITH having spoken strongly in favor of the six months' hoist.

Hon. Mr. DAVIE briefly but sharply replied to the sophistry and sarcasm of the member for Vancouver, after which a vote was taken, the six months hoist being voted down by 15 to 13.

Nays—Semlin, McKenzie, Sward, Kitchen, Cotton, Kellie, Milne, Beaven, Brown, Forster, Keith, Stodhart, Booth—13. Ayes—Smith, Robson, Davie, Vernon, Eberts, Hall, Nason, Pooley, Turner, Martin, Croft, Hunter, Rogers, Fletcher, Baker—15.

Mr. SEMLIN resumed the debate, and continued it for some time, holding that there was every reason why the present law should be retained and made more perfect.

Hon. Mr. POOLEY moved the previous question, which was carried on a vote of 18 to 10.

The bill was read a second time on the same vote as was given on the six months' hoist.

EVENING SESSION.

The House met at 8 o'clock, in committee on the Suitor's bill. The bill provided chiefly that money paid into court could be paid out on the certificate of the Supreme Court registrar instead of on an order of the court or judge, as at present.

The Attorney-General and Hon. Mr. Pooley opposed the bill.

The committee rose without reporting.

The House then went into committee on the bill to incorporate benevolent and other societies, Mr. Sward in the chair.

The committee rose and reported the bill complete with amendments.

In committee on the act to amend the Game Act, Mr. Hunter in the chair. The bill allows the export of heads, horns or skins of such animals named in 10th section of the Act—as shall have been legally killed by a license holder under the Game Act.

The bill was reported without amendment.

Report adopted, and bill read a third time and passed.

In committee, on the B. C. Dyking and Improvement Co. Bill, Mr. Cotton in the chair.

Hon. Mr. VERNON raised a point of order that the bill could not be brought in as a private one as it encroached on the prerogative of the Crown.

The committee rose and reported to the Speaker for his decision.

The House then went into committee on the Industrial Societies Bill. Mr. Semlin in the chair.

The committee rose and reported the bill complete with amendments.

The House adjourned at midnight.

PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.

First Session of the Sixth Parliament.

FIFTY-SECOND DAY.

The Speaker took the chair at two o'clock. After prayers by Rev. Mr. De

COMPANIES INCORPORATION.

Mr. KELLIE, in moving the second reading of the Companies Incorporation Bill, said the object was to make it a railway company to incorporate other kind of an association, save the time of the House prolixious. His proposal would tend to encourage wild cat schemes.

Hon. Mr. Robson said it would be for the bill to remain over months, in order that the idea considered and discussed by the House. The proposal was too large a one fully considered during the last session.

Mr. KELLIE withdrew the understanding that it would be a easy next session.

The report of the Committee on the yard Act was adopted and the bill a third time and passed.

NICOLA, KAMLOOPS AND SIMILKAMEEN RAILWAY.

The House went into committee on the Nicola, Kamloops and Similkameen Bill, Mr. McKenzie in the chair.

Mr. MARTIN declared that the bill was to levy blackmail on Nicola Valley Railroad Co., and this company to build any railway over the section of country between Nicola Valley road. He moved that section 3 be struck out of following inserted: "The said company, their agents and servants have full power and authority to out, construct, complete, lease and operate a single or double track, of a gauge of four feet eight inches, from a point at the western extremity of Nicola Valley terminus of the Nicola Valley Company shall be located to the town of Princeton, and way of Similkameen River as far as deemed advisable in a southerly direction to the Nicola Valley junction of the company's railway. Nicola Valley Railway Company at Nicola, in a northerly direction to Nicola and Stump Lake to Thompson River, at some point ward of K. Wilcocks."

Mr. Sward, as opposed to the bill, said he was prepared to accept the premises of any railway and thought both bills should be passed, in which event the bill was less prepared would be likely to build the road.

Mr. Croft held that the Nicola & Similkameen railway was likely to be built that was the key line. Both roads depended on the discovery of coal, and the necessity for incorporating two present bill.

Mr. SEMLIN moved that amendments be inserted in the following: "and thence to the town of Kamloops, and also full power and authority to construct, complete, lease, purchase a railway from a point at the western extremity of Nicola Valley terminus of the Nicola Valley Company to build that portion of the line lying between Spence's Bridge junction of the Coldwater with river shall not be exercised until after the passage of this Act, in the meantime the Nicola Valley Railway Company shall not proceed with construction of their railway on the ground that opposition was the law and that the more railway constructed there was provided the better. It is hereby declared that the scheme of a black-mailing character, no men connected with it being of standing, by granting several of the greater was the presumption would be built. The people who were affected by these companies in such a way as to be the ruin of the company, which was possessed of powers."

Mr. BAKER held that all possible facilities should be afforded, but the provision be taken against duplication of making it possible for one blackmail scheme. This comparison of routes, which they might be offered to their being a but if which appeared to be their intention—the five miles of road the charter of the other company not possible for the Nicola Valley blackmail the Nicola, Kamloops and Similkameen R.R., but it was possible later to blackmail the former.

Hon. Mr. Robson said that, in the present scheme in a careful and approved like a wildcat. While the Vally Railway company had been at an upward manner and had the construction of the road would depend upon the satisfactory ment of the coal measures, and for time during which to see extent, the promoters of it were loud in their professions were in conditions of a similar their part, it could not but be both roads were depending upon beds. It had been pointed out junior member for Yale that an interest in the Nicola, Kamloops and R.R. were Mr. Hamilton and Mr. Sandford Fleming. Mr. Hamilton was well known to be interested in wild cat ventures, and it being Mr. Sandford Fleming was concerned it was a son of his. Besides it very often that prominent people, in a good way, lent to enterprises the names. These names were not guarantee of the soundness of a prize. He would repeat that a enterprise would be likely to be unless there were developments.

bers of the Government he felt bound to vote hastily. This Bill was heard of till Saturday last and every member would be justified in this case in voting the advice which had been given members of the Government.

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PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.

FIRST Session of the Sixth Parliament.

FIFTY-SECOND DAY.

The Speaker took the chair at two o'clock. After prayers by Rev. Mr. Dobbs—

COMPANIES INCORPORATION BILL.

MR. KELLIE, in moving the second reading of the Companies Incorporation Bill, said the object was to make it as easy for a railroad company to incorporate as for any other kind of an association, and also to save the time of the House prolonged discussions. His proposal would further tend to encourage wild cat schemes.

HON. MR. ROBSON said it would be well for the bill to remain over for twelve months, in order that the idea might be considered and discussed by the public. The proposal was too large a one to be carefully considered during the last days of the session.

MR. KELLIE withdrew the bill on the understanding that it would be brought up early next session.

The report of Committee on the Graveyard Act was adopted and the bill was read a third time and passed.

NICOLA, KAMLOOPS AND SIMILIKAMEEN ROAD.

The House went into committee on the Nicola, Kamloops and Similkameen Railroad Bill, Mr. McKenzie in the chair.

MR. MARTIN declared that the object of the bill was to levy blackmail on the Nicola Valley Railroad Co. and did on him this company to build any road except over the section of country traversed by the Nicola Valley road. He moved in amend-

ment that Section 3 be struck out and the following inserted: "The said Railway company, their agents and servants, shall have full power and authority to survey, lay out, construct, complete, lease, purchase and operate a single or double line of rail-

way, of a gauge of four feet eight and one-half inches, from a point at or near the western extremity of Nicola Lake, where the terminus of the Nicola Valley Rail- way Company shall be located; thence to the town of Princeton, and thence by way of Similkameen River as far as may be deemed advisable in a southerly direction to Osoyoos Lake; also from a point near the junction of the company's railway with the Nicola Valley Railway Company's terminus at Nicola, in a northerly direction past Nicola and Stump Lake to the South Thompson River, at some point to the east-

ward of K. M. Camp.

MR. SWORD was opposed to the amend- ment. He was not prepared to stand by the promises of any railway men, and thought both bills should be al- lowed to pass, in which event the company that was last prepared would be in a position to build the road.

MR. CROFT held that the Nicola, Kam- loops & Similkameen railway was no more likely to be built than was the Nicola Val- ley line. Both roads depended for success on the discovery of coal, and there was no necessity for incorporating two companies.

MESSRS. HALL and BOOTH supported the present bill.

MR. SEMLIN moved that the said amendment be amended by adding thereto the following words:—"and thence to the town of Kam- loops; and also full power and authority to construct, complete, lease, purchase, and operate a railway from a point at or near Spence's Bridge to a point at or near the western extremity of Nicola Lake: Pro- vided that the power hereby conferred on the company to build that portion of their line lying between Spence's Bridge and the junction of the Coldwater with the Nicola River shall not be exercised until three years after the passage of this Act, unless in the meanwhile the Nicola Valley Railway com- pany elect not to proceed with the con- struction of their railway." He took the ground that opposition was the life of trade and that the more railway accommodations there was provided the better. He emphat- ically denied that the scheme was of a blackmailing character, most of the men connected with it being of the highest standing. By granting several charters the greater was the presumption that a road would be built. The people whose inter- ests were affected by these companies would not in such event be at the mercy of one company, which was possessed of exclusive

power.

COL. BAKER held that all possible railway facilities should be afforded, but that every provision be taken against duplicating lines or of making it possible for one road to blackmail another. This company had an alternative route, which they might adopt, but he objected to their being allowed to build—which appeared to be their sole in- tent—fifty miles of road covered in the charter of the other company. It was not possible for the Nicola Valley road to blackmail the Nicola, Kamloops and Simil- kameen R.R., but it was possible for the latter to blackmail the former.

HON. MR. ROBSON said that, looking at the present scheme in a careful manner, it appeared like a wildcat. While the Nicola Valley Railway company had come in a straightforward manner and had stated that the construction of the road would material- ly depend upon the satisfactory develop- ment of the coal measures, and had asked for time during which to ascertain their extent, the promoters of this road were loud in their professions that there were no conditions of a similar kind on their part, it could not but be manifest that both roads were depending upon those coal beds. It had been pointed out by the junior member for Yale that among those interested in the Nicola, Kamloops & Simil- kameen R.R. were Mr. Hamilton Merritt and Mr. Sandford Fleming. Now Mr. Merritt was well known to be very much interested in wild cat ventures, while in- stead of it being Mr. Sandford Fleming who was concerned it was a son of his, the Boy Fleming. Besides it very often happened that prominent people, in a good natured way, lent to enterprises the use of their names. These names were not always a guarantee of the soundness of any enter- prise. He would repeat that neither en- terprise would be likely to be carried out unless there were developments of coal or

something else. It was true, as the junior member for Yale had said, that generally speaking opposition was the life of trade, that was in the event of the competitors having ample capital. But would anyone say that either of these companies had the necessary financial resources? Both of them would be obliged to go upon the money market for funds. Company No. 1 would go upon the market, and be followed by No. 2. At once capital would take alarm, "here are two purchases, both almost identical, we won't touch either. There is something wrong in the beginning," they would say, or "it has a most enthusiastic and reckless com- petitor." The result would be that with one charter hanging over the other, neither charter would be operated. This company has an alternative route, which, if it were not taken, both companies would be injured. It only proposed, it would seem, to build the fifty miles that were provided for by the other company. If No. 2 would put up a sub-stantial guarantee that it would con- struct and operate its road within time, it would be all very well; but it would give no guarantee beyond the fifty miles already

provided for. It would, he considered, be an act of injustice to give a second charter under conditions like these.

MR. SWORD denied that it was possible to substantiate the charge of blackmailing. He pointed out that the present company had equally as much at stake as the other one, and therefore they ought to have the fair treatment which they sought.

MR. MARTIN said that Mr. Sword knew nothing of the enterprise which he was ad- vocating. In fact, some one had been stuff- ing him. Indeed, the petition for the bill, and the bill itself, had been handed from one member to another, and he congratulated the member, who was responsible for the bill, on the manner in which he was sticking to it. Hon. gentlemen had said that there were large coal lands to be reached, but it was well that members should know that the coal lands, belonging to one of the gentlemen who was promoting this company, had been handed to the other. He would not object to this company if it adopted its alternative route, but he was not prepared to sanction the present propo-

sals.

HON. MR. DAVIE said that the policy of the Ottawa parliament was to prevent the paralleling of lines, and inasmuch as there was a parallel road, he should object to the passage of the bill.

HON. MR. VERNON opposed the bill, be- cause it would naturally prejudice the other company and be productive of no good.

After further discussion, Section 3 was struck out and Mr. Martin's amend- ment was substituted for it.

The bill finally passed committee and was ordered to be amended.

On the order to go into committee on the WESTMINSTER ENABLING BILL,

MR. MARTIN drew attention to the ruling of Mr. Speaker, a few days ago, that this could not be gone on with as a private bill, but that it might be proceeded with as "a hybrid," the procedure in connection with which, as laid down by the authorities, had not been complied with. He submitted the point for the Speaker's decision.

MR. SPEAKER said he had considered this matter fully, and had no intention of an- ending or revising his decision.

HON. MR. DAVIE reviewed the history of procedure in connection with this bill, which was strenuously opposed by many persons whose interests would be vitally af- fected by it. He had found out, on inquiry, that he had been, unwittingly, the instru- ment of bringing in a bill that seriously prejudiced private rights. He now found that this same bill, without alteration, had been brought out by another member.

The Private Bills committee had recom- mended that the bill be altered and amend- ed, so as to provide against illegal outlay in the future, and to prevent the corporation carrying on electric lighting, but this order had not been complied with. He entirely disowned the bill which was now before the House, subject to all the objections made by the Private Bills committee.

MR. BOOTH said the bill was down in his name, and he would take charge of it.

HON. MR. DAVIE said the bill must be re- constructed in the way recommended by committee. He had, he must say, narrowly escaped being the means of doing an in- justice to certain parties. He had been as- sured that everything was all right, and on that assurance he had taken charge of the measure, which any other member of the House would have done under the cir- cumstances.

MR. BROWN denied in toto every one of the statements of the Attorney-General. The bill did not interfere with private rights. There was less than a quarter of a million dollars worth of property affected by it, and the reason of the opposition to the bill was that certain private parties wished to do the lighting which the people had decid- ed the city should do. He explained that the expenditure that was to be confined were sanctioned by nine-tenths of the rate- payers. He did not know how the name of the member for the Islands had been placed on the bill, but presumed that the Attorney- General had put it there. He referred to the recommendations suggested by the Pri- vate Bills Committee. They were very sim- ple and it had been proposed to insert them in committee. He had been assured, at Westminster, that those who opposed the bill would be satisfied with the bill, if the amendments suggested by the Private Bills Committee were incorporated. He mentioned the right of the corporation of New West- minster to do private lighting, it being a large amount of power, (\$500 or \$600 a month), doing nothing. There were no pri- vate rights infringed upon. Indeed, an agreement had been entered into with the Gas Company, to whom \$600 had been paid. Mr. Brown proceeded to read a large amount of correspondence which had taken place in the subject, also resolutions showing that the council and the citizens favored the idea of the corporation having their own water and lighting. As to the matter of so called illegal contracts Mr. Corbould, the city attorney, had distinctly declared that the corporation did

not desire to be whitewashed, all that was desired was to have the power to take the sense of the citizens upon the subject. He went on to criticize the objections to the Bill, holding that inasmuch as the right to light towns had been given to other munici- palities they could not in justice be denied to the city of New Westminster. The Bill, as it had been approved in principle by this House, was agreed to, and he, as he had said, was awaiting the opportunity to introduce the amendments recommended by the Private Bills Committee.

HON. MR. BEAVEN could not understand how this Bill had again found its way upon the Orders of the House. The whole of the proceedings had, in his opinion, been irregu- lar. This Bill was the identical one which had been considered by the Private Bills Committee.

MR. HUNTER having asked a number of questions as to the procedure in connection with this Bill and its regularity.

HON. MR. BEAVEN suggested that the member for New Westminster should place his proposed amendments on the order paper, after which the Bill might come up for further consideration.

MR. MILNE cited the agreement entered into between the City and the Gas company, saying that the latter had not surrendered all its rights for the sum of \$600, and hold- ing that the corporation were trying in every way to prejudice its interests. They had, with this object in view, entered into expenditures of over \$100,000, without ob- taining the sanction of the people. The object of this Bill was to whitewash the corporation, of which material there was not sufficient in that city. There was an injunction against the city, on account of the ferry business, and it was but prop- er that all these matters should be brought to light. He concluded by referring to the way in which the parentage of this Bill had been disclosed, saying that it was a bas- tard Bill and should be treated as such.

MR. BOOTH said he did not know how his name had been connected with the Bill, but he was prepared to support it.

HON. MR. DAVIE said the course pro- posed by the President of the Council was the only one that could be adopted. The House was not in a position to go into com- mittee. The Municipality Act did not ap- ply to New Westminster. They were

governed by their own Act, which provided that while the corporation might supply gas, electric lighting, &c., they were not to prejudice vested rights.

MR. MARTIN contended that the action of the private bills committee had been cor- rect. That committee had recommended certain amendments which sought to have been introduced. Before that report had been made a great amount of evidence had been taken. He was inclined to think that it was no use giving charters and powers to corporations if they undertook to violate their provisions and then come here for indemnification.

MR. HUNTER contended that before the bill could be proceeded with the evidence which had been taken before the private bills committee should be printed for the use of the House. He drew attention to certain inaccuracies in the evidence taken before the committee and said he should be happy to support the bill.

MR. BROWN said he would be prepared to accept the suggestion of the President of the Council.

MR. EBERS did not think the House would be prepared to have such a bill passed as the present one. Where were the amend- ments recommended?

HON. MR. BEAVEN pointed out the irreg- ularity which had characterized everything in connection with this bill which asked favors which he was sure this House would not grant.

On motion the order for the House to go into committee on the Westminster Enab- ling bill was deferred to Friday.

The House rose.

EVENING SESSION.

The House went into committee on the Toad Mountain and Nelson Tramway Com- pany's Bill, Mr. Stoddart in the chair.

The bill was reported complete with amendments.

The Hot Springs and Goat River Tram- way Co.'s Bill was read a third time and passed.

The following bills were reported and fixed for a third reading, next sitting, after Hon. Mr. Beaven's Anti-Chinese clauses had been voted down, viz.: Okanagan Land and Development Bill; Liverpool and Canal Pass Railway Bill; Vancouver and Lulu Island Railway Bill; Vancouver and Lulu Island Improvement Bill; Vancouver, Nor- thern and Alaska Railway Bill.

MR. KELLIE remarked that the last bill provided for a railway to run to Alaska in United States territory, while the pro- moter of this bill (Mr. Cotton) had objected to the Kootenay Railway Bill for a similar reason.

DISCHARGED.

The following orders were discharged. Adjourned debate on Mr. Sword's motion re granting right of eminent domain to rail- way companies.

Adjourned debate on Mr. Martin's motion relative to stock killed on the C. P. R.

The following bills took their second reading.

Legal Professor's Bill, (Hon. Mr. Davie), to enable the Benchers of Westminster to provide a library and to provide penalties for those who did not return the books.

County Courts' Bill, (Hon. Mr. Davie), to give county court Judges jurisdiction out- side of their own districts.

SUNDAY BILL.

The House went into committee on Mr. Robson's Sunday Bill, which was the sub- ject of a long debate, there being in its course a considerable display of banter. Indeed, the exceptions originally provided were made to apply to cattle dealers and lumber-men, it being difficult to see to what length members would have proceeded in this direction had not Hon. Mr. Turner moved that the committee rise, to which the Premier agreed.

The bill is thus killed. It is understood that the intention had been to render every section inoperative except that repealing the Sunday law which is now in force on the mainland.

The second reading of Mr. Brown's 'Pro- vincial Voters' Bill, to give the franchise to women, was lost on division of 10 for to 17 against.

The House went into committee on the Vancouver Amendment Bill, rose and re- ported the bill with amendments.

HON. MR. ROBSON announced that pro- rogation would probably take place on Monday or Tuesday.

The House adjourned at 11:40 p.m.

PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.

FIFTH Session of the Sixth Parliament.

FIFTY-THIRD DAY.

The SPEAKER took the chair at 2 o'clock. HON. MR. ROBSON said it afforded him very great pleasure to welcome to his seat in the House, Mr. Punch, member for Westminster district, who had been unable, on account of sickness, to be present pre- viously to this.

MR. PUNCH having been presented to the speaker by Messrs. Sword and Kitchen, took his seat at the desk adjoining that of the last named member.

MINING REPORT.

MR. SMITH presented the report of the committee on mining, which recom- mended that certain amendments proposed to the Mining Law be not adopted.

MOTIONS.

MR. SWORD moved "That the report of the committee appointed 4th March to con- sider and report on the answer given by the Hon. the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works to clause C of the question asked by Mr. Sword, be adopted."—Carried.

MR. SEMLIN moved "That, in the opinion of this House, the principles laid down in the 'Public Works Act,' of carrying on work by contract, should be extended to book-binding required by the Government." The motion was carried.

THE SALE OF LIQUORS.

HON. MR. ROBSON moved the second reading of the bill respecting the sale of fer- mented and spirituous liquors. The object was to prevent habitual drunkards from dis- sipating their property in purchasing liquor, and to prevent licensed liquor sellers from selling liquor to such persons. There were other provisions further regulating the sale of liquor.

HON. MR. BEAVEN drew attention to the fourth clause, which involved another im- portant issue.

MESSRS. FORSTER and KEITH favored the bill, and said that they proposed to discuss it at the next stage.

MR. KEITH moved the previous question, and the bill was read a second time.

The House went into committee, Mr. Forster in the chair, on the Lieut. Gov- ernor's message, transmitting the bill to amend the

COLUMBIA AND KOOTENAY R.R. ACT.

HON. MR. DAVIE explained that under the Act of 1890 the company's land grant had been 200,000 acres, in blocks four miles square. This bill was to strike out the four miles square, and to provide that "every such block shall, except as hereinafter mentioned, contain an area of not less than two miles square, and the shore line of any lake or stream may be taken as a boundary line for one or more sides of any such blocks, and when so taken the area of any such blocks may be less than the aforesaid area, but when a block of less than two miles square is obtained under the provisions of this sub-section, the block shall be considered as containing the full quantity of two miles square for the purpose of making up the total area of two hundred thousand acres to which the company is entitled under the provisions of the principal Act. In all cases except as to lands surrounding and within three miles of the terminus of the railway on the Columbia River, the blocks to be reserved must be exclusive of and may not include any lands which may have been purchased or pre- empted before the passage of this Act, but in the cases of the land so surrounding the townsite of Nelson and the said terminus of the Columbia River, the area may include such purchased or pre-empted lands for the purpose only of ascertaining the extent of any block so surrounding the said townsite or terminus as aforesaid, and in any such case where purchased or pre-empted lands are included for the purpose of making up the area, the block shall be deemed to be a block of two miles square, and the com- pany shall not be entitled to any additional allowance for the lands which have been so purchased or pre-empted. The lands so to be granted are to be subject to the right of free miners as defined by the Mineral and Mining Acts respectively." The company, it was explained, surrender their claims to all metals, base as well as precious.

The bill was introduced and read a first time.

The House went into committee, Mr. Smith in the chair, on the Lieut. Governor's message, transmitting an amendment to

THE LAND BILL.

The committee rose and reported; the amendment was introduced, and read a first time.

The message is as follows:

The Lieut. Governor transmits herewith a clause to be inserted in the Land bill now before the House of Assembly, author- izing the Lieut. Governor in Council to grant a right of way, and terminal and other facilities, to railway and tramway companies, and pursuant to the provisions of the "British North America Act, 1867," the Lieut. Governor recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

"The Lieut. Governor in Council may, subject to any terms and conditions which he may see fit to impose, grant to any rail- way or tramway company incorporated under authority of the Legislature of the province, a right of way, not to exceed one hundred feet in width, through Crown lands together with such other Crown lands as may be necessary for terminal purposes, sid- ings, stations, sheds, warehouses, embankments, bridges, culverts, drains and other works of the company."

HON. MR. BEAVER strongly protested against this proposition, adding that if any government with which he was connected asked for such unlimited powers as this he would at once resign. He characterized this as a step in the direction of doing away with the utility of sessions of the Legislature.

Mr. CORROD opposed this proposal as it gave the Government unlimited power to give railways anything they liked to ask. Hon. Mr. ROBINSON said it was not proposed to give the Government any power to give railways a land bonus or subsidy. It was only to enable them to give the right-of-way and terminal facilities. He held this to be a very proper course of action. He could very readily imagine the antagonism of hon. gentlemen who never could do anything right in what the Government did; but he believed that to all others the proposition would commend itself.

HON. MR. VERNON said that the Dominion Government had far greater powers in a similar direction than was now contemplated. The Government could not, under the law, grant bonuses, but the present proposal was of an altogether different character.

After further discussion
HON. MR. BEAVER objected that the proposed law would enable the Government to hand over any valuable properties to railways and other companies by order in council. This session many charters had been granted, but when he (Mr. Beaver) had introduced the anti-Chinese clauses the House had been informed that the companies were seeking no subsidies or concessions. However, it would appear that if

the proposed provision were added to the Land Bill, the Government would be empowered to give away the public lands. Why, instead of acting in this sweeping way, did not the Government come down to the House and deal with each demand upon its merits?

The committee rose and reported the clause.
The motion to receive the report was adopted by 19 to 9.

Notes—Messrs. Beaver, Cotton, Semlin, Milne, McKenzie, Forster, Sward, Keith, Kitchen—9.

Ayes—Robson, Pooley, Turner, Vernon, Martin, Croft, Eberts, Stoddart, Booth, Hall, Rogers, Nason, Anderson, Baker, Brown, Smith, Kellie, Punch, Davis—19.

The consideration of certain amendments to the bill for the protection of cattle, was deferred till to-morrow.

HON. MR. DAVIE having introduced several rival amendments to the report on the bill to amend the Jurors Act, the bill was read a third time and passed.

On the motion to receive the report on

THE LAND BILL,
Mr. BOOTH moved to add to section 4, sub-section 4, sub-section C: "Provided always that no person shall purchase more than one tract of land, of whatever extent, under this section until the above mentioned improvements have been completed in accordance with this Act." Carried.

HON. MR. VERNON moved the amendment transmitted by the Lieut. Governor regarding right of way and terminal facilities for railway and tramway companies.

HON. MR. BEAVER moved an amendment to restrict the right of way for tramways to 66 feet in width, and to strike out all provisions granting crown lands for "terminal purposes, sidings, stations, sheds, wharves, warehouses, embankments, bridges, culverts, drains and other works of railway and tramway companies." He thought this would be going far enough, if not, indeed, too far.

DR. MILNE said he could not support the clause before the house. It gave too much power to the Government to deal with the public lands. The clause sent down by the Lieut. Governor proposed to give to railways and tramways crown lands for terminal purposes, "sidings, stations, sheds, wharves, warehouses, embankments, bridges, culverts, drains, and other works of the company." The members of the present Government might not be speculators, but those in their confidence might be benefited by such a power in the hands of the Government. There had been an instance of this a few years ago, when the present Government gave a large tract of land on Burrard Inlet—6,000 acres was given away at that time in order to carry the line 12 miles further. The Government were censured for giving such a grant. Now they proposed to take to themselves the power to deal with the public lands in this particular without referring to the legislature. It was expected in the near future to have several railways coming into Victoria, and they would ask for land for terminal purposes. There was the Indian Reserve in this city, and possibly the present Government proposed to deal with that valuable piece of property if they got it into their hands. The Corporation of Victoria ought to have something to say on this question, as it was adjacent to the centre of the city. The clause he should oppose, because it gave too much power to deal with public lands without the consent of the legislature.

Mr. BEAVER believed in giving to railways all necessary facilities, but would move, in amendment, that the grant for terminal facilities be restricted to what was absolutely needed, and that no provision ought to be made for wharves and warehouses.

Mr. BOOTH could not see where the danger lay of which the leader of the opposition appeared so afraid. The Government was supposed to have the confidence of the country, and he deprecated the policy of the opposition in trying to tie its hands hard and fast.

Mr. CORROD contended that the House should not give away its rights and prerogatives as was contemplated in this amendment. Previously the Provincial Government had the power which it was proposed to restore by the amendment of the Commissioner of Lands and Works. It would never have been taken away if it had not been for cause. This amendment would open the door to more abuses than ever. He certainly thought that in initiating this kind of legislation we were going backward instead of in advance. All these matters should be kept within the purview of parliament as in England.

HON. MR. ROBINSON said there was no land to be given away in England. The member for Vancouver wilfully persisted in saying that this clause would enable the Government to bonus companies. This was not the case. It did not cover anything in the shape of a bonus, that could be disposed of for sale and profit. All that was contemplated was to give to more than one tract of land for right of way and terminal facilities. It was not right, it was dishonest to seek to give to words an interpretation to which they were not entitled. It would be a fine opportunity for the member for Vancouver to use his eloquence to turn out the Government, and to obtain a seat for himself on the Treasury benches, did they offend in the manner he spoke of. The Government would be always accountable to Parliament. It had power to expend thousands and thousands of dollars without the sanction of Parliament, and this proposal to deal with the public lands was a mere bagatelle compared with that. There would not be given away a single rood of land for sale or profit, and, for all then granted, Government would be accountable to this House. This was a mere factious opposition, a sort of crookedness and a determination to make out that the Government were not to be trusted with the affairs of the country. The Government wished to have the powers they sought, and to be held strictly accountable for all they did.

HON. MR. BEAVER was proceeding to refer to the debate of Wednesday evening on the Sunday bill, when he was called to order by Mr. Speaker.

HON. MR. DAVIE pointed out that if the proposed amendment were not adopted the effect would be to prevent the carrying out of a number of enterprises which had been sanctioned this session. He held that terminal facilities were equally as necessary as the right of way, saying that it was not the Government, but the leader of the Opposition and the gentleman who was recognized as his deputy would consent to give the Government any powers at all. If they did not oppose almost everything the Government did they appeared to think that they would be of no use as an Opposition. If they were not a proper Government in the opinion of the majority of the members they would doubtless give their confidence to another government and, he supposed, grant them all the powers that were now sought.

Mr. SEMLIN could not see the necessity for this power unless there was something concealed which he had not yet seen through. He claimed that under sub-section three of clause four of the General Railway Act the Government had all the power necessary to grant right-of-way.

The members having been called in the

respective amendments of the leader of the Opposition and the member for New Westminster were put to the House and lost, and the amendment submitted by the commissioner of lands and works was adopted and made to stand as section 17 of the bill. The vote of the members on the adoption of Hon. Mr. Vernon's amendment stood 18 to 10.

The bill was read a third time and passed.

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES.

HON. MR. TURNER presented the Supplementary Estimates, which he moved should be referred at once to Committee of the Whole.

The House went into Committee of the Whole, Mr. Martin in the chair. The message having been reported to the House, Committee of Supply was formed, Mr. Martin in the chair.

Mr. GRANT called the attention of the Government to the desirability of bonusing ship building in this province. Were a bonus of say \$20 a ton for vessels up to 700 tons granted, there could be no doubt that a considerable number of vessels would be built within the next six months. There were a number of people here deliberating as to whether to buy vessels or build them here. The Government might well take up the subject, which was a most important one.

HON. MR. TURNER thought that \$20 a ton bonus was rather large. There could be no question that vessels could be built more cheaply than in the United States. He therefore thought that it would not be necessary to give so large a bonus. For a vessel of 700, or even 500, tons a bonus of only \$10 a ton would be a considerable amount. It was too late in the session, however, to take up this matter, but the subject might be dealt with in some other shape. He believed, though he had not consulted with them, that his colleagues in the Cabinet would favor the idea of the bonus. The Province could itself supply most of the lumber required, while the other requisites would materially add to the import trade. The result would be to assist every industry, and he assured hon. members that he considered the subject worthy of all consideration.

In committee, the supplementary items were adopted, amounting to \$30,950. Sums under schedule A, \$24,770 03. The committee rose and reported, and the House rose at six o'clock.

THE COMMITTEE ROSE AND REPORTED, AND THE SUPPLY BILL WAS READ A THIRD TIME AND PASSED.

THE FOLLOWING BILLS WERE

READ A THIRD TIME AND PASSED.

Okanagan Land and Development Bill.

Liverpool and Canoe Pass Railway Bill.

Vancouver and Lulu Island Railway Bill.

Vancouver and Lulu Island Improvement Bill.

Vancouver, Northern and Alaska Railway Bill.

General Societies Bill.

Industrial Societies Bill.

Nicola, Kamloops and Similkameen Railway Bill.

The Victoria and North American Railroad Bill passed through committee and was reported without amendments.

On the committee reporting the Toad Mountain and Nelson Tramway Bill, Hon. Mr. BEAVER proposed the anti-Chinese clauses which were rejected on a vote of 7 to 5.

The report was adopted.

The Legal Professions Bill was reported with amendment.

The House went into committee on the County Courts Bill, Dr. Milne in the chair.

The bill was reported complete with amendments.

On the motion to adopt the report of committee on the

VANCOUVER CITY AMENDMENT BILL,

HON. MR. DAVIE moved to strike out clause 28 to allow the City Council to pass a by-law preventing and prohibiting the sale of any meat, vegetables, fish or poultry within the city elsewhere than at the public market or markets, and for regulating the same: Provided that the rights of existing dealers be protected.

A long discussion ensued, it being contended that Victoria and New Westminster had the right to do this. Moreover, it was said that this power was necessary for sanitary reasons. On the other it was held that to grant such powers would be both pernicious and arbitrary, and would interfere with vested rights. These rights should be conserved, although the principle of the corporation regulating where meats and vegetables should be sold was a correct one.

HON. MR. DAVIE'S amendment was carried by a vote of 15 to 10, and the report on the bill as amended was adopted.

On the report on

THE MUNICIPAL AMENDMENT BILL,

A number of amendments were adopted, among them the following:

HON. MR. BEAVER—"Section 39. The clerk of each municipality shall in every year, immediately after the final correction and revision of the list of voters, make out a correct alphabetical list thereof, divided into separate columns, with headings stating under what qualification each voter is entitled to vote."

HON. MR. BEAVER—"Section 96, sub-section (4), line 2, to strike out all the words after 'works' and insert: and for arranging and settling with any owner or owners of real property the terms and conditions under which the sewer may be constructed or laid through his or their land; and to expropriate such land as the Council may deem necessary for the purpose of constructing the main sewer, not, however, exceeding

feet in width, subject to the restrictions contained in sections 206 to 209 (inclusive) of this Act; and provided, always, that the power to expropriate land in this sub-section is only conferred, and can be only exercised by the Council, in the event of there not being a street or road allowance in the vicinity which the Council can use for the purpose of constructing or laying the main sewer."

HON. MR. BEAVER moved to strike out section 132 in regard to levying a rate and insert:

"132. The council may, in each and every year, after the final revision of the roll, pass a by-law for levying a rate or rates on all the land, real property, or improvements upon the assessment roll, to provide for all the necessary expenses of the municipality, as well as the payment of every debt or liability of the municipality, and in respect of any debt or other debt or obligation, and also such other sum or sums of money as may be found expedient: Provided, always, that the rate to be levied in any year, including what is required for payment on outstanding debentures, and the amount required for a sinking fund and therefor, and for school purposes (if any), shall not exceed the sum of one and one-half cents on the dollar."

He explained that the section which he proposed to amend read "provided always that the rate to be levied in any year in addition to" instead of "including" as he proposed.

MR. KITCHEN contended that to keep the taxation down to one and a third or one half per cent. would, in view of the long list of exemptions, strangle all improvements. He assured the members that municipal councils would not ask more money than was absolutely required.

The amended clause was carried on a vote of 15 to 7.

On motion of HON. MR. BEAVER the following sub-sections were added to section 132:

"(a.) The council may settle, impose, and levy rates and taxes upon improvements at a percentage less than that imposed by the council upon land, or they may exempt improvements from taxation altogether:

"(b.) The council may keep different columns in the assessment roll showing separately the assessed value of 'land' and the assessed value of 'improvements,' or they may keep an assessment roll showing the value, in the assessor's estimation, of the improvements thereon."

After sitting until 12.30 the House adjourned before completing the Municipal Amendment Act.

NOTICE OF MOTION.

MR. KITCHEN—To pray the Government to urge on the Dominion Government the necessity of at once beginning the work of preserving the channel of the Fraser river between Popcorn and Mission.

PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.

First Session of the Sixth Parliament.

FIFTY-FOURTH DAY.

The Speaker took the chair at two o'clock. After prayers by Rev. Mr. Dobbs, A petition was presented on the subject of the Surrey bill.

THE LIQUOR BILL.

The House went into committee on the bill respecting the sale of fermented and spirituous liquors; Mr. Anderson in the chair.

There was a considerable amount of discussion on the exception to the clause prohibiting the sale or supply of liquor to "drunkards," which allowed it to be given under the sanction or direction of a medical man or a minister of religion. It was held that such administration of liquor might have a most serious effect in awakening the old appetite.

After debate the section as originally framed was adopted.

On the clause prohibiting the sale of liquor at wholesale or retail from or after 7 o'clock on Saturday night till 6 o'clock on Monday morning there was a great deal of controversy.

HON. MR. BEAVER held that it should not apply to cities, and made a motion to that effect. He thought a general law should not apply, the municipalities having the right to deal with the subject.

MR. MARTIN moved to amend the section in order to provide that no liquor should be sold between twelve o'clock on Saturday night and twelve o'clock on Sunday night. He did not wish to interfere with the rights of any municipality.

MR. BOOTH held that to be effective the Act should apply to the whole province.

MR. COTTON said the City of Vancouver had, under its special charter, power to deal with this subject. Would this bill, if passed, do away with those powers?

HON. MR. DAVIE said *pro tanto* it did.

MR. BOOTH urged that twelve o'clock was too late to prevent the drunkardness, to provide against which this Bill had been prepared.

MR. FORSTER protested against this clause, on behalf of his constituents. People could not be changed from saloon-goers to church attendants, by act of Parliament. Where must they go when the saloons are closed? People must first be taught better habits, until which they would contrive to evade the law, and get liquor anyhow, if not as common customers as travellers. The clause under consideration should be struck out.

MR. NASON approved of the Bill as a step in the right direction.

HON. MR. ROBINSON moved that the committee rise, report progress and ask leave to sit again this evening. Carried.

HON. MR. DAVIE moved the second reading of the bill to amend the

COLUMBIA AND KOOTENAY RAILWAY

Subsidy Act, 1890. It appeared that if the company were restricted in their land grant to four-mile square blocks it could not get the necessary complement of land. It had to receive its blocks uninterrupted by private rights, and in the Kootenay district it was found impossible to discover the required amount of uninterrupted lands.

Under the act the company had control of their base metals, to which exception had been taken by the miners, and this, in respect for the proposed concession, the company had relinquished. If it had not been for the enterprise of this company the town of Nelson would not exist.

MR. SEMLIN gave the history of the Kootenay Railway, saying that the former company had agreed to build the road for a subsidy of 750,000 acres of land, but had abandoned the enterprise. This company had agreed to do the work for 200,000 acres of land in blocks of four square miles; but he held that owing to the greater choice they would have of the land and the extra water frontage they would get, they would now have a 100 per cent. better arrangement. The company had gone on with their work satisfactorily, and there was no necessity, he held, to make them any further concession. This proposed arrangement was giving up everything and getting nothing in return, for he did not see that the proposed arrangement to give up the base metals was any concession at all.

COL. BAKER said that the best lands in the Kootenay country were not in West, but in East Kootenay, and naturally the company would seek to make their selection there. From a settler's point of view he should be inclined to say, keep out these land warrant people. But, looking at the benefit which this road would do to the entire province, he should favor the measure. It was desirable to have settlers in the country; but the junior member for Yale seemed to be of a different view. Whether lands were taken up by railway or private enterprise, it was for the benefit of the whole community. No doubt he and many of the East Kootenay people would be personally disadvantaged by the carrying out of this bill. Nevertheless he hoped this road would be carried and eventually become a portion of the British Columbia Central.

MR. KELLIE said he felt it his duty to rise and emphatically protest against the passage of this bill. The Columbia and Kootenay Railway received last year 200,000 acres of land as a bonus in 20 blocks of 10,000 acres each. They were entitled to, and should have also a bonus in cash of \$13,000 from the Dominion Government for building 28 miles of a railway. If this bill passed, instead of giving the company the right of selecting 20 blocks of 10,000 acres each it would give them the option of selecting 80 blocks of 2,500 acres each, which practically meant that it would give this company the power of skinning the district and give them every point of advantage. He did not blame the C. & K. Railway company for trying to get the most favorable terms, but he wanted to impress on the House the necessity of guarding other interests and not to forget there were other interests that wanted guarding besides that of the C. & K. Railway Co. He appealed in the interests of his constituents, and trusted the Government would with-

draw the bill, as he was sure that it would give great dissatisfaction, it might eventually cause the people of Kootenay to pass resolutions which they would then have to pass in the manner of public resolutions.

Referring to the history of the member for Yale he observed that the member very important chapter. He chapter relating to the grant of land; but even with land grant the company had to float its stock. In 1888 it passed another act, granting another 200,000 acres—precisely amount as this—to be taken warrants in four mile square blocks. Nevertheless, that though it had made a cash deal, 000, had failed to be floated, tried the financiers, by United States and England, but was not supposed to be. Years passed, and the conviction of the importance of the road under shape of another franchise—

They had succeeded in the matter and considerable work had been done. The land grants were so exacting that the company had made up extraordinary, indeed, that they had not been as successful as they were. The present amendment to the corporation was the result of both sides. The concessions company were more than those been made by the Government from East Kootenay would be admit that the land in his territory was of little or no economic value from the minerals which it contained. Mr. KELLIE—The land, from a point of view, has no economic value, but I don't like to see it all go hands.

HON. MR. ROBINSON said that referred to were only a flea bite compared with the area of the not amount to much. The land was quite as well in the hands of the Government. The Government become an effective colonization and it was clearly in the province that they should have the land that case, were much more than that. It was to the general benefit that the country be taken up. There were patches of land in the individuals if other lands were settled? The Premier referred peculiar views held by some with regard to the building of railroads. Everyone was anxious to see the country taken up, some as a grinding monopoly. So with the Kootenay railroad, those who were beginning to say entitled to no consideration, a could put it off without doing anything. He was satisfied that the company had secured the necessary capital, and the proposals of the Government could not fail to commend themselves good judgment of the House.

MR. COTTON was glad to hear that the new arrangement, the Government had secured the mineral rights, recognized that it was a concession to allow the company to size of their blocks, but, knowing that it was to secure the necessities of eligible lands, he should be satisfied.

HON. MR. BEAVER said the having made their arrangement, the good land with the bad. He held the idea of these large subdivisions that lands should be taken up in sections. The principle of good one to amend a concession in made more liberal, that of last made all the difference in the world whether lands should be two mile or four miles square. If the connected with the enterprise were to carry out this scheme and felt it were not fairly dealt with, was it to make further concessions? have a system of quick communications, and since we give liberal cash subsidies to give lands. There were millions of acres in the province which were not placed on the market and 25 cents an acre, and, no doubt, they found this to be the case in it they had received. He should be to vote for the bill.

HON. MR. VERNON thought it company which had made the concession the Government having the best of gain. No one had ever said that the company had come to the Government arrangement. The Government felt that the company should not be power to deal with the base metals, well known that in Illecillewaet Springs and elsewhere there were quantities of galena, the obtaining which by the Government was a far concession than to give the company blocks.

MR. MILNE considered this to be away, and hoped the Government would withdraw the bill.

MR. KELLIE said that last year not the intention that the company have the base ores, and there was said about it in the act.

The bill was read a second time on of 17 to 9. It went through committee and was read a third time and passed.

The Cattle bill was read a third time and passed.

PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.

First Session of the Sixth Parliament.

FIFTY-FOURTH DAY.

The Speaker took the chair at two o'clock. After prayers by Rev. Mr. Dobbs, a petition was presented on the subject of the Surrey bill.

THE LIQUOR BILL.

The House went into committee on the respecting the sale of fermented and titious liquors; Mr. Anderson in the chair.

There was a considerable amount of discussion on the exception to the clause prohibiting the sale or supply of liquor to "unlawfuls," which allowed it to be given to the sanction or direction of a medical or a minister of religion. It was held that such administration of liquor might have a most serious effect in awakening the appetite.

After debate the section as originally framed was adopted.

On the clause prohibiting the sale of or at wholesale or retail from or after 7 o'clock on Saturday night till 6 o'clock on Sunday morning there was a great deal of rovery.

MR. BEAVEN held that it should apply to cities, and made a motion to effect. He thought a general law did not apply, the municipalities having right to deal with the subject.

MR. MARTIN moved to amend the section so that no liquor should be sold between twelve o'clock on Saturday night and twelve o'clock on Sunday night, did not wish to interfere with the sale of any municipality.

MR. BOOTH held that to be effective Act should apply to the whole province.

MR. COTTON said the City of Vancouver under its special charter, power to do with this subject. Would this bill, passed, do away with those powers?

MR. DAVIS said *pro tanto* it did.

MR. BOOTH urged that twelve o'clock too late to prevent the drunkenness, to be against which this Bill had been passed.

MR. FORSTER protested against this, on behalf of his constituents. He could not be changed from saloons to church attendants, by act of Parliament. Where must they go when the doors are closed? People must first be better habits, until which they contrive to evade the law, and get anyhow, if not as common customers elsewhere. The clause under consideration should be struck out.

MR. NASON approved of the Bill as a step in the right direction.

MR. BEAVEN moved that the committee rise, report progress and ask leave to gain this evening. Carried.

MR. DAVIS moved the second reading of the act to amend the

COLUMBIA AND KOOTENAY RAILWAY

Act, 1890. It appeared that if the any were restricted in their land grant, mile square blocks it could not get necessary complement of land. It had received its blocks uninterrupted by rights, and in the Kootenay district it found impossible to discover the real amount of uninterrupted lands.

MR. BEAVEN moved that the committee rise, report progress and ask leave to gain this evening. Carried.

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draw the bill, as he was satisfied it would give great dissatisfaction, and he feared it might eventually cause a rebellion.

HON. MR. ROBINSON referred to the fact of the people of Kootenay appearing to think that they owned the whole public domain, as evidenced by the manner in which they passed their resolutions with respect to public concerns. Referring to the junior member for Yale's history of this railway, he observed that the member had left out a very important chapter. He had given the chapter relating to the grant of 750,000 acres of land; but even with that enormous land grant the company had not been able to float its stock. In 1888 the House had passed another act, granting to the Ainsworth Company, which was the same as this, 200,000 acres—precisely the same amount as this—to be taken under land warrants in four mile square blocks, with the privilege of selecting it where they pleased. Nevertheless, that company, although it had made a cash deposit of \$250,000, had failed to be floated. They had tried the financiers, both of the United States and England, but the enterprise was not supposed to be good. Years passed, and the conviction grew of the importance of the road until it took the shape of another franchise—the present one. They had succeeded in the money market, and considerable work had been done. If the land grants were so excessive, as the member for Yale had made out, it was extraordinary, indeed, that they should have not been as successful as they had hoped. The present amendment to the act of incorporation was the result of concessions on both sides. The concessions made by the company were more than those which had been made by the Government. His friend from East Kootenay would, he had no doubt, admit that the land in his section of country was of little or no economic value, apart from the minerals which it contained.

MR. KELLIE—The land, from an agricultural point of view, has no economic value; but I don't like to see it all go into the same hands.

HON. MR. ROBINSON said that the lands referred to were only a flea bite—a bagatelle—compared with the area of the district. The reduction in the size of the blocks did not amount to much. The land would be quite as much in the hands of the company as of the Government. The former would become an effective colonization machine, and it was clearly the province interest that they should have the lands which, in that case, were much more likely to be settled. It was to the general interests that the country be taken up. Of what use were patches of land in the hands of individuals if other lands were not settled? The Premier referred to the peculiar views held by some people with regard to the building of railways. At first everyone was anxious to have the C. P. R., which was later on looked at by some as a grinding monopoly and a curse. So with the Kootenay railroad. There were those who were beginning to say that it was entitled to no consideration, and if they could put it off without doing anything for it they thought they were doing a grand thing. He was satisfied that the House was prepared to deal equitably with the company, and the proposals of the government could not fail to commend themselves to the good judgment of the House.

MR. COTTON was glad to hear that in making the new arrangement the Government had secured the mineral rights. He recognized that it was a considerable advantage to allow the company to change the size of their block that in this instance the bill was to secure the necessary quantities of eligible lands, he should support the bill.

HON. MR. BEAVEN said the company, having made their arrangement, must take the good land with the bad. He did not like the idea of these large subdivisions, and held that lands should be taken up in alternate sections. The principle was not a good one to amend a concession in the manner proposed. He could not see where the practice of giving everything that was asked for was going to end.

MR. GRANT said that in this instance the question resolved itself into this: Was it the opinion of this House that the Columbia and Kootenay R. R. Act should be made more liberal than that of last session? It made all the difference in the world whether lands should be two miles square or four miles square. If the company connected with the enterprise were prepared to carry out this scheme and felt that they were not fairly dealt with, was it true policy to make further concessions? We must have a system of quick and cheap communications, and since we could not give liberal cash subsidies we must give lands. There were millions and millions of acres in the province which could not be placed on the market and sold for 25 cents an acre, and no doubt, this company found this to be the case in the blocks they had received. He should be prepared to vote for the bill.

HON. MR. VERNON thought it was the company which had made the concession, the Government having the best of the bargain. No one had ever said that the company had come to the Government to alter the arrangement. The Government had felt that the company should not have the power to deal with the base metals. It was well known that in Illecillewaet, Hot Springs and elsewhere there were large quantities of galena, the obtaining of which by the Government was a far greater concession than to give the company smaller blocks.

MR. MILNE considered this to be a give away, and hoped the Government would withdraw the bill.

MR. KELLIE said that last year it was not the intention that the company should have the base metals, and there was nothing said about it in the act.

The bill was read a second time on a vote of 17 to 9. It went through committee, and was read a third time and passed.

The Cattle bill was read a third time and passed.

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MINES REGULATION.

MR. KEITH said inasmuch as a number of members had informed him that they did not thoroughly understand the question of coal mines regulation, and desired further information, he would withdraw the bill which stood in his name, if the member for Cowichan would withdraw his bill to repeal the Coal Mines Regulation bill of last session.

MR. CROFT declined to accede to the proposal.

HON. MR. POOLEY said that as long as the present statute remained, so long would the Union Co. be harassed by a bill which was inoperative. It should, therefore, be taken off the statute book. If it were proved that Chinese were dangerous as miners, he would be prepared next session, if a committee of this House reported in that sense, to vote for such a bill as that of the member for Nanaimo.

MR. BEAVEN deprecated the course of the member for Esquimalt in forcing members to vote in support of a bill which he declared to be inoperative. Why should it not go over till next session?

HON. MR. ROBINSON said that when the debate on Mr. Keith's bill was adjourned it was the express understanding that Mr. Croft's bill should be disposed of first.

MR. GRANT thought it would have been better if both members had withdrawn their bills. There were conditions of the case which many members did not understand. There had been a great amount of inconsistency in this matter, and in order to settle it he had felt bound to allow Chinese to be employed in all lines of business. In this way the disease, if there were any, would cure itself. He held it to be right for him, personally, to employ whom he chose; but when it became a matter of subsidizing public enterprise it was for this House to prevent the employment of the Chinese upon them.

MR. NASON was not of the opinion that Chinese were dangerous, and should vote to rectify the wrong he had done last year in supporting the bill now in operation.

The motion for the second reading of Mr. Keith's bill to prevent the employment of Chinese in mines, being put to the House, was lost on a vote of 15 to 14, as follows:—

Ayes—Milne, Beaven, Cotton, Smith, Brown, Forster, Keith, Semlin, Grant, McKenzie, Stoddart, Kitchen, Punch, Kellie—14.

Nays—Robson, Davie, Vernon, Eberts, Stoddart, Booth, Hall, Nason, Pooley, Turner, Martin, Croft, Rogers, Anderson, Fletcher—15.

The House went into committee on Mr. Croft's bill to repeal the Coal Mines Regulation Act, Mr. Stoddart in the chair.

In committee the bill was defeated on a vote of 15 to 14, and the committee rose.

It was announced that when the House adjourned it would be until 10 o'clock this (Saturday) morning.

EVENING SESSION.

The House met at eight o'clock. The following bills were

READ A THIRD TIME AND PASSED: Victoria and North American R.R.—Mr. Grant.

Toad Mountain and Nelson Tramway—Mr. Kellie.

Legal Professions Bill—Hon. Mr. Davie.

County Courts Bill—Hon. Mr. Davie.

The report of the committee of the whole on the Municipal Amendment Bill was read a third time.

WESTMINSTER ENABLING BILL.

The House went into committee on the Westminster Enabling Bill, Mr. CROFT in the chair.

The first clause read: "The term 'Corporation,' wherever used in this Act, means the municipality of the corporation of the city of New Westminster, and wherever the term 'works' is used in this Act, such term shall include all the works, matters, and things hereinbefore recited, and all such other works, matters, and things whatsoever as may hereafter be added by amendment."

MR. GRANT said that in this instance the question resolved itself into this: Was it the opinion of this House that the Columbia and Kootenay R. R. Act should be made more liberal than that of last session? It made all the difference in the world whether lands should be two miles square or four miles square. If the company connected with the enterprise were prepared to carry out this scheme and felt that they were not fairly dealt with, was it true policy to make further concessions? We must have a system of quick and cheap communications, and since we could not give liberal cash subsidies we must give lands. There were millions and millions of acres in the province which could not be placed on the market and sold for 25 cents an acre, and no doubt, this company found this to be the case in the blocks they had received. He should be prepared to vote for the bill.

HON. MR. VERNON thought it was the company which had made the concession, the Government having the best of the bargain. No one had ever said that the company had come to the Government to alter the arrangement. The Government had felt that the company should not have the power to deal with the base metals. It was well known that in Illecillewaet, Hot Springs and elsewhere there were large quantities of galena, the obtaining of which by the Government was a far greater concession than to give the company smaller blocks.

MR. MILNE considered this to be a give away, and hoped the Government would withdraw the bill.

MR. KELLIE said that last year it was not the intention that the company should have the base metals, and there was nothing said about it in the act.

The bill was read a second time on a vote of 17 to 9. It went through committee, and was read a third time and passed.

The Cattle bill was read a third time and passed.

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HON. MR. DAVIE agreed with the leader of the Opposition. He would not be a party to perpetrating a wrong. He hoped the committee would strike out the words objected to.

After a long discussion MR. BROWN explained at length the special circumstances of the case, Dr. Milne's amendment being ultimately carried.

MR. BROWN moved to add to the amendment "and the operation and maintenance of the same."

The amendment was lost.

A number of other amendments were made, in committee, to the Bill, which materially restricted the power conferred, and the Bill was reported with amendments.

The Vancouver City Amendment Bill was read a third time and passed, and the House adjourned at 12.15.

PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.

First Session of the Sixth Parliament.

SIXTIETH DAY.

SAUNDAY, April 18. Less than half the members were present when the House proceeded to business at 10 a.m., with an almost exhausted order paper before it.

MR. CROFT, having obtained permission of the House to withdraw his bill on the prevention of the employment of Chinese in canneries, withdrew.

With Mr. Rogers in the chair, the House returned to committee on the Liquor Bill (No. 20).

Discussion arose upon section 4, providing that saloons shall be closed at 7 p.m. every Saturday, and shall remain closed until 6 a.m. on the Monday following. The hour of closing was, upon motion of Mr. Turner, changed to 11 p.m., and the hour of re-opening from 6 a.m. to 1 a.m.

MR. BEAVEN thought that any man who would get up at one o'clock in the morning to get a glass of whiskey, would get it anyway, in spite of law or in spite of the devil. The premier recognized how the provision that liquor might be sold by hotel and restaurant keepers on Sundays, was a means might be abused, but thought it would be well to give the law a trial, as it was contained in the bill.

MR. CROFT said that he had been told that a saloon keeper would claim that a cracker and an onion were to be considered a meal, and the bars would be kept open on Sundays where a free lunch was served. No doubt, too, the bill would require alteration and strengthening again, but it might be tried in its present form.

MR. KITCHEN informed the Premier that he could not get a glass of beer with an onion and a cracker at Chilliwack now; that order of things came to an end more than 18 months ago.

HON. MR. ROBINSON disabused the hon. representative of Westminster district, of the impression that he had tried to get a glass of beer at Chilliwack on Sunday, or had got it. He was merely speaking of what others had done.

HON. MR. DAVIE entirely disapproved of the section for which he could not see that any necessity existed. The country was not ready for such a measure yet.

HON. MR. BEAVEN thought the country was ready for legislation, closing the saloons on Sundays. The press of the province, no matter what its complexion, had shown clearly that such a bill as the one before the House was expected and was desirable.

HON. MR. BEAVEN introduced an amendment providing that the provisions of the bill should not apply to any municipalities. This was opposed by both the Premier and the Attorney-General, who held that any liquor law should be general, and all parts of the province should be placed on the same footing.

MR. GRANT did not approve of this bill in any respect. If it was not wrong for men to drink on a week day, it was not wrong for them to drink on Sunday. Any laws respecting the rights and privileges of men, as this one did, would fall in the ob-ervance.

HON. MR. BEAVEN'S amendment was lost, and an additional clause was inserted by the Attorney-General providing that the Act should not come into force until Jan. 1, 1892.

The bill was reported complete with amendments. Report adopted, and bill read a third time.

B. C. DYKING BILL.

The House again went into committee, Mr. Cotton in the chair, on the above measure. It was provided that the act should not come into operation until proclaimed by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council, notice of such proclamation being published in the B. C. Gazette.

The bill was reported complete with amendments, and was finally passed.

HON. MR. DAVIE presented a message from the University of British Columbia. This bill was returned to committee, by then amended, and was again reported, and passed.

MR. GRANT, rising to a question of privilege, asked the Government to bring the Municipalities Bill back to the House. A few amendments being imperatively necessary. This was agreed to.

The N. W. Westminster Enabling Bill was finally passed.

MR. BEAVEN rose, to sit again at 8 p.m., and consider the amendments offered by Mr. Grant to the Municipalities bill.

EVENING SESSION.

The House met at 8 o'clock.

HON. MR. DAVIE asked that the Standing Orders be suspended in order that he might be able to introduce an act to amend the Unofficial Administration Act, to allow certain expenses to be sanctioned by the provincial auditor instead of by a judge of the Supreme Court as at present.

The rules were suspended, and the bill was introduced and passed through its various stages.

A message from the Lieutenant-Governor the House went into committee on the Municipal Bill, Mr. McKenzie in the chair.

The motion of Mr. GRANT'S amendments were passed through their various stages to provide for placing on the voters' list the inhabitants of these districts to cover which the city limits had been extended.

An amendment was also passed, on the motion of HON. MR. DAVIE, to provide that the appointees to the position of police magistrate in Vancouver and New Westminster or justices of the peace.

The Municipal bill as amended was finally passed.

HON. MR. DAVIE said that he desired to trespass on the forbearance of the House, as he deemed it his duty, in justice to a gentleman who was not here, to read certain correspondence, with the subject of which hon. members would be familiar. It would be remembered that he had denounced as a forgery certain telegrams alleged to have been addressed by him to Mr. Cunningham, and read at a public meeting in New Westminster in June last, on the subject of the Mechanics' Lien law. The member for New Westminster had declared that he (Mr. Davie) had telegraphed in May last to Mr. Thomas Cunningham that he (Mr. Davie) would support any act which might be introduced and was acceptable to the workmen.

MR. DAVIE then read a communication from Mr. Cunningham's committee supporting his (Mr. Davie's) position and enclosing telegrams from HON. MR. ROBINSON and himself. He also read a communication from Mr. F. Bourne, of the News-Advertiser; Mr. Thomas L. Graham, at that time of the Columbian; and from Mr. D. S. Curtis, chairman of the meeting. Mr. Davie continued that in writing what he had done, Mr. Brown appeared to have been possessed of a very poor recollection of what had happened. He brought up this matter just to set Mr. Cunningham straight.

MR. BROWN remarked that he had supposed this matter had dropped. He had, on the occasion spoken, stated that Mr. Cunningham had read a telegram at New Westminster, to the effect that the Attorney-General would support any lien law which was acceptable to the workmen of British Columbia. He said this, and any statement to the contrary was a lie. He certainly did not examine the telegrams. He had no recollection of even having seen them. There was a gentleman now sitting in the gallery of this House who was present, and he had informed him that he was almost aware of the correctness of his (Mr. Brown's) statement. These questions of veracity were endless. As he had said before, he had nothing to do with the telegrams which the Attorney-General had sent. He had only to do with what had been read in his hearing.

The correspondence will appear in the next issue of the COLUMBIAN.

HON. MR. ROBINSON moved that the House at its rising stand adjourned until 3 o'clock on Monday.

MR. KELLIE rose on a question of privilege and appealed to the Government to withdraw the Kootenay Railroad Subsidy bill. He could not conceive anything so serious as this being done. This bill, if it went into effect, would be most disastrous to his constituents. It ought to be left over for a time at one year. He believed in doing all that was possible for the roads, but he did not believe in giving them every thing. He again appealed to the Government to withdraw the bill before it was too late.

HON. MR. ROBINSON admitted that Kootenay was a most important constituency. It was inhabited by very worthy people, and they had sent here as their representative a very nice gentleman. The bill which was complained of had been passed by a vote of 20 to 9. That should be sufficient for him. The way legislation was passed was the people's representative in parliament assembled, and it was a point to the Government to withdraw the bill which they had enacted was absurd. He (Mr. Robinson) would now say that the House would be prorogued on Monday next, at 3 o'clock.

MR. KELLIE again protested against the bill, which was a measure that would fall back on the Government in a variety of ways.

MR. HALL rose on the member for Kootenay for trying to call down the members.

HON. MR. ROBINSON, after briefly referring to the remarks of the member for West Kootenay, said that the Government had begun three months ago with that same old saw—a majority against them. They had, it was said by the member for Vancouver, carried their measure because of sympathy for a weak party. It must be gratifying to him to see that he had carried the last measure, by a vote of 20 to 9, in a thin House. During the three months

and three days parliament had done a great deal of legislation. It had passed 99 bills, nearly double what had ever been done before in one session. Many of them had been of a very important and useful character. There had been some able debates and some very sharp debates. Doubtless language had been used which most of them regretted. He trusted that hon. members would put as good friends as when they had met. They were, in fact, a House of "high British Columbia" might feel proud. For his own part he desired to have any sharp remarks he might have made would be long forgotten. He felt always pleased to have used anything which had been said against him in the rougher language. He stated that in the province of God all present would come back in twelve months from now to carry out the arduous duties of the session.

MR. KELLIE said he had no intention to bulldoze either the Government or the House. He must repeat that he felt the passage of the bill he complained of would be most disastrous to his constituency.

MR. MARTIN rose, to the great amusement of the members, a composition in rhyme in playful review of the session.

Booth was not ready yet to vote resolution. There were other things taught by the labor question in Victoria than had been quoted by the member for Victoria city. The labor strikes showed how the organizing men were dominating over the fellows, and the ranks there were high wages and short hours for the army of wage-earners, and discredited men from branching out for themselves in business. In the country the adoption of the principle of resolution would work disastrous results, increase the cost of production, and the farmers. He wanted information and would support the amendment.

KEITH did not think present question required further action than was possessed by thinking man to-day. The movement in the condition of wages, whose hours of labor had changed from twelve to ten, had very marked, and the further reduction of the working day would be equally marked. He did not believe in a hard rule, but thought the resolution might be passed at once. The labor strike was an instance of note. It had been most disastrous, and simply from the miners claiming they could not work more than eight and the masters asserting that they

CROFT could not endorse remarks made by the hon. member of the Opposition in regard to results of eight hours being a day's labor in Australia. The men in Australia and here were different. He did not believe in men in this matter, but would support amendment. He could not understand the last speaker, who said he supported the resolution, while arguing that he was opposed to a "hard rule."

BROWN endorsed the principle of resolution, and remarked that all arguments against it, so far, had been expediency and convenience more than anything else. He believed that the resolution was a step in the right direction, too radical, too sudden, and too step to be taken now. He did not think the public would yet justify the resolution that eight hours be made a day's labor on contract work. He did not think that a committee could gain information on this subject, and therefore introduced an amendment to the effect that the resolution of eight hours, and leading up to it, would be eight hours a day the standard on contract work.

SPEAKER here announced that he had the resolutions and amendments out of order, as indirectly affecting revenue. The hon. senior member of the Opposition, Mr. Brown, Vancouver city had opened his statement that it would certainly be the cost of Government and of private contracts. According to Mr. Speaker's remarks, in relation to this, the resolution contained in section 54 of the B.N.A. act, therefore felt his duty to rule it out of order.

It arose upon the point taken by Mr. Speaker, Hon. Mr. Pooley supported Mr. Davies claiming that the resolution was in order, and Hon. Mr. Semlin and Mr. Cotton that both motion and amendment were out of order.

Debate was finally adjourned until in order that Mr. Speaker give a written ruling.

MUNICIPAL ACT.

ITCHEN moved, seconded by Mr. Brown, that a committee, consisting of Brown, Horne, Cotton, Beaven, and the mover, be appointed to introduce to this House an amendment and consolidate the "Municipal Act, 1889," and the "Municipal Amendment Act, 1890."

HUNTER thought that the contract was a heavy one.

Resolution was adopted without

CATTLE BRANDS.

ODDART moved, seconded by Mr. Brown, that a select committee be appointed to prepare and present to this House a bill dealing with the whole matter of cattle and the registration of brands, said committee to consist of the following members, viz: Vernon, Semlin, Martin, Roth, and the mover. Carried.

INFORMATION REQUIRED.

MCKENZIE moved, seconded by Mr. Semlin, "That a respectful address be presented to the Lieutenant-Governor, requesting a copy of all correspondence, published, that has taken place between the Government of British Columbia and the Esquimalt & Nanaimo Railway Company, during the period between the 19th day of January, A.D. 1883, and the 19th day of January, A.D. 1887. Also, copies of correspondence during the same period between the Government of British Columbia and the Government of Canada."

Consenting on the broad nature of the bill, and the work involved, Mr. ODDART withdrew it, his intention being to seek what particular information he desired, in another manner.

VOTERS' LIST.

MR. ROBSON presented a list of voters on the provincial rolls, on the 1st day, 1890.

RESERVES.

MR. MCKENZIE moved, seconded by Mr. Semlin, "that a respectful address be presented to the Lieutenant-Governor, requesting a return showing the reserves, including school, naval or military, Indian, and other reserves for public purposes, included in the grant to the Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway Company, and the areas thereof." Carried.

EDUCATIONAL.

MR. MCKENZIE moved, seconded by Mr. Milne, "that a respectful address be presented to the Lieutenant-Governor, requesting a copy of the report or reports of the examiners of public school teachers, respecting the examination of public school teachers, held at Victoria, in July, 1890, and copies of any or all orders in council relating thereto."

HON. MR. ROBSON thought that it would be unnecessarily cruel to publish the names of those who had been "plucked," to the world.

MR. MILNE remarked that the case of only one person was referred to.

HON. MR. ROBSON thought that the information required could be obtained, if it was specifically asked for, without dragging in the names of all defeated candidates.

HON. MR. BEAVEN moved to strike out the words "public school teachers," and insert "J. N. Muir." The amendment was seconded by the Attorney-General, and the resolution so amended was adopted.

QUESTION.

MR. KELLIE asked the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works: "What amount of timber lands have been granted under lease during 1890, and what amount of timber lands are now under notice of application for lumbering purposes?"

HON. MR. ROBSON.—The total area of timber land granted under lease during 1890 was 57,716 acres. (2) The area for which application for lease has been made, but for which leases have not been granted, is, approximately, 700,000 acres.

SUPREME COURT REFERENCE ACT.

HON. MR. DAVIE moved the second reading of the Supreme Court Reference Act, the principal sections of which read as follows:

(1) The Lieutenant-Governor in Council may refer to the Supreme Court of British Columbia, or to a Divisional Court thereof, or to the Trial Court, for hearing or consideration, any matter which he thinks fit to refer, and the Court shall thereupon hear or consider the same.

(2) In case the matter relates to the constitutional validity of any Act which has heretofore been, or shall hereafter be, passed by the Legislature of this Province, or of some provision in any such Act, the Attorney-General of Canada shall be notified of the hearing, in order to be heard if he sees fit.

HON. MR. DAVIE explained the provisions of the bill, and was followed by the hon. leader of the Opposition, who endorsed the principle of the bill, and promised it his support.

The bill passed its second reading and was committed, with Mr. Semlin in the chair.

The committee rose, reporting the bill complete with amendments; report to be considered on Monday.

CONTAGIOUS DISEASES.

The Attorney-General, in moving the second reading of bill No. 2, to prevent the spread of contagious diseases among horses and other animals, remarked that the necessity for such a measure had long been felt in the province. The diseases mentioned included glanders or farcy, and hog cholera.

The mover reviewed the bill and explained its contents before moving its second reading.

MR. MILNE was glad to see such a bill brought forward, and suggested several other diseases which might properly be dealt with in the measure.

MR. MARTIN also suggested improvements in the bill, whose value he fully appreciated.

HON. MR. BEAVEN, MR. SEMLIN and MR. BOOTH briefly addressed the House, and the bill, passing its second reading, went into committee with Mr. Smith as chairman. The committee rose reporting progress, and the House adjourned until Monday at 2 p.m.

NOTICE OF MOTION.

By MR. KEITH.—To move for a return of all Orders in Council, correspondence and papers connected with the sending of a militia force to Wellington last summer, and of their maintenance while there.

By HON. MR. DAVIE.—To introduce a bill respecting Municipalities.

By HON. MR. DAVIE.—To introduce a bill to further amend the "Land Registry Act."

By HON. MR. DAVIE.—To introduce a bill to amend the "Jurors' Act."

By HON. MR. DAVIE.—To introduce a bill to further amend the "Supreme Court Act."

By HON. MR. DAVIE.—To introduce a bill to amend "an act to authorize and facilitate the sale of the site of the Royal Hospital with the buildings thereon."

By MR. HUNTER.—To move that whereas, by the terms of union, the management of the Indian reserves of the province was assumed by the Dominion Government, in trust for the use and benefit of the Indians;

And, whereas, section 119, Esquimalt district, Victoria harbor, lying within the limits of the city of Victoria, is one of such reserves, and is the residence of the Songhees tribe of Indians, now few in numbers;

And, whereas, the position of said reserve renders it unsuitable for a place of residence for the said tribe and tends to their demoralization, and to prevent the progress and prosperity of the said city, and makes it expedient that the tribe should be removed to some more suitable locality, and the control of the said reserve be resumed by the Provincial Government;

Be it therefore resolved, that a respectful address be presented to the Lieutenant-Governor, praying His Honor to take such steps as he may deem necessary to accomplish the above object.

By MR. HUNTER.—To introduce "An act for the protection of certain animals, birds and beasts."